



# Adel St John the Baptist Church of England Primary School Newsletter

Issue 29  
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## Headteacher's Message

For the last couple of weeks we have been speaking to many parents on the phone and it has been lovely to hear that you are all safe and well. I am aware there are still families to contact and we will continue to do this next week.

There have been lots of lovely ideas that parents have been sharing and there have been comments made about some of the decisions we have made since lockdown. I thought it may be useful to give a few reminders, explanations and clarify a few points.

- We do not expect all the learning to be printed out – where possible it can be read on screen and the answers written in a book.
- The volume of learning sent is not a set amount that we expect children to finish each week. It is there to support parents and we completely understand that some families may struggle to achieve anything some days.
- The decision to send learning in one block for the week is to try and support working families. There may be families that need / want to do more learning on particular days due to parent's working schedule.
- The DfE has no expectation that teachers should livestream or pre-record lessons but that schools should consider the approaches that best suit the needs of their pupils and staff. We have considered online lessons but unfortunately, these are just not feasible for the staff and some families at ASJ due to a number of reasons that the governors are aware of. If you feel that on-line video lessons would support your child, then please see the Home Learning article further on in the newsletter.

**Finally, please don't put pressure on yourself to create the perfect curriculum or fill every hour with schooling. Be mindful of what you see on social media and remember that every family is different.**

**Please do what is best for your own family and your own situation. Similarly, we are not comparing ourselves to other schools as their circumstances may differ to our own – we can all only do our best.**

**Take care and stay safe**

**Jane Hainsworth, Headteacher**

**PS. Look out for a surprise the staff created recently. x**

**Some suggestions from parents that seem to be working well are:**

- Having a dedicated learning space in the house.
- Using the morning for English and Maths and then spending the afternoon on more creative topics.
- Establishing a routine with breaks that are similar to school.
- Offering the children a choice of which foundations subjects to complete based on their own interests e.g. history, science, art etc.
- Talking to the children about how they'd like their day to be structured and how that might work with your own responsibilities.
- Encourage the children to incorporate their interests and passions into their learning, e.g. using maths during baking.

**Thank you to all the parents that shared these useful tips.**

## Leeds City Council Updates

Families can sign up to email updates from a Leeds City Council service. For the duration of the coronavirus pandemic, they will send you weekly updates to share important information and resources. Please click on the link below for details

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKLEEDS/bulletins/2870276?reqfrom=share>



## Phonics support - Letters and Sounds for home and school

Families can now access daily phonics lesson whilst school is closed. Phonics is the way we teach children to recognise the sounds in words. It helps your child to learn to read and is an essential part of your child's education.

You will be able to access a daily phonics lesson by clicking on Letters and Sounds for home and school. There are three sets of daily lessons to choose from and we suggest your child starts with one set of lessons most suitable to their year group and reading ability.

The online lessons are designed to follow the phonics programme your child has been learning at school and are the only online Letters and Sounds lessons approved and funded by the Department for Education.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP\\_FbjYUP\\_UtIdV2K\\_-niWw/featured](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP_FbjYUP_UtIdV2K_-niWw/featured)



## NEW Home Learning

We are unable to provide school online video lessons at ASJ but for those families that feel this would support them at home please access Oak National Academy.

In partnership with the Government, they have created a new online learning classroom. The website is full of scheduled lessons, created by primary school teachers, and has resources and videos to accompany their online teaching.

Our suggestion is that the children follow the schedule on the website. They have created little bits of learning, from across the curriculum, each day. As it was only launched recently, the children will be able to follow it and access it in a structured way.

Below is the link to the website as well as a "how to access" guide that lets you know how to use the platform.

<https://www.thenational.academy/>

[How to use guide for the online learning portal](#)





## Covid-19 Support Line

Our telephone support line is available to anyone in Leeds with family members or friends who are critically ill, or who have died from Covid-19.

The telephone support line is staffed by trained bereavement workers who are able to:

- Listen when you need someone to talk to
- Provide emotional support and allow you to express your feelings
- Signpost you to other services and resources if necessary

Call St Gemma's Hospice on **0113 218 5544**  
or Wheatfields Hospice on **0113 203 3369**

*If the phone line is engaged please leave a message with your name and phone number and we will return your call.*

**Open Monday – Friday between  
9.00am – 4.00pm (excluding bank holidays)**

# PAINT AL'S WALL COMPETITION

Due to the current lockdown and all swimming pools being shut, Alistair Brownlee had to find a way to continue swimming.

He decided to move his endless pool into his garage so he could continue training. Click the link below to see more:

<https://www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/sport/other-sport/how-olympic-hero-alistair-brownlee-swims-his-garage-beat-lockdown-2538443>



From the photos you can see the walls are very plain, so we came up with an idea...

**We want you to create an interesting or inspiring picture  
that could be painted on the wall**

The image will help motivate Alistair when he is getting in and out of the pool or when he is breathing to the side whilst swimming.

**The possibilities are endless!**

You could create what you like to do when you are being active or a landscape you would like to see when you are out being active...

**Don't forget to be creative!**

Use paints or crayons or colouring pencils, it can be A4, A3 – whatever you think would work best.

The competition will run until  
**31<sup>st</sup> May 2020** and is open to **KS2**

Alistair and Jonny will each choose their **3 most inspiring** images and there will be **one overall winner** which could then be painted on Alistair's wall\*

You'll be able to find the shortlisted entries at:

[www.thebrownleefoundation.org/paint-als-wall](http://www.thebrownleefoundation.org/paint-als-wall)

We'll also share some on our social media, using the handles at the bottom of this page, so keep an eye out!

**For the Adults (Parents/ Guardians):**

Please complete the design in a landscape format. Once finished, email the design to [contact@thebrownleefoundation.org](mailto:contact@thebrownleefoundation.org) either by scanning it or taking a photo. Please ensure you include the following details:

Name, Age, School, Town/ City

By emailing in an entry, you accept to the Brownlee Foundation being able to publish the image online along with the first name, school and age of entrant.

Facebook  
[The Brownlee Foundation](https://www.facebook.com/thebrownleefoundation)

Twitter  
[@brownleefdn](https://twitter.com/brownleefdn)

Instagram  
[@brownleefoundation](https://www.instagram.com/brownleefoundation)

\*The Brownlee Foundation reserves the right to not paint the final winner's painting on the wall should circumstances prevent it.

## Collective Worship from Reverend Alison

Hello everyone

I hope you are all keeping well and have been enjoying the sunshine. Thank you for all you are doing to help keep everyone safe. It must be hard to lose all your normal activities and not be able to see your friends. It's odd not being able to worship together in one place and our church has to find new ways of doing things. Here is a short collective worship for us to share wherever we are.

We begin, as always, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
*The Lord be with you.*

Although you have probably finished eating your Easter eggs by now – it is still Easter in the church. Easter isn't just one day – but a whole season where we explore what it means that Jesus rose from the dead.

We need a whole season – because it's quite a big thing to get our heads around. After all – rising from the dead isn't an ordinary thing! And when we read the Easter stories in the bible we find the first Christians found it just as hard.

They thought Jesus was sent by God to save everyone – but when he was killed on the cross, they thought they must have got it wrong. They didn't know what to do – how could they be followers of Jesus if he was dead? They were scared too – if people could kill Jesus, they might want to kill his followers too. So the disciples stayed together in one house – with the doors locked. A couple of people said they had seen Jesus alive, that the tomb was empty – but they found it hard to believe.

Then suddenly Jesus was there in the room – even though the door was locked.

They were scared – but he showed them the wounds on his hands and feet, so they knew it was really him, and he said "Peace be with you." Somehow, then they felt much more happy and much more brave. Jesus only stayed a short time – he just had a bit of food and reminded them to tell everyone about him and about God's love. But when he went the disciples had started to understand.

It wasn't that all those horrible things hadn't happened and they were still in danger from the people who hated Jesus. But now they realised that even death hadn't separated them from Jesus. They started to understand that God doesn't always stop bad things from happening – but when they do happen, he is still there loving us. And nothing – even dying – can take that love away.

I think this is a good story for today. We are sort of locked in our houses – perhaps we are a bit scared. But Easter reminds us that even these nasty things that are happening can't stop God from loving us – and they can't stop us from loving each other.

So let's try to enjoy the good things – family time and spring – and ask God to help us with the things that are harder.

Let us bless the Lord...*thanks be to God!*

**Best wishes...Rev Alison**

*Dear God  
In these strange  
times when we  
are with our  
families much  
more than usual  
– help us to say  
sorry and help  
us to forgive.  
Amen.*

People from the church are praying for you, and we are starting some children's things on Zoom. Get in touch if you would like to join in or if there is someone you would like us to pray for.