

The Pinner Park Poet

Special
Edition



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Happy St George's Day (belatedly!)

I hope you spared a thought for St. George yesterday. It is thought that St. George came from Cappadocia in Asia Minor and became a high ranking cavalry officer in the Army of Rome. He refused to carry out the Emperor's orders for Christian persecution and, in consequence, suffered torture and death himself. He showed kindness in very challenging circumstances.

The legend of St. George, illustrating the triumph of good over evil, tells how he rode into the city of Silene in what is now Libya, to find the people terrorised by a dragon which was fed daily with one of the citizens. The next victim was to be the daughter of the King, but St. George rode out, slew the dragon and freed the people from their oppressor.



Whether in the context of history or legend, St. George epitomises the qualities of selflessness, and both moral and physical courage.

It seems to me that we need to show great courage as we continue to manage these difficult times. We are proud that our Pinner Park community – children, staff and families – are tackling the challenge head on, and showing great kindness whilst doing so.

Very best wishes for a wonderful weekend,

Nick Waldron

Headteacher

Thank You NHS and Key Workers

We challenged you to get creative this week and you didn't disappoint. Thanks for sending in your pictures, which we have now added to a video. It looks great!

You can see the video (and all our other videos) here:

<http://pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk/pinner-park-online>



Ramadan Mubarak!

Ramadan is the holiest month of the year for Muslims, remembering the time when the Qur'an was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.

We know that this Ramadan will be a very different experience for Muslims all over the world during the COVID19 lockdown. It will be difficult not being able to attend prayers at the mosque, or share Iftar with extended family, friends and the local community.

During this month of Ramadan we wish all our Muslim children, staff and families a time of peace and happiness.



Keeping in Touch - Phone Calls Home



It has been wonderful to speak to so many of our families this week. We're catching up with you and ensuring that you have all the support that you need. I know that the teachers have particularly enjoyed speaking with the children – we do miss them all!

The calls from school staff during this period are likely to come from a 'Number Withheld' or 'No Caller ID' number. Please pick up – it may be us calling you!

If you have a missed call, or if you want to get in touch with your child's teacher, please send an email to the year group email address (see above).

Keeping in Touch –Year Group Emails

If you have any questions about your child's home learning, you can get in touch directly with the teachers in your child's year group using the following addresses.

If you, or your child, have any questions about home learning, if you need a password for something, or if you need some ideas, simply send a message and a member of staff from the year group team will get back to you.



nursery@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk
reception@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk
year1@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk
year2@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

year3@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk
year4@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk
year5@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk
year6@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk

Please use office@pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk for any general enquiries.

KEEP UP TO DATE ON OUR WEBSITE
<http://pinnerpark.harrow.sch.uk>



Home Learning – Offline Learning and ‘Live Lessons’

We’re so pleased that everyone is making such a good effort with the home learning.

Most parents are finding that the weekly projects have a good range of activities which can be used flexibly during the week – working around your working pattern, availability of tech devices, your child’s learning style and so on. Also, families with more than one child can work together on some aspects because the weekly themes are the same across the school.



The White Rose Maths and BBC Bitesize resources are excellent. And many parents are finding these so useful, and are also using other websites to supplement the learning.

We are conscious that not everyone has access to the internet, computing devices or printers at home. If you would prefer to use paper resources, we can recommend the following resources. Sadly, you will have to order and pay for these – but they may be a ‘life saver’ to some families!

Power Maths Home Edition

Power Maths is a mathematics scheme which closely follows the White Rose Maths approach. The publisher has produced some special home editions for use during lockdown. There are 40 lessons in each book, so this will be plenty for 8 weeks’ worth of maths. This could be used as an alternative to the White Rose Online maths, or as a supplement. You can order the books here:

<https://resources.whiterosemaths.com/product-category/power-maths/parent-school-order/>

CGP Books

CGP books are written in a student-friendly style and closely match the curriculum. There a wide range of books, so make sure you look at the books which are appropriate for your child’s year group. We would suggest you use some of the practice books – we wouldn’t want children to be sitting and doing tests!

You can order the books here: <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/resources/studying-from-home-during-coronavirus>

A note about ‘Live Lessons’

A few parents have asked if we will be introducing any ‘live lessons’ using technology such as Zoom.

We love Zoom, and we’re using it a lot for our staff meetings, interviews, headteacher meetings and so on. However, we don't have any plans to introduce 'live lessons' at the moment.



We want to give families the flexibility to tackle the home learning in a style and timing that suits them. Not all children have access to a PC or laptop for their exclusive use, and many of our staff are themselves working from home and looking after their own families. It is very difficult to teach young children through an online portal – it’s nothing like the classroom environment! There are also a number of difficulties with regard to online safety which we need to consider.

We are exploring some new ways of keeping in touch with the children, and perhaps using some technology for a social catch-up, but we don't have any plans to introduce any online lessons at the moment. We will review this week by week.