



Coberley C of E Primary School

Coberley, Cheltenham, GL53 9QZ

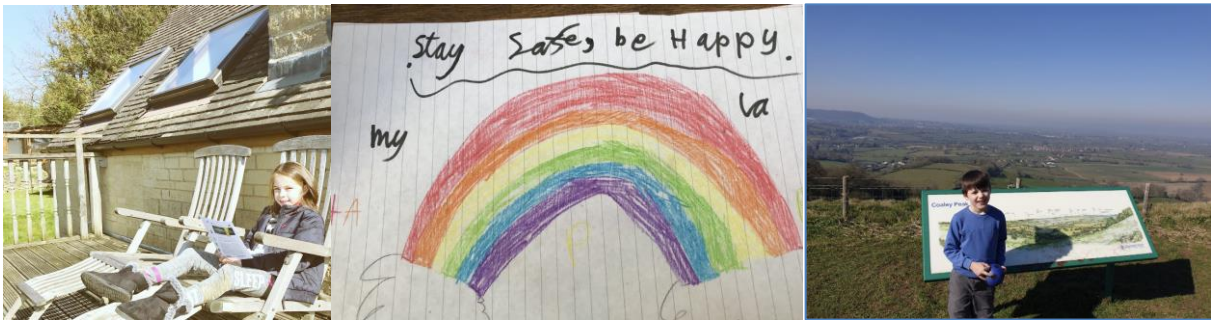
01242 870366 | admin@coberley.gloucs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Andrew Milner, BA (QTS) Honours

Friday 27th March 2020

Dear parents, staff and governors,

It has been a transforming week and most certainly one of my busiest in my five years as headteacher of Coberley. But out of chaos, I think we are on the brink of changing education in so many ways.



We are completely aware that it has been a really demanding time for parents and families, juggling children's activities alongside work and health. We all have so many different concerns at the moment, it is quite daunting. We are a community and we are here to help and as a school we have three current aims:

1. The welfare, health and well-being of all our community
2. To provide a continuous education for the children
3. To plan for the future and embrace the challenges of returning to 'normal'

We have been in contact, often daily, with many families and we will continue to support you – please just ask.



“every child, every chance, every day”



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At school, we have had some children, who have seen a similar work pattern to those at home, fluctuating in numbers each day. We will be open next week from Monday to Thursday and similarly next term (starting Monday April 20th). If you would like any help over the Easter holidays, we are working with our Cluster Schools and Atlas Sports to accommodate children at Birdlip. Can I ask you that if you fulfil the criteria and need your children to be at school, please let Mrs George know 48 hours in advance so we can organise staffing: we are also happy to do part days.

The on-line learning has been a revelation. Class 3, in particular, have really embraced their work commitments online and have 'turned in' work on Forces, Benin House, Philosophy, Spanish and had a day of maths and English. Next week we will also incorporate coding into their weekly timetable. They are beginning to learn how to read instructions carefully!

In addition to Google Hangouts, which has been extremely successful, each class has a Google Classroom which is essentially an online notice board where we can post work, links and images and children can respond. It can be accessed by using your child's coberley.org account and password. Please click [here](#). I envisage that this is how we will be sending and collecting homework and extension activities in the future. Each week I have put an overview of the work on the school website for each Class. Please look at it as it provides a clear overview and what activities to do each day ([link](#)). Little and often is the most important part of this learning process.

Please be assured that using Google Hangouts and Google Classroom is safe. All messages, video calls and images posted can only be seen by people in the coberley.org domain. I have also asked the staff only to correspond between the hours of 9am and 3pm and we are adhering to all safeguarding and GDPR guidelines very carefully.



The staff have worked incredibly hard and have embraced this huge shift using technology really well, my thanks to them. A particular thank you to Mrs George, who has not only handled all queries, questions and communication but is currently completing the business financial year and all that it entails!



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We say goodbye to Miss Martin today after two very successful terms with Class 1, but we will be welcoming her back in a different role next term working with all the classes. We would like to welcome Benjamin into Year 4 next term, although he has already joined the virtual class!

We are also posting on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram – so please follow us.

With very best wishes

Andrew Milner
Headteacher