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Dear Parents and Carers

COVID-19  
Week 6



For 6 weeks now, our staff have displayed exceptional dedication looking after our vulnerable children and the children of the key workers. I really appreciate their effort in making children's day in the nursery as enjoyable as possible.

We miss our Norcot community - children and parents/ carers. We hope that you had a lovely surprise from staff on Friday and enjoyed watching the video message, which we had fun making for all of you. I would like to do a little surprise for our amazing staff from as many children as possible. I would really appreciate it if you could email a photo of your child holding a picture of the rainbow that they have drawn; my e-mail address is [head@norcot.reading.sch.uk](mailto:head@norcot.reading.sch.uk). I would like to use the photos to create a video and post it on Facebook and our website.

We are pleased that you are enjoying watching our videos on our Facebook page/website and manage to do some of the activities. For our Home learning this week, we will continue the topic from last week, please refer to the attachment with the planning from last week. Please keep posting your videos/photos on Tapestry

so that the staff can identify the next steps for you to work on with your child. If you find homeschooling too much, please do not worry about it. The staff will get your child back on track once we are fully open. What we don't want is to put you under pressure that you have to do it. Just share your calmness, share your strengths and share your laughter with your children and enjoy spending time with them making special memories. No children are ahead, no children are behind. Your children are exactly where they need to be.

Whatever you are doing, try not to worry, feel guilty, feel anxious or just feel bad about whether anything you have done has been 'purposeful' or not. 'Surviving' or coming out of the end of this with the energy to carry on into the next phase of whatever this throws at us, is what we are concentrating on right now.

Some of you have been asking for ideas on how to prepare your child for their **primary school in September**. These activities can be easily incorporated into everyday life. Please find attached a poster.

We have found some more **COVID-19 stories** which are suitable for Early Years. They can also be found on our website under COVID-19, support stories. To follow the story, click on Ctrl+left click.

[file:///ney.school/StaffData\\$/head/Downloads/Dave%20the%20Dog%20is%20worried%20about%20coronavirus%20\(1\).pdf](file:///ney.school/StaffData$/head/Downloads/Dave%20the%20Dog%20is%20worried%20about%20coronavirus%20(1).pdf)

<https://subscriptions.earlyyearsstorybox.com/dont-worry-little-bear-book/>

<https://littlepuddins.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/The-Corona-Virus-Free-Printable-Updated-2-The-Autism-Educator-.pdf>

It may seem rather odd to be talking about celebrations in these strange and challenging times, but on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May we celebrate the **75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day** (Victory in Europe Day). We don't want you to miss out and are encouraging you to celebrate at home. Over the weekend, you can host a "stay at home tea party" whilst adhering to social distancing guidelines. You can host a virtual celebration from the comfort of your own home by decorating windows and balconies in red, white and blue while raising a glass for the nations toast at 3pm. There are lots of [online resources available](#) to give you ideas on how to plan your socially distanced tea party.

Please do keep respecting social distancing rules, keep looking out for vulnerable neighbours, and think about rewarding yourselves for all the good work being done within the community by planning some fabulous VE Day celebrations.

Keep well, stay safe and look after yourself, your friends and your family.

Yours sincerely



Katarina Bingham  
Head of centre