



Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Dear Parents and Carers,

So another week rolls by and I hope that everyone is still safe and well.

Earlier this week, each class launched its Seesaw platform so that children can keep in touch with their class teachers, their Learning Support Assistants and their class mates – it has been interesting to see the books that children are recommending to each other, and some new skills demonstrations! Please don't feel under pressure to 'post' something, you can just get onto it and see what others in your class have been doing and leave a comment, or just say hello. I must stress that this is not a competition and that no child or family should be comparing themselves with others; every family and every child is different and we are all dealing with the lockdown situation in our own ways, and that is perfectly fine.

I read an interesting article this week which was talking about the idea of educational FOMO (fear of missing out), with all the resources that are being produced by so many different people, and I am conscious of adding to that with the introduction of Seesaw. Next week, as well, we will also be adding onto the website some activities from all our subject leaders, so there will be some suggested ideas for science, art, DT from the school. Again, these are suggestions and may help those children/families who are looking for some subject specific inspiration (that's not obviously reading, writing and maths). If you find an activity that resonates, go with it or you have found other sources, such as BBC education, and it works for you, your child and your family then go with it and ignore the rest!

As I said at the beginning of all of this, it is everyone's safety, health, wellbeing and mental health that 'top trumps' everything else at this time. If you think forward to several years' time when they run a TV programme about remembering the 2020s decade, and they get to the 'year of the virus', imagine what memories will be talked about then? It could just be 'we had a great time, there was no school, all the family stayed at home and I learned how to cook.' What's wrong with that?

Enjoy the weekend!

Elaine Viner
Head Teacher

