



ELTHAM
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL
SINCE 1814

Spring 2
Newsletter
March 2020

MESSAGE FROM MR BULPITT

Dear Parents and Carers,

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly with your God

At the end of an unprecedented week I am writing to all of our families to celebrate the achievements of our children and staff this week, but more importantly to remain in contact with you all and remind us all that we are part of a strong family and school community with God as our foundation.

So I would like to open my letter to you all with a time of Collective Worship as we move through Lent and onto Easter. I encourage us all to find a quiet 10 minutes to share this time with our children.

Preparing for Holy Week

Welcome – We come together in this time of Lent as we are encouraged to use this time leading up to Easter to focus on Jesus. We open with a declaration of praise from Psalms 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From whence does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.

Message

As we approach Easter and remember the death and resurrection of Jesus, we come together to remember those who are affected by coronavirus, their families and loved ones. We pray for those who are in our National Health Service, emergency services and front line services. For our Prime Minister and government as they make decisions to combat the virus, and for our school family – teachers and assistants, children, office staff, kitchen and premises. For our governors and leaders.

May God's peace and comfort be with us all in this time of uncertainty. Amen.

To you, O Lord I lift up my soul;
O God, in you I trust
You are the Lord of my salvation
O God, in you I trust
In you I hope all the day long
O God, in you I trust
Remember Lord your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting
To you, O Lord I lift up my soul;
O God, in you I trust

Close

Let us spend time in quiet as we bring ourselves before God.



NEWS FROM ELTHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

I am always thankful for the resilience and hard work of everyone at our school. This week has seen the staff and children all moving across to an online, virtual learning. The children have embraced using Google Classroom and I have checked in with teachers and seen some of the art and creative work that their children have been doing this week. Those children at school whose parents are key workers celebrated our NHS workers by creating and displaying our rainbow



I would love to see your pictures and share them on twitter – please send them to your class email address and they will forward to me. Please enjoy the link <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52034134> and <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-52058013> where the country came together to salute the health workers.

In it all, can I also share some thoughts that another Headteacher wrote to his school community that are important at this time;

“We are focussed on ensuring that our children remain focussed and continue with their school work and education. Whilst this is important and we strive to keep them on track with their learning and educational progress. Please remember that they also hear our conversations, they see the news and try to understand the world around them. They like us have never experienced something like this and may well be scared and anxious. They need our love and comfort like never before, so don’t be afraid to ‘tear up’ our schedule; play games, play outside, bake cakes and enjoy books and films together. This will help them feel safe, and assured. Their mental health is more important as their academic progress.”

Can I close by coming back to thanking you all for your support and partnering with us as we continue in uncharted waters.

Please send in your pictures of rainbows, art and crafts that you have been undertaking and I will share some with our school community next week.

With very best wishes to you all

Matthew Bulpitt
Headteacher

Charlie Rhodes
Deputy Headteacher



I can pray a rainbow...

Genesis 9 v 13

"I am putting my rainbow in the clouds as the sign of the agreement between me and the earth"



God placed a rainbow in the sky as a symbol of his promise to never again send a flood like the one that Noah had survived in the ark. Today the rainbow is a symbol of hope for us, a reminder that God keeps his promises. Here are some rainbow inspired activities for you and your family to explore together.

Rainbow prayer hunt

Go on a search around your house and try to find something of each of the colours below. Here is a prayer you can say for each colour as you find them.



RED

Thank you, God, that you love us and that you are always with us.



ORANGE

Dear God, please help us to be patient, to wait and listen to you and to be obedient while we wait for this crisis to end.



YELLOW

Dear God, please help all those who are scared. May they know your perfect peace that takes away all fear.

GREEN

Dear God, please look after all those who are sick, give them the treatment and help they need to recover, send your healing power into all the world.



BLUE

Dear God, please protect all those who are working for the NHS, thank you for all they are doing to protect us.



PURPLE

Thank you, God, that we are children of the King of Kings. Thank you that even though we are in difficult times we can trust in you and pray your Kingdom come.



PINK

Thank you, God, that we know you will bring us through this crisis to safety on the other side just as you protected Noah and brought him and his family through the flood.



Make an encouragement rainbow

You will need: Paper and pens or any other craft materials you have around the house

All around the country people are putting rainbows in their windows to encourage people in their street.

Use whatever craft materials you have in your house to decorate a rainbow and put it in your window where your neighbours can see it.



Some promises to share

Here are some more of God's promises from the Bible. Ask God who needs encouraging today and then send them a promise verse.

Joshua 1:9- Be strong and brave. Don't be afraid because the LORD your God will be with you everywhere you go.

Jeremiah 29:11 – "I say this because I know what I am planning for you," says the LORD, "I have good plans for you, not plans to hurt you. I will give you hope and a good future."

Mark 11:24 – So I tell you to believe that you have received the things you ask for in prayer, and God will give them to you.

Romans 8:28 – We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him.

