



Catshill Middle School - Easter Newsletter 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

At the end of a very different term, I wanted to provide an update for you all. Every family has had to develop new routines and work patterns to provide stability for the children and I would like to thank you for your support.

Catshill Home Learning has been up and running for two weeks and is published each week on the school website.

<https://www.catshill-middle.worcs.sch.uk/parental-information/out-of-school-learning>

We are aiming to provide a broad range of subjects each week and also a mixture of practical/paper/online activities. We know that keeping children engaged is important and the staff have developed some additional resources for the holiday period (2 weeks). These will be extremely varied and are entirely optional. Doing a small number of activities regularly is good for building routines and helping children to exercise their minds in a positive way.

We are not expecting parents/carers to formally home school their children. Some families are using the ideas provided by staff to give structure for a period of time each day. Children thrive from talking about their learning and this is one thing I would encourage you all to do regularly.. The learning will look different for every child. Talking about feelings and answering questions about the current situations is part of all our learning.

Catshill Middle School staff have been running our childcare provision for the children of critical workers. This has been based at Catshill First School and will continue for as long as required. The children, parents and staff have all worked together brilliantly. It has been a privilege to serve the school community and to see the children smiling is always uplifting. I have included a Number Day report on page 2 to remind us of the great work that Catshill pupils do for others.

I would very much like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuing support and to wish you a peaceful Easter.

Mr Thompson - Head of School



The story of the copper heart can be found on our twitter feed - [Catshill Middle \(@Catshillmid\)](#)



Music at Catshill

Hi everyone. I hope you are finding some time to do a bit of music learning over the week, even if it's just some listening to your favourite music or asking Alexa for something a bit different. Try to see whether you can describe the music, pick out the different instruments or identify how many beats there are in the bar. Also, have a good sing – it's proven to improve your mental well-being!

If you fancy broadening your musical theatre experience, YouTube channel "The Shows Must Go On" is going to be showing a different Andrew Lloyd Webber musical every Friday at 7pm. The first one, showing 3rd April, is Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

If you have a piano or keyboard (or even a toy keyboard), there are some great tutorials online – please email the school and I'll send you some links. If you have a ukulele, try Ukulaliens - Ukulele Club on YouTube.

If you would like to share some photos or videos of your musical home-learning, I'd love to see them. Perhaps we could share some in our next school newsletter. Sorry for the noise year 6 parents – I hope the chair drumming is going well!



Pro-Music lessons: If you would like to continue your instrumental lessons during our time at home, please get in touch with Pro Music directly to arrange a video-call lesson. Try to keep practising - maybe you could try teaching some of your family!



Singing with Miss Withey: Vocal students have been keeping up with their singing studies via video lessons sent by email, which have been met with a great response.

Friday 7th February was **Number Day** at Catshill Middle School and pupils were invited to wear numbers to raise money for the NSPCC. As part of the day, forty-eight pupils taken from all four year groups, became teachers and taught form classes from their year groups. The activities included dice games, making mosaics, matchstick puzzles, finding the value of words, taking part in mathematical quizzes written by the pupils and strategy games such as square it and 21. The pupils worked very hard planning their activities, producing examples, getting together resources and writing PowerPoints. The pupils involved were:-

Year 5 - Grace Ford, Lillia Winn, Charlie Harris, Charlie Holliday, Kaycijai Aldred, Ruby Deer, Keelan Arnold, Orlando Boyce, Faith Gudger, Alfie Lacey, Poppy Stockdale and Aaron Wills.

Year 6 - Nicole Duszniakiewicz, Tamuda Bvunzawabaya, Alfie Waight, Tayah-Jayne Tipping, Harmony Franklin, Katie-Jane Thomas, Ewan Warren, Kyle Daniell, Georgia Capper-Mciver, Isabel Carr, Sophie Cotterill and Ciara Jones.

Year 7 - Faith Kerr-Nash, Olivia Scott, Peter Hemming, George Halsall, Lanah Hathaway, Sam Walsh, Danielle Huckerby, Riley Thomas, Teagan Speed, Freya Smith, Adam Salangy and Sebastian Christoforou.

Year 8 - Aaron Machado, Harry Porter, Liam Price, Nathaniel Ainsworth, Bobbie-Ann Russell, Benjamin North, Aaron Pemberton, Francesca Archetti, Jessica Astley, Callum Logan and Harry Smith.

Well done to all of them.

