



KOINONIA
C OF E SCHOOLS FEDERATION
*Excellence through innovation,
founded in faith since 1840.*

FEDERATION EXECUTIVE CO-HEADTEACHERS

Mrs Claire Harrison and Mrs Victoria Wainwright

FEDERATION BUSINESS MANAGER

Ms Sue Eden

FEDERATION FACILITIES MANAGER

Mr Dapo Williams

Monday 4th May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we start the fifth week of school closures (not including the Easter break), we want to thank you all for your ongoing support towards the Federation and for each other. We have seen some wonderful examples of children and parents bridging gaps and managing to bring the school communities together in a whole range of ways - from online class chats, cakes being delivered to school staff as a thank you as well as messages of support between families- you really have shown Fellowship, Faith and Family. Thank you for everything you are doing.

The staff have continued to think about how they reach out to your children. This is reviewed regularly and we hope you find the newsletters that Mrs Ajayi, Mrs King, Mr Hussain and Ms Reid send out to you and your families each week supportive. It's fantastic to read that so many of our pupils are working really hard while they are at home. Remember to keep checking the Koinonia YouTube page as staff from all over the Federation continue to post videos!

During this week, you will be able to complete the primary phase feedback questionnaires, so we can gather your views on home learning and how else we can support you and your family. Thank you to all those parents and students who have already completed the secondary phase questionnaires. We value your comments and suggestions.

The Governing Body, alongside us, want to publicly thank all our staff, for their hard work and flexibility in these exceptional times. Whether staff are working from home or in school (on their allocated week) we are sure that you would agree they are doing a wonderful job. Staff in school are carrying out their jobs in ways they have never done before and have done this with a smile on their faces so that the children in our care feel safe.

The Peninsula Campus has become a 'hub' school with pupils from Robert Owen, Millennium Minis and St Josephs Catholic Primary school. The true meaning of family can be seen as staff and children support and learn with each other as one body.

We know that Covid-19 continues to have an impact on our communities and we send our thoughts and prayers to all those who have been affected in any way. Please remember that we are still here throughout the closure and we remain happy to support in any way we can: just get in touch by telephoning the Peninsula or Woolwich admin offices.

We understand that over the last few weeks, the questions that your children have asked may be changing. The initial excitement of not having to actually attend school, may have changed to how long this might go on and how we will 'exit' the current situation. It can be challenging to answer these questions as the answer is often, 'I don't know'. The following information has been shared by the Royal Borough of Greenwich to support families and we thought it may be useful to share this with you:

- Information is available about how to talk to your child about Coronavirus, along with 10 tips to support family wellbeing, on the Young Minds website: <https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/talking-to-your-child-about-coronavirus/>

- Covibook is an interactive resource designed to support and reassure children aged 7 and under and can be used to help children explain and draw the emotions that they might be experiencing <https://www.mindheart.co/descargables>
- For those of you currently caring for somebody, Carers UK have guidance available at <https://www.carersuk.org/help-and-advice/health/looking-after-your-health/coronavirus-covid-19>
- A story book has been made available from UNHCR to help children aged 6 - 11 cope with Coronavirus. The book is available online in six languages so far. [Children's storybook released to help children and young people cope with COVID-19](#)

Our Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services have also compiled information about positive Mental Health and Wellbeing during this period, which you may find useful:

COVID-19 Resource pack

Signposting to a range of information, support and tools to promote positive emotional wellbeing, during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Positive Parenting Guidance

Here are tips from the positive parenting field that may help parents and children get along better during this difficult time when everyone is closer together for longer.

Young Person's COVID-19 Leaflet

Cheat Sheet for Young People - tips and ideas for looking after your Mental Health and Wellbeing

For those families in receipt of free school meals please look out for a letter we will be mailing out this week regarding the change in supplier of the voucher scheme. May we also remind any family who is struggling with shopping bills to make contact with us so we can try and support you at this difficult time.

You possibly would have seen on the news speculation about when children will be allowed to return to school. At present the government have not issued any further guidance to schools but of course as soon as we know more and are able to make an appropriate action plan, we will inform you of our returning to school strategy.

We wish you all a pleasant week: please do continue to stay safe, keep well and remain in touch.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Claire Harrison & Mrs Victoria Wainwright
Federation Executive Co-Headteachers

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