Happy Easter!
As we come to the end of what has been a very challenging two weeks since closing the school gates, I hope you and your families are all keeping safe and beginning to adapt to life without the normal school routines. Despite these challenges, I have been enormously impressed and proud of how well everyone has been adjusting to and engaging with the home learning set each week.

I’m sure you will agree that the home learning is now far more organised for each year group and easier to access on the website. We have now set up info@ website addresses for each year group which you can find on the home learning page where you can email any questions or better still some examples of the great home learning taking place. The teachers are really missing you all, but I’ve been hearing such great things from them about what you’ve been up to. A big thank you to our parents and carers for supporting the children at home, by doing so it will help them to adjust to normal learning and routines when schools do get to open again.

We have set a small amount of learning for the Easter break, similar to the amount we would normally set over the holiday period but feel that it is important that both the staff and students get to enjoy some down time and have a break. We will resume the weekly online learning after the Easter break on Monday 20th April.

Whilst the school is now closed for the vast majority of pupils, we have kept our doors open every day for a small number of students to allow their parents/carers to fulfil vital key worker roles. On behalf of our whole school community, we want to say a huge thank you to all, with special
thanks to our NHS workers and volunteers who are working hard to care for and keep us safe.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to the INA team for their incredible hard work. Their determination to go above and beyond never ceases to amaze me. In such a short space of time they have adjusted to new and creative ways of helping our young people continue with their learning and keeping in touch with their classes to answer any questions our students have. We have also had a small number of staff on duty every day to provide supervision, food and support the children on site.

The spring term Pupil Progress Reports will be emailed to you on Friday 24th April, please check that we have an updated email address for you. If you do not have an email address, please contact us and we will do our best to get a report to you.

As you may already be aware, all national key stage assessments and tests will not take place this academic year, this includes Year 1 Phonics Screen Checks, end of Key Stage 1 SATs for Year 2 and the Year 4 Multiplication Times Tables. We are waiting for further guidance from the Department for Education regarding teacher assessments.

On behalf of all the Primary staff we would like to thank you for your tremendous support this term and take this opportunity to wish you all a restful break and a safe and happy Easter.
Lovely Learning this Week

It has been great getting to see so many happy young people getting on with their home learning this week. You can send us examples to the info@ year team address on the home learning page. We appreciate all the support the pupils are receiving at home but want you to know as parents and carers that we are not expecting you to become teachers overnight and we also understand that the children are not going to learn in the same way at home as they do in school. Simply providing your child with some structure at home will help them to adapt.

The weekly learning on the website is linked to half termly topics with age appropriate objectives and are there to guide and support the pupils with the continuity of their learning. We would also like to stress that it is also very important that the children get to spend time keeping fit and active every day and limiting the time spent on games consoles or watching TV during the day. Whilst not being at school is difficult to adjust to, this is also an opportunity to spend quality time as a family by playing games, helping with some baking, doing some gardening together or getting the children to help out with some basic chores. Have fun!
More Lovely Learning this Week
and more Lovely Learning this Week
to the following children who have celebrated their birthday between 23rd March – 5th April:

Harkirat Kaur, Zaara Mubarak Ali, Sarah Master, Aberra Qazi, Nandini Sharma, Abdul Wahab, Abraiz Dar, Yusuf Mahmud, Nikunj Mittal, Aahil Mubarak, Aariz Zaheer, Malaika Hussain, Mohammed Akbar Hussain, Safwan Mahmood, Faheem Ahmedabadi, Tara Rani Kaur, Musa Malik, Hamza Chand, Abdul Sheikh, Ahmad Musa

Composers for Spring

Try to listen to some of the following composers for Spring:

Clara Shuman’s Spring Symphony No.1

Vivaldi – The Four Seasons: Spring

BRIDGES are habits of mind or learning characteristics that develop a pupil's character and learning power and enable him/her to grow into a well-rounded individual and resilient learner.

There are seven BRIDGES habits that we will be working on, which will rotate on a weekly cycle throughout the year. The BRIDGES habit of the week will always be introduced at the beginning of the week during the Monday assembly and reinforced throughout the week across the curriculum. Each class teacher will award a certificate to a pupil that they feel has demonstrated the BRIDGES focus for the week.

Each week we will update you on the BRIDGES habit that will be introduced in the coming week and offer some top tips on how to reinforce the habit at home too. Please also refer to the Primary BRIDGES wheel below.
At School

• At school we always remind the children to treat others in the way that they would like to be treated in return.

• At school we talk about having good listening skills and that we must look at the person who is talking to us to show respect for them and that we are listening to them properly.

• During every lesson the children are encouraged to develop their sociability by talking to their talk partner, when some children find this hard to do; an adult will sit and help facilitate paired talk. During the course of the year the children will be moved around and will have been encouraged to have different reading partners, maths partners etc.

• We discuss the importance of working together as one big team or family at school and that we need to take care of everybody – we use the phrase ‘kind hands, kind feet’ to remind children that we do not hurt others.

• When a child hurts someone or makes a poor behaviour choice, it is important that they reflect on their behaviour and if another person is involved, that they apologise to them.

• Through wider reading and research the children are able to extend their understanding of the world around them, reflecting on what makes things different and what are the common thread through life.

• Though reading stories the children can develop their skills of empathy through their comprehension of the characters, their motivations etc.

At Home

• Having consistent boundaries between home and school is very important.

• Talk to your child about the importance of not hurting or hitting other children and that we need to treat everyone kindly and respectfully.

• We know that you have equally high expectations of your child at home as we at school and working in partnership has great strength in supporting your child to make good choices each day.
Safeguarding Children

As part of their curriculum, the children learn how to keep themselves safe. The following website has been set up by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) to offer parents and schools advice on how to raise safeguarding awareness with children. There is a notable section called ‘The Underwear Rule’ which is of particular support and guidance to parents. The website also offers advice regarding ‘online safety’ and how to obtain support or advice regarding the safeguarding of children.

www.nspcc.org.uk

Do we have your correct contact details?

It is vital that we have correct, up-to-date contact details for all parents and carers. Please contact primary@saacnewtonacademy.org or info@isaacnewtonacademy.org if you have recently changed your telephone number, address or email.

Thank you