

OLD CATTON NEWSLETTER



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Dear Children,

Well done for getting through week two of home school learning! If we were in the school hall altogether right now, I would definitely be getting us to do one of our OCJS huge "Hip-Hip-Hoorays" for you all doing so well!



This week we have added a new Gallery section to our Learning at Home tab. Lots of you have sent me emails with photos of what you have been doing at home this week and I have to say – WOW! The Golden Book would be overflowing with entries if I had it at home with me. Your creativity, imagination, perseverance and hard work is just amazing and I have loved seeing what you've been up to. The Gallery is an opportunity for us to all share your work and see our friends and what they've been up to as well. Thank you to everyone who has sent me an email so far. I will keep trying to reply to all of you individually and we can continue this over and after Easter.

We have also been sharing a chapter a day with you from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. All your teachers are going to be reading to you online. If you haven't already seen it, log onto the Old Catton website to have a look. We hope you all enjoy it!

Wednesday 1st April would have been our last day at school together before the Easter Holidays. The next two weeks is your holiday time and we are therefore not expecting you to do your school work. I know many of you will carry on with your great projects that you've started but it's also really important for you, (and your parents and carers,) to have a break. Over Easter try and recharge, rest and relax so that when term time starts again you are ready to get back into some school work. We will be updating the website with fresh ideas for you to have a go at so keep your eyes peeled!

I know that many of you will be spending a great deal more time online at the moment. There are so many excellent games, apps and websites for you to access

and it's also the best way for us to all stay in touch with our friends and loved ones at this time. The internet means that even without most of our normal freedom we can still communicate with others and order things we need online. However, I want you all to still be very aware of internet safety. You need to make sure that when you are online you are safe. If anyone contacts you that you do not know or you see anything that worries you, you must tell a grown up at home. Grown ups! Please make sure that you are helping your children to stay safe. Make sure you know what they are doing online and who they are communicating with. If we are all aware, then we can all help each other to stay safe and have fun online.

This week I have been juggling working from home and trying to teach Daisy and Freddie. Most of the time it's been going well (we've had a few hick ups and a couple of temper tantrums, as I'm sure you have too!) but we have been up to some fun things such as: making cupcakes and writing out a recipe and instructions, starting a project about famous artists, watching our sunflower seeds start to grow, enjoying some mindful colouring and playing an epic game of monopoly – which is still going on – and Freddie is currently winning! As you can see below, our seeds have started to grow and even though they are only tiny – it's a promising start! This made me think of our school value of **hope**...



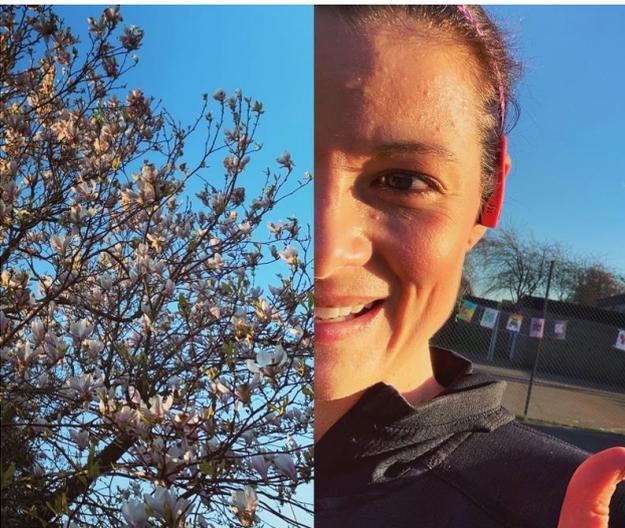
Daisy and Freddie baking chocolate cakes definitely spread some **joy** in our kitchen and in our tummies...





And then there was this..

I have been trying to run every day. Lots of you know that I love to run anyway so I'm trying to use this time to relax and switch off a little bit from work. It's also the only time I have by myself and although I love being with my family, everyone needs some time to themselves as well. While I was on a run this week I ran past White Woman Lane and saw that the children who have been attending Childcare there from OCJS and WWL had made a sign and hung it outside. The sign reads "Thank You Key Workers". What a lovely idea for our school community to make to show all those people who are working hard to help us during this difficult time that we are thankful to them. I am so proud that we have this sign hanging outside our joint school at the moment. This surely represents our school value of **love**...



So if you look and make connections there are ways that you can see our school values in action all the time. When I do this it helps me to stay positive and it reminds me that our school values are strong and really valuable to all of us.

I really hope that you all have a lovely Easter break – it may look very different to our normal school holidays but it can still be a time to make memories with your families and spend quality time together.

I will write to you again next Friday and let you know what I've been up to. If you want to email me please feel free to contact me at headofschool@oldcatton.norfolk.sch.uk

Stay safe and well and look after each other.

Mrs Connelly

I imagine if Dr. Seuss were alive today, he'd write something like this:

(Read with Dr. Seuss book rhythm).
The buildings were big and people would smile
And travel they would mile by mile.
But sick they become, in numbers it grew
Businesses worried, communities too.
Things stopped for a bit, the world slowed its roll
The virus had certainly taken its toll.
But what they then saw from slowing things down.
Is in fact they now had less reasons to frown.
Families now gathered, what game shall we play?
Pass me the blue crayon, give mommy the grey.
Dad's home guys! He'll read us a book
then all of us together will cook.
The lungs of the planet caught a small break
less travel meant less pollution to make.
People did realize they'd all be ok
They don't need so much to get through the day.
Maybe this virus that caused so much stress
Showed the whole world that more can mean less.
Written by XXXXXX
Inspired by Dr. Seuss

