

April 3rd

Spring Term 2020

NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

Friday 3rd April at 2.30

End of Term

Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April

Easter Holidays

Monday 20th April, 8.45am

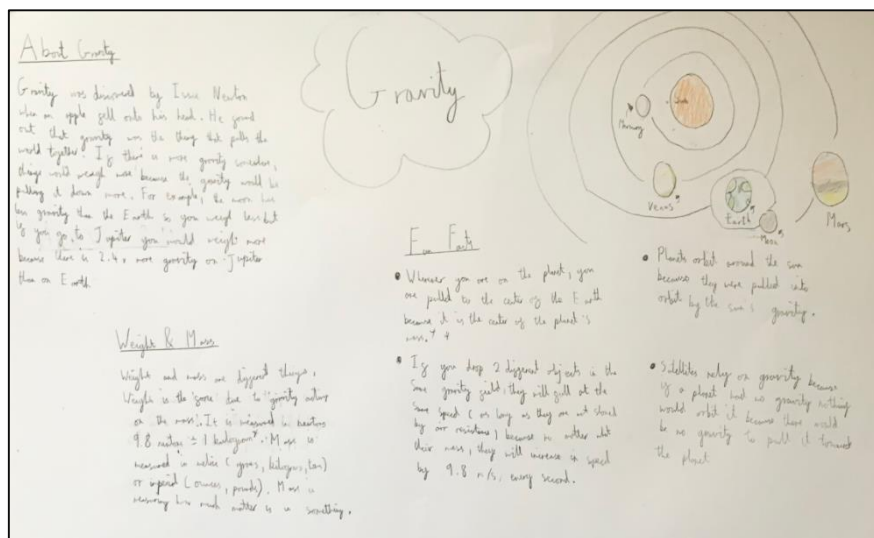
Start of Summer Term

Dear parents, staff, governors and friends

When my daughter was 13, she bounced home from school one day and answered the usual questions such as "What did you do today?" - "Nothing." "What did you eat?" - "Don't know." "Anything good you want to share?" - "Oh, Kelsey got a really cool new hairstyle!"

With that she bounded up to her room to continue her day. All seemed well until an hour later she came downstairs in tears, totally distraught about the interactions she had had online.

This was my wake-up call about how children interact with each other online and often our lack of policing. Twelve years later 'Bebo' has been replaced by a multitude of online platforms as a modern way to communicate. Needless to say, I removed the computer from my daughter's bedroom.



At Coberley, we have responded really quickly to a new way of learning using online platforms. However, we must be mindful that children do not necessarily know how to use social media or how to respond to each other in a "virtual world."

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Fundraising Total
£5283.00

School Charity
Air Ambulance

Current Acquisitions

- New Trim Trail
- EYFS storage container
- EYFS Fencing
- Doodle Apps
- Reading books
- Internet Filter
- Outside Lights
- 12 x Tablets

At school, a huge proportion of our time is spent helping children with social engagement and with friendship and communication issues. In this new world, we are often unable to intervene, but these social “wobbles” will continue to exist. Internet safety and on-line behaviour is a huge issue in society and we should use this opportunity to really help our children get it right.

I would like to set out the following guidelines to help:

1. Children / parents – please only use Hangouts to contact staff between 8.45am and 3.00pm during the week.
2. If someone fails to answer a Hangout video call, please ask your children to leave a text message so they can phone back.
3. Please help children with texting and video calls to their friends – they can get it wrong sometimes and comments can be taken the wrong way which leads to upset.
4. Please help your children respond to comments with encouraging remarks.
5. We all make mistakes and get it wrong, particularly on-line. Apologising always helps.

Don't forget we are here to help and there are many on-line resources such as the [ThinkUKnow](#) website and some [YouTube videos](#)



Free School Meals

Some parents have asked us about school meals during this crisis. Children who usually receive free, hot meals (Universal Infant Free School Meals) in Reception, Year 1 and 2 will not receive free meals during this time unless they are at school. However, children who are Pupil Premium have continued to get a daily meal, which has now been replaced by food hampers. Full guidance can be found on the government website, although information is changing on a daily basis.



Online Learning

I have been really impressed with our continued use of online learning. This week we added DuoLingo to allow Class 3 to learn Spanish, along with Csfirst, which is an introduction to coding via Scratch. Ms Turner and Mrs Black have also been making videos and creating online lessons which is really impressive. Thank you for all the positive feedback I have had for all the teaching staff, it really helps. I have also been asked by Gloucestershire County Council to share how we are embracing online learning and they are hoping to showcase our school! I have made an overview video of Google Classroom, which can be viewed [here](#).

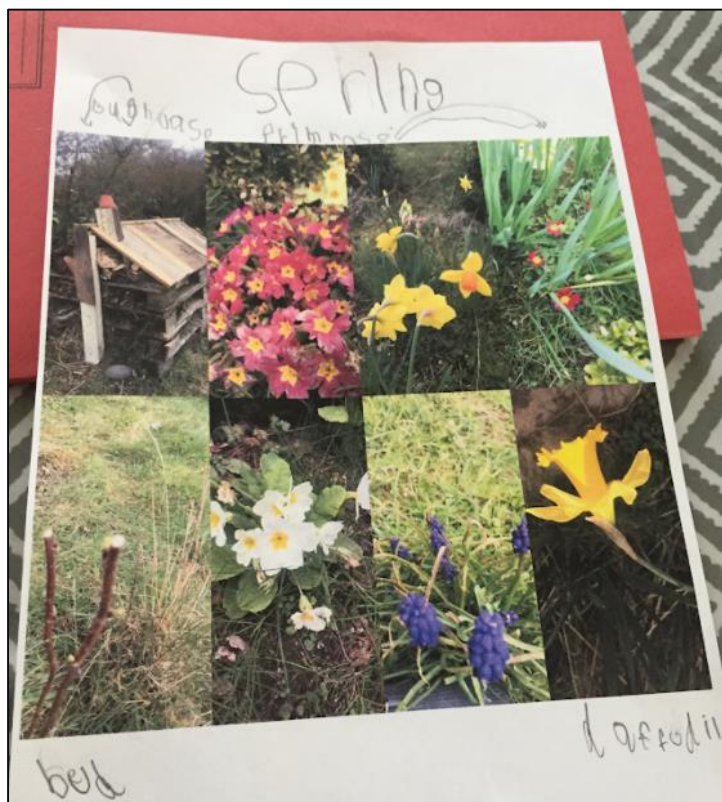
Work Over the Easter Holidays

We will be closed over Easter and staff will be off-line. However, I will be posting some holiday projects on Google Classroom which will include work on a time capsule and a competition to design a house logo. However, the office email will be manned (admin@coberley.gloucs.sch.uk) and we are here to help.

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Next Term

We really hope that we will re-open next term at some point. Unfortunately, lots of our major events such as the residential trips and leavers' service are likely to be cancelled, but we would love to be back to some form of normality. Our online provision will resume on Monday 20th April.

Lastly, I would like to celebrate a very successful term in lots of ways. We had eleven uninterrupted, successful weeks and made huge headway with so many new endeavours. Huge congratulations to Deer for winning this term's House Trophy.

I would also like to thank all the staff and governors at Coberley for their support and readiness to adapt. Finally, may I wish you all a joyous Easter.