## Dear Parents/Carers,

As our sixth week of lockdown draws to a close, there are still no answers with regards to when schools will resume. This does not, however, stop us from thinking about what it will be like for our pupils on the day that they finally walk back into the classroom. For many of us, both parents and children, the loss of structure can be unsettling, causing anxiety and frustration of which you will bear the brunt. Whilst you may think that the removal of assessments may be a relief to our pupils, these can be instrumental in shaping a child's ambitions for their future and many of our pupils will be upset by missing out on this rite of passage.

I think that, for many of your children, the greatest loss they will be experiencing is that of their peers and the isolation from their extended family. I am certainly missing my friends and family and can only imagine how much worse this must be for children, who may have difficulty understanding this sudden change to their lives. Children make sense of their world through social interactions; suddenly this loss is thrust upon them and it will take time for these relationships to be rebuilt.

As we all eagerly await a Government announcement regarding schools, my teachers continue to provide online learning for our pupils. Your constructive feedback has been welcome and we discuss and refine this on a weekly basis. The lessons that are planned are designed differently from a usual class-based day and we are endeavouring to strike a balance between accessibility and progression, in the knowledge of the many constraints you may face within your family units. Some parents have requested teacher input via video. However, advice from The National Association of Headteachers is for primary schools not to facilitate online video lessons as there is a risk that this is not a secure platform for both pupils and teachers and therefore could pose a safeguarding risk. Moreover, with online videos, it is impossible that the class based teacher-pupil relationship is replicated by video. Others have requested paper based activities; this is something we can facilitate.

If you are having a clear out, we would welcome and be most grateful for any good condition dolls, dolls' clothes, dolls' prams, farm animals, dinosaurs, small world figures, cars and farm sets. Please email <a href="head@tregony.cornwall.sch.uk">head@tregony.cornwall.sch.uk</a> if you can help and I will arrange a collection. Thank you!

Please can I remind you that, should you have any safeguarding worries or concerns, or you are in need of support in other ways, additional to education, I am contactable by email on <a href="head@tregony.cornwall.sch.uk">head@tregony.cornwall.sch.uk</a> I sincerely hope that you and your families are safe and well and, despite the lack of freedom, finding some positives to this awful situation. As a staff, we miss the daily interactions with our school community immensely and all look forward to returning to a 'new normal'. Take care and stay safe.

Kind regards

Kate Douglass

## Below are some more links that you may find useful during this time:

Teach your monster to read is a great app that covers everything from letters and sounds to reading full sentences. A great resource for Reception — Year 1/2 pupils.

 $\frac{https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/?fbclid=IwAROXPTA\ Hs5mit5lo-np0EwC2irpjl9ONMmNvP77tDbFC-pWksQW88qm-1g}{}$ 

Below is a link to a great website full of speech and language, ADHD, autism, dyslexia etc. activities for you, if you would like to do them with your child.

https://chatterpack.net/.../list-of-free-speech-language-comm...

The following link takes you to a list of high quality online learning resources for every subject. There are also some excellent links into learning to support pupils with special educational needs.

https://www.gov.uk/.../coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-ed...

On Friday 8th May 2020, Britain will be commemorating the 75th anniversary of VE Day, when the guns fell silent at the end of war in Europe. Due to the Coronavirus restrictions, our VE Day 75 events are cancelled but The BBC is looking for ways to collaborate with schools and community groups to encourage people to take part. They would like you to be able to mark the occasion, share your pride in our country and honour the men and women of WW2. Perhaps, by making your own special VE Day 75 'Great British Bunting' to display in your window at home. Please take a look at how you can get involved at <a href="https://bbc.in/3aFt20h">https://bbc.in/3aFt20h</a>

## **Hardship Fund**

If you are feeling that you may need temporary financial help for day to day running in this worrying time, there is an opportunity to talk to a local charity who may be able to assist you with an interest free loan or grant. This is a painless process, which may relieve the worry and uncertainty you are feeling in these strange times. Please feel free to contact Mike Croft or Colin Brown.

Mike Croft 07711 832 232

Colin Brown 01872 530 240

Email: roselandassist@gmail.com

## Tregony Parish Council Stop Gap Food Box Service for Tregony Parishioners only

We understand people's personal situations may have changed at short notice and we are also aware a lot of Government grants and payments are either not in place yet or in some instances not enough for families to get by. We have designed a "Stop Gap" food box service, which is designed to help you bridge this gap.

This is a totally confidential service to assist the community in challenging times, funded by the Parish council, who are empowered to serve the parishioners.

We can provide you a one-off food box designed to assist you and it will be delivered to your door or collected by the local shop in complete confidence.

Just follow these easy steps: -

- 1. Call 07799 401717, this number will be manned by a volunteer (who you will not know).
- 2. You will be asked a few simple questions: -

Your Address (This will be discarded once the order is placed and is only being used for delivery. Alternatively, you can collect or send a friend to shop to collect on your behalf, the shop will not be aware this is paid for on this scheme and will only require the order number you receive on the phone).

How you have been affected by this situation, this requires a basic answer and is only being asked so we can see if others have been left in the same situation. A typical answer would be, awaiting Government pay or have lost my job.

How many people live at your property?

During this process no details will be retained. The order will be phoned to the shop and the shop will be paid. The staff within the shop and the delivery driver will not know the package has been paid under this scheme.

This is totally confidential.

The boxes are not designed to enhance any benefit or pension schemes currently in place.

The items in the box have been selected to provide enough nutrition for both adults and children. If anyone has an allergy or dietary needs, this will need to be mentioned on the initial phone call and may require an additional conversation after the volunteer has sought advice.