



Horsley CoE (VA) Primary School
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Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you are managing to keep well and safe. It has been lovely to hear from parents about the creative work that has been undertaken and how people are working methodically through the Hamilton home learning packs. Do keep up the good work.

We greatly missed the opportunity to celebrate one of our most important events of the calendar, May Day. However, staff have posted a short clip on the FHS website and the school Instagram (Horsleyprimaryglos) of an 'in house' lockdown version of the event (adopting social distancing) which we hope will, at the very least, put a smile on the children's faces. Do take a look.

As you are aware, all schools are finding their own solutions to responding to the need to provide support for home learning. It is good to know that the **Hamilton packs** are proving to be helpful in supporting you with your child. We will continue to be using these as our core English and maths curriculum for the full duration of the lockdown. I know some parents have not been able to print copies of the worksheets; do continue to let us know if you would like us to print a copy for you to collect from the school office. Printing the packs is quite a feat. **If you require hard copies of the Hamilton packs, please help us to help you by responding to texts and deadlines for ordering packs.** The packs for w.c. 4/5/20 and 11/5/20 are now available. In addition our whole-school water project is now available for you to download from the school website. Mrs Barr – our artist in residence – has also updated the art ideas sheet. This is available on the homepage too.

Whilst the Hamilton packs remain our 'bread and butter' in terms of our home learning diet, teachers will, during the lockdown, now also be using Classdojo as an additional tool. If you are new to this, please see the link below: <https://www.classdojo.com/en-gb/#LearnMore>. You will have been texted a login code to access your child's account. Please contact the office if you need your code reactivated, or if you have any problems logging in.

Classdojo offers a range of ways to further engage children in their learning. Perhaps its most popular function is its capacity for quickly and easily uploading photos/videos of work/activities that your child is proud of, and would like to share with their class teacher. Teachers are happy to respond to communications, from either children or parents, during normal office hours (8.30am-5.30pm). Please be aware there are no expectations that all children will wish to engage with Classdojo; it is simple another tool for motivation and learning, and another layer of support for you during this difficult time.

Let's hope that we all hear some news soon about the return to school. We will keep you posted as soon as information becomes available.

Yours faithfully

Gary Price
Headteacher

