April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are sending our warm and sincere wishes that you are all not only keeping safe, but that you and your children are feeling supported at this challenging time. Serving our parents, children and the community has been our living vision in order we can ‘shine’ as one.

It has been a ‘surreal’ time, but those children who we have cared for, within our school, have not only been superlative but a breath of ‘fresh air’.

I was recently reflecting on the Act of Collective Worship for Valentine’s Day in that the pouring of love and the testament to that theme resulted in exploring its many facets. I am sure you will all agree that the concept of ‘love’ is so complex we could debate it for hours – even days.

As a Church of England Primary School we work alongside Derby Diocese. I was quite empowered to read, this week, that the theme of both thought and reflection was, ‘love’.

Our school website is being constantly added to, not only for learning tasks, but for support with anxiety and mental health of our young people.

‘Class Dojo’ has had its teething problems, but we are now seeing its value as a ‘window’ onto the learning experiences of our children. It is still imperative that although we fully appreciate that there is a wealth of learning to be found and sought in their young lives the skills and knowledge of Reading, Writing and Mathematics ensure the door to a broad and balanced curriculum can be accessed to all.

We will continue to keep our staff and children safe at this time. Please feel that you can ask us any question and we will continue to offer our care across Easter, as well as, keep you all up-to-date with plans beyond April 20th.
I am sure you will join with us in reflection and prayer.

**Loving God,**

We are able to love because you loved us first.
Please remind us each day how utterly loved we are, so we can show that love to others.

To the children we need to care for in our schools.
To the children having to learn from their homes.
    To the children who are vulnerable.
    To the children who are afraid.

To the staff who are bravely still in their classes.
To the staff tirelessly preparing home learning.
    To the staff who are vulnerable.
    To the staff who are afraid.

And for ourselves,
Those of us doing our very best to lead safely from our schools.
Those of us frustratingly having to lead out of our homes.
    Those of us who are vulnerable.
    Those of us who are afraid.

God, may we know your love.
Its breadth, its length, its height, its depth.
A love which never ends. Never runs out. Never fails.
Love which is enough for today and more than enough for tomorrow.
God keep us within the warmth of LOVE.
    Amen

Be safe and share in the joy of teaching your children to live, love and grow.

Mrs Jayne Stevenson

Headteacher