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Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all staying well as we move on through these strange times. For those of you observing Ramadan, I hope all is going well a week in.

I promised a little surprise for those of you who have been asking if your children can see the staff. This surprise will be premiered today at 2pm at the choir and will be shared on the website and Facebook after that. We hope it will help.

The NSPCC has created a number of resources to support parents and carers during this difficult time. Topics include:

- Talking to a child worried about coronavirus (if possible)
- Parents working from home
- Lockdown and separated parents
- How to cope with difficult behaviour

The advice can be found on the NSPCC website here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/>

In addition, PPO (Parenting Practitioners Oxfordshire) is a network of professionals who offer individual and group parenting support around the county. The present time is raising extra challenges for families who are 'home schooling' whilst also working from home and/or coping with everyone at home, sometimes in a very small space. During lockdown, PPO is offering a free friendly phone conversation to chat through and provide advice on your situation - and further support if necessary. Click on the link for further details. <https://www.parentingpractitionersoxfordshire.co.uk/>

Just as a reminder, I am resharing the support for families links I shared last week, which I hope is of help to you:

<https://emergingminds.org.uk/resources/> - a resource from CAMHS



We're working  
towards Artsmark  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



24/7 Mental Health Hotline: A mental health hotline has been started for Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire to ease pressure on 111, so if this is something you feel would benefit you or other families, you can access it via the following link.

<https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/news/24-7-mental-health-helpline-replaces-111-in-oxfordshire-and-buckinghamshire>

Oxford Together are working hard to support those who are at high-risk or currently self-isolating. They are taking referrals from all over Oxfordshire.

<https://oxfordtogether.org/>

I am sure many of you have heard of the Oak National Academy, which was set up by 20 teachers who decided to provide learning to the nation's children. It has been very well received and is supporting a lot of students at home. However, it did not provide learning for our students and as a result, a group of special schools have started developing resources for a curriculum that will be released on Monday and will continue as an on-going project. It covers:

- Language and communication
- Intellectual reasoning
- Numeracy
- Creative Arts
- Purposeful play led by adults
- Input from therapists

I am sure there will also be more added and there will be something for all our learners. It will obviously be a great additional resource at home and for those in school. We have been asked if we would like to contribute, so I am hoping we will be part of this exciting project. All resources will be accompanied by makaton and widget symbols. We will share the link as soon as it goes live via our school website and EeZee Trip.

Please do continue to stay in touch.

Take care everybody, stay safe and have a good weekend.

Best wishes



Lucy Wawrzyniak  
Head Teacher