



Easter was very different but is now in the past. We can now focus on the changes in the spring, the blossom on the trees, until the strong winds return, the birds nesting and flowers decorating the country lanes that some of you are now walking. All part of the wonderful creation that we are part of.

We missed the Easter Service and no longer have a daily act of collective worship in our school hall, but maybe some would like to start their days like we do in school.

At the beginning of each assembly we open our worship basket and as we take out the cross one child says:

We take out the cross

Response

To remind us that Jesus is the best Role Model

We take out the Bible

To remember that God speaks to us through the words in the bible

We light the candle to

Remind us that God is always with us

We often sing our school song which has the words

At SRG our strength is GOD

The words of our song came from the words on our banners in the school hall that have been created over the years. The ones sewn by Mrs Willis and the children - the main school banner with our special ten stories and the school values that hang above it.

Over the kitchen door there is one of our international schools, one showing the world and children holding hands with the words 'Together we can make a difference'.

Although we are not altogether in the school building at the moment, these words can unite us and give us a focus that things will improve and we can overcome the challenges we are facing at the moment.

We often discuss our values or explore a story that helps us learn how to treat one another. The Good Samaritan is one such story and we are hearing of so many people who are going out of their way to help others at the moment.

We sometimes focus on a particular verse from the bible, like the one below from Joshua. It is one of our Special 10 stories because Joshua was bold, strong, courageous and trusted in God.

Joshua 1 verse 9

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Whatever our theme maybe and whatever message we want to share, there is a verse or a story in the bible that can be used to illustrate it. So God does speak to us through the words in the Bible.

This verse has been used in many hymns over the years and is central to our ethos: **God** is our **refuge** and **strength**, an ever-present help in trouble. From Psalm 46. Our assemblies finish with prayers and although these are often spontaneous prayers, we often share in The Lord's Prayer together.

Children from year 2 upwards brought home their bibles, so please enjoy reading some of the stories. If you have forgotten, Our Special Ten are:

Christmas

Easter

David and Goliath

The Widow's Mite

The Good Samaritan

Joshua-Be Bold

Ten Commandments

Creation

Noah's Ark – Hope and promise for the future

The Parable of the Sower

The Feeding of The Five Thousand

Many of these stories have messages in that can support us at the moment

If your child wants to write a prayer for us to share, please email it and we can include some in our newsletters and put on our website.

Note from Mrs Curtis

We hope you have all managed to establish some sort of routine and children are focussed on their learning, whatever that may look like. I want to thank the staff once again who have quickly adapted to managing virtual classrooms. Thank you also for all the very positive comments we have received, we do value your support and encouragement. If you find something is not working, please let us know because we will always try to support, or can adjust things to improve our systems.

As I said in my email last week, all children are unique and family situations are also very different. We know that by the time children leave Sir Robert Geffery's they will be in the best possible position to continue their learning at senior school, but also that they will have enjoyed their primary years. Children in school at present will have some different memories as well.

We cannot do anything about the situation we are facing, but we hope to support you all in any way we possibly can. For many there will be some real positives, eg. having extra time with families, but we know that for others things may be more difficult eg. financial worries. Rest assured when we return to school we will not only be able to support children academically, but also give them emotional support. To achieve this we will be making sure our PHSME programme is prioritised on the timetable.

Until we re-open, please try not to worry, enjoy the time with your children when you can and let us help in any way we can. A chat with a teacher can sometimes work wonders. To those key workers once again a big thank you to you and please book

spaces at school should you need them. School staff are in on rota and are supporting the learning set by the teachers.

As staff we are really missing your children - the best part of my day is in the classroom and I am not able to do any of that at present. We certainly look forward to working more conventionally with you all in the future.

Take care and stay safe.

Online Safety

Please.. please ..please keep an eye on what your children are accessing by checking histories etc. Don't let them spend hours in rooms when you are not aware of what they are doing. Please make sure you use the information we have sent out about e-safety.

Sorry for the repetition but it is a huge concern at this time.

Support and Advice

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online>

Booking children into school

www.schoolinterviews.co.uk

Make a booking

Code: **pbkbm**

Ideas for Activities to do at home

Shakespeare's Birthday (23rd April)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/7jr5JlyMLXV3dq9TSDYZww/shakespeare-resources>

St George's Day (23rd April)

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/whats-on/st-georges-day/>

Barefoot Books

Children and adults of all ages: take a break

from your daily tasks with our new Mindful Moments series. Starting tomorrow, tune in for a new easy-to-follow mindfulness activity for focus, calm and peace every week. Tomorrow, we'll stretch and release our muscles to relax our bodies and minds.

Monday 20 April 2020

[Barefoot Books Facebook](#) page OR

[Barefoot Books Instagram page](#)

7:00pm

Dear Parents,

We have put together a folder of useful activities to help you and your children, if being at home is proving tricky at times. This can be found on the School Closure page (Emotional Support and Well-being).

There are activities which help to promote talk around feelings, emotion posters, word searches, outdoor activities, how to make a calm box, designing worry monsters and so on.

The A to Z lists (Find a word beginning with A, a word beginning with B etc) can be adapted for all sorts of activities, indoors or outside, such as listing things that make me happy, places, animals, people's names, objects found outside, authors and fruit and vegetables. Perhaps you could adapt it to add to your child's project.

The positivity activities/cubes are quite nice to use in the evenings, to help children (and adults!) focus on feeling positive before bedtime.

If there is anything in particular you would like support with, please do get in touch with us. We can email or call you if needed. We will continue to add resources each week, so keep checking in.

njones@sir-robert-gefferys.cornwall.sch.uk

sgreen@sir-robert-gefferys.cornwall.sch.uk

Best wishes,

Nic and Susan

****REPLY FROM ANOTHER EXPERT****

Year 2 class were busy writing to another expert last term, with Miss Shute and Mrs Clark.

They learned all about David De Rothschild's Plastiki (recycled plastic bottle boat, building with solar panels and stuck together using cashew nuts and sugar) which he built and used to travel around the world 10 years ago and raise awareness about the Pacific Garbage Patch and other ocean pollution. The class wrote to Mr De Rothschild to express their opinions about his expedition, achievement and suggested ways the Plastiki could be used in the future. The class got a video response, which was

brilliant and inspiring!! Miss Shute and Mrs Clark and really proud of Year 2 class.

Find out more about the Plastiki by visiting <http://theplastiki.com/>

Year 2 did receive a video reply, which has been posted on their Google Classroom. We are working out how to post on the website for all to see (please bear with us!).