



"I wish it need not have happened in my time," said Frodo. "So do I," said Gandalf, "and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."

Dear Friends,

As I write, as a Trust we have begun to start planning how we might organise our schools when the Government lifts the current lockdown. Following the announcement from the Prime Minister yesterday, we are somewhat still in the dark, as many questions remain unanswered.

The executive team for the Trust is meeting to discuss these matters and then leaders at Parkfield will do the same. We will of course ensure that our communication is as clear as possible in the coming weeks. I think it is also likely that we will need to talk to you, to see how you feel about sending your children back to school. However, at this stage the vast majority of students will need to remain at home, continuing their distance learning.

I recognise that this will create a huge number of unknowns in the minds of parents, pupils and staff. Many of you will undoubtedly be worried about sending children back too early. I too worry about these things, rest assured – we will not make any decision that puts anyone associated with this school at an unreasonable level of risk. This will require some trust from you and clarity about our plans from us. Eventually, we will need to jump in!

Come to the edge

Come to the edge.
We might fall.
Come to the edge.
It's too high!
COME TO THE EDGE!
And they came,
and he pushed,
And they flew.

Christopher Logue

Tricky riddles

In my family zoom quiz this week, my niece set us all a number of great riddles – see if you did better than me!

1. What gets bigger, the more you take away?
2. What word gets shorter when you add two more letters?
3. What sits in the corner but travels all over the world?
4. What has eyes but cannot see?

The answers are at the end

Recipe of the week - Apple cake

This recipe can be adapted to use a pear, banana or tinned fruit in place of the apple. You can eat it as a cake or a dessert with custard or ice cream.



Ingredients

- 100g caster sugar
- 100g self raising flour
- 100g soft margarine or butter
- 2 eggs – beaten together with a fork
- 1 dessert (eating) apple
- 1 teaspoon mixed spice or cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon demerara sugar (or any sugar you have)

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180 degrees (170 degrees fan oven) gas mark 5
2. Cream the margarine or butter and sugar mixture in a mixing bowl with a wooden spoon until light and fluffy.
3. Gradually add a spoonful of flour and a spoonful of eggs to the butter and sugar mixture, beating well until mixed.
4. Continue until all the flour and egg is used up. Beat until smooth.
5. Spoon the cake mixture into a small greased cake tin (round or square) and smooth the top with a spatula.
6. Half and quarter the apple on a chopping board, leaving the skin on.
7. Cut into fine slices and arrange on top of the cake mixture in a spiral pattern.



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- Mix the sugar and mixed spice or cinnamon together and sprinkle over the apples.
- Bake for 30 minutes until golden brown and cooked through.

Gratitude diary:

- I was really grateful for the butterfly cake that Finn and Esme sent into school for me last week – it was delicious and beautifully presented.
- I am grateful for Professor Chris Whitty, the Chief Medical Officer – what a great job he is doing!
- I am grateful to Miss Wilcox and Mrs Claxton who ran our first virtual assemblies last week – well done!
- After celebrating VE day last Friday, it is hard not to feel gratitude for all those who sacrificed their lives for our freedom.

Busy Bees

Miss Woodley contacted me to explain how she and her friends at the New Forest Sewing group (find them on Facebook) have been making scrubs bags, headbands to hold masks and aprons. This is brilliant, we are so proud of you. Well done!



Go for it

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You could win a travel grant of £500, an invitation to the Borders Book Festival, and a chance to see your work in print!

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THE YOUNG WALTER SCOTT PRIZE 

What are you waiting for?

If you're aged between 11 and 19 and interested in history and writing, the Young Walter Scott Prize is ready to take you on an adventure! We are the UK's only creative writing prize specifically for budding historical fiction writers.

ENTER

If you have a story of between 800 and 2000 words, set in a time before you were born, you can enter the Young Walter Scott Prize - we are now open for entries, and the closing date is **31st October 2020**. Entries are judged in two age groups - 11 to 15 years and 16 to 19 years. Any kind of fiction is accepted - prose, poetry, drama, fictional letters or reportage.

WIN

You could win a £500 travel grant, an invitation to one of the UK's best book festivals to meet published authors, and a chance to see your own work in print. Full terms and conditions and tips for writing and research are on our website.

Go to www.ywsp.co.uk or follow us on

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to start your adventure!



TAKK, takk, takk!

Finally, it just remains for me to say 'Takk', Danish for thanks to a few people. Takk to all parents who are working hard at home schooling – it can't be easy, but keep going! Takk to all the students who are working hard at home, this makes your parents lives easier! And one last huge Takk to my team – what a great job you are doing.



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ANSWERS

1. What gets bigger, the more you take away? - A hole
2. What word gets shorter when you add two more letters? - Short
3. What sits in the corner but travels all over the world? - a stamp
4. What has eyes but cannot see? - a potato