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Monday 30th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you all had a great weekend.

Hopefully this week will not feel so alien to everyone and we can get into the groove of learning at home.

Every Monday morning, I always hold a whole-school assembly and I think it is important and valuable to do this going forward at home. Assemblies are normally 30 minutes and focus on a theme and we have lots of discussion, this may be a nice way to start your Monday or to use when your children need a break from learning.

This week's assembly is focused on:



Using this link <http://www.vimeo.com/channels/picturenews> you can access the virtual assembly based on this theme.

Many countries across the world have been asked or have chosen to remain at home during the COVID-19 outbreak. Thousands of Italians, in several cities, clapped from their windows and balconies as healthcare workers went to work, raising spirits with a flashmob, during the lockdown period (where most people remain at home). Families and neighbours also sang and crashed pots and pans together for the performers in cities across the country.

Things to talk about at home...

- Think about the things that make you happy. Can you make a list?
- Can you think of a time you've cheered someone else up, or a time someone cheered you up when you needed it, how did they do it?
- Why do you think people chose to take part in the celebration from their apartments?
- How do you think it made the healthcare workers on their way to work feel?

Resource 1

Look at the resource below, which shows how some children have stopped themselves from feeling bored.



Writing a list of the things I need to do and the things I would like to do for the day helps to make sure I don't get bored. It means I always have something to focus on.



Source: Shazron

I have made sure that I keep doing my hobbies. My gymnastics teacher emailed me some skills I could work on using the space in my home.



Source: Greg Walters

Learning something new keeps me from feeling bored. It gives me a new challenge!



Source: Predit

As a family, to make sure we don't get bored, we have started sharing books, playing board games, doing daily exercise videos and just talking more to each other!



Source: RJP

If I ever feel bored, I like to invite my friends to play. I cannot do that at the moment, but I have now started chatting to them over the phone, FaceTiming and writing letters. It keeps me feeling happy.



Source: Lead Beyond

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76

All Home Learning for each class was uploaded onto the school website on Friday for this week. Please do get into contact with the school office or the class teacher if you are unable to access any of these or if you have any queries. Please don't forget to share and let us know how the children are doing so we can celebrate on Fridays!



Fir Tree has been given an amazing opportunity for pupils and parents to have fun learning PE at home together using 'jasmine active'. Jasmine active is the platform pupils use within their PE lessons at school where they have the ability to learn and also get the ability to lead within the lessons. For parents to access this platform you will need to go to home.jasmineactive.com

- **Username:** parent@firtreepri-1.com
- **Password:** firtreepri

When logged on to the website you will see lots of different activities that can be done at home using everyday objects for all ages. You will also see a 14-day plan that you are able to follow. They will be updating it weekly so there will be plenty of activities and games for you all to do!

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email Mr Hosier at jhosier@firtree.newburyacademytrust.org

He will be setting weekly challenges and games that he really wants you to explore at home every Monday. Why not Tweet some pictures and videos of yourselves in action on the school twitter page?

On a final note, I thought it would be nice to share a thought for the week with you all and one that you can certainly put into practice this week. It's from one of my favourite authors: Dr Seuss.

The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.
-- Dr. Seuss

Happy reading everyone! Keep up the good work, you are all doing a fantastic job, have a great week!

Stay safe and healthy!

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Wood
Associate Headteacher