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LAUNDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

New Street Oadby Leicester LE2 4LJ

30 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week was a very long week for our school with everything having altered. It looks like this is the new norm in schools for the foreseeable. I would like to thank all the parents for their support and kind words during this unprecedented time.

Launde will continue to open for those who need us, but guidance is clear: schools to remain open only for those children who **absolutely need** to attend...the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society. We all need to adhere to the government guidance to stay at home.

We know as time goes on it may become harder to keep the children engaged and focused so to help you along the way we have included some practical activities for you to do with your children over the coming weeks. We know that it is hard for parents who are having to work at home and we don't expect the impossible, but we know some helpful ideas for you would be appreciated. However, we do know that Launde children will rise to any challenge and will maintain their love of learning and interest in the world around them - and will probably keep you going with their bright ideas!

This special time with families is an excellent opportunity to develop your children's communication skills by chatting to them about the world around them as you take your daily walk or spend time in your garden. Finding bugs in the garden is fascinating for the children, thinking about



what they need to survive and where they live. There are lots of ladybirds around at the moment which the children will love

to draw and paint. Daffodils are all around us at the moment and are a super flower for the children to draw or paint – they are brightly coloured!



Visit the national Geographic Kids page to find out some facts about ladybirds:

<https://www.natgeokids.com/au/discover/animals/insects/ladybird-facts/>



We have many children in our school who absolutely love to be on stage. The School Musical Company have created 'A Song and A Scene', free download pack containing a show song and two duologues for children to rehearse and perform at home. Visit www.theschoolmusicalcompany.com. Why not make props using recycled cardboard and plastic too!

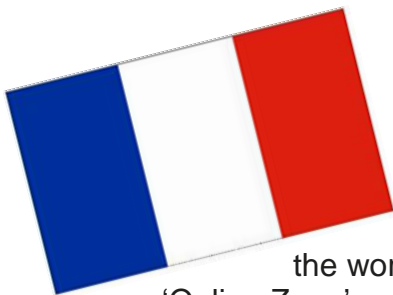
For children in Year 4 and Year 5, Craig, the guitar teacher, has created a Youtube video. See our Online Zone section of the website for the link.

As well as Joe Wicks morning workout, our Learning South Leicestershire School Sports Partnership has put together some more sports related activities. One of them is a 14-day home activity challenge with the help of their mascot Active Anita, that combines fun physical, mental and social activities to maintain and improve overall health.

The activities will be available on their social media pages whereby children and parents can take part in the new fun activities at home every day for 14 days. The activities are easy to follow by taking a look at the posters and videos displayed on our social media pages. Evidence suggests that being active has many physical, mental and social benefits.



Parents are encouraged to engage with the home activities too and participate with their children. Parents and children can also share their progress with us and Active Anita throughout the 14-day home activity challenge. Share your activities and progress on twitter @LSLSSP and @futureactive, using #commit2fit. Anita wants to know how you are getting on!



For those budding chefs, and linguists, we will be sharing a French or Spanish recipe each week on our website for the children to make with you at home. The ingredients list will be basic, to find foods and written in two languages so the children can become familiar with some of the words for the different foods. They are on the 'Online Zone' section, 'French and Spanish recipes to try at home', a new section we have created for this period of time. Why not create the flags from Hama beads your children may have, draw and colour the flags?



And for some quiet time, Amazon Audible have all their children's books to download for free and David Williams is sharing a book a day for children – visit <https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/>

On the Online Zone you will also find instructions of how to get to the year group OneDrive section. We are developing this ready for after the Easter break, where staff will be adding to this each week. We have also set up an email for you to get in touch with the year group teams after Easter. This will be checked daily and they can answer any queries about the work you may have. Until then, you can still contact the office for anything too – we are only too happy to help.

We will write to you again at the end of this week, do stay home and stay safe.

