



Dear Parents/carers,

26.3.20

We hope this finds you well and staying home to stay safe. We said when we closed last week that we would continue to stay in touch, and we are trying to do this through email via ParentPay, text and by using Twitter: www.twitter.com/hesledenprimary and some of you have started to share, via Twitter, some of the things you have been doing. We are also using Twitter to retweet useful and important links and messages.

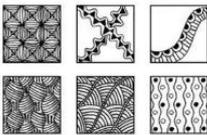
While we adhere to government guidelines on staying home, school continues to open to provide care for children of key workers, only in the event that there are no alternate arrangements available. Thanks go to all of those key workers who have been able to make other arrangements and keep our numbers low, this has allowed us to reduce our staffing levels and keep our adults safe too.

As a reminder, our contact details are: ☎ 01429 836376 or 💻 hesleden@durhamlearning.net (left messages/emails **will be** responded to). Key workers, please let us know if you need us! If you are not a key worker but would like to speak to us about anything else, please get in touch!

The packs of work which were sent home, including the grids of activities and online learning logins were not meant for the children to sit and learn for 5 hours each day, but should contain enough variety to keep the children engaged over time – picking different tasks each time.

In the grid below we have added more links to online learning websites. Most are either free to sign up to at all times, others are giving free sign ups for the period of school closures. Please note, none of this is compulsory, these are just suggestions in case you are looking for something new. We also know that not everyone will have internet and access to mobile devices, and others will have found resources of their own.

We do ask that children continue to read daily and practise number skills and times-tables.

Activity & Relaxation	https://yogamike.tv/membership-options/	3 month free trial option available
	www.youtube.com [PE with Joe]	Find/watch Mon-Fri at 9am
	https://www.youtube.com/user/OllieTunmer	Daily 'body percussion' workshops, 11am
Mindfulness & Creativity	Google 'free mindfulness colouring' - Great for relaxation if you have access to a printer 'Zantangles' are also a great way to chill out; e.g:	
Reading	https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/	A new audio extract/story each day from David Walliams
	https://nursedottybooks.com/dave-the-dog-is-worried-about-coronavirus-2/	Perfect for KS1 to explain about coronavirus
	https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page/	Free library of books to read online
Maths	https://www.themathsfactor.com/	Free sign up during school closure period; maths for 4-11 year olds
General	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary	Age appropriate activities across all curriculum areas

We know that families will be worried about their children falling behind in their learning and trying to teach at home – please worry less – please support your children however you can through this very unusual time and we will be here to help when we return to our usual school routines.

Mrs Dunn