

# TOGETHER

## THE ACRE HALL NEWSLETTER



Website: [www.acrehall.trafford.sch.uk](http://www.acrehall.trafford.sch.uk)

Twitter: @AcreHall

Email: [admin@acrehall.trafford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@acrehall.trafford.sch.uk)

Phone: 0161 748 4356 - our school office is manned from 8.30am to 3.30 pm—Mon to Friday—during this closure period.

Please do get in touch if you require any help or would like to tell us something.

Friday 12th June 2020

### Update

Before the Whit holiday we included in our newsletter our plan for being able to welcome specific year groups back to school as per the government guidance. We planned to bring y6 pupils back next week and then at the end of June bring year 1 pupils back with a view to offering places to Reception pupils after that. Opening to more year groups would also run alongside existing provision for key worker/vulnerable pupils.

In making this plan we had anticipated that there would be a slight increase in demand for key worker/vulnerable pupil provision as the term progresses and more shops/services re open. We have now received a huge amount of requests for key worker children places and have had to double our provision for this. Guidance has also been updated from the government regarding pupils with EHC plans and school are now expected to provide places for children with SEND where they can be safely accommodated with social distancing in place. **Consequently we regret that we will not be able to offer places year 1 or any other year groups unless social distancing guidance is changed.**

We appreciate that parents may be very disappointed by this; it is natural to focus on a date when things can return to normal and we very much regret that we have had to change our plans. This is beyond our control.

We can only take a maximum of 10 children in our classrooms due to the size of them. This means that we would have to use 3 classrooms with 3 sets of staff to accommodate the amount of children who would normally be in just one class. This is why we have had to prioritise some groups and only provide places for them. We will continue to provide learning activities on Seesaw for children not attending school. We hope to also set up some 'zoom' calls for classes not currently attending so that everyone can keep in touch with each other—details will be sent out soon.

We have a very small number of places left for children of key workers. Please contact us as soon as possible if you require a place.

### 'Zoom Ins' with Mrs Green

Many of our families have benefitted from a 'drop in' session with Mrs Green our Well being Advisor. She can give advice about accessing support services or just be a 'listening ear' when needed.

Under the current restrictions it will not be possible to hold these 'drop in' meetings at school but we plan to set up an opportunity for parents to talk to Mrs Green via video conferencing. Mrs Green has indicated to the school office some times each week when she is not at other meetings etc and could meet 'digitally' with parents. Please contact the school office via phone or email, if you would like to book a 'Zoom' call with Mrs Green. We will contact you to arrange a convenient time then send a link via email to you so that you can log in using zoom.

Mrs Green is also hoping to set up the regular 'SEN Café' via a zoom meeting—details to follow.

## Learning at home

We are delighted that so many Acre Hall families have embraced our digital platform 'Seesaw' which teachers are using to set home learning tasks. Seesaw was deliberately chosen as it can be used on laptops, tablets or mobile phones. We are happy to help anyone who has not yet set it up and can talk you through this over the phone.

If social distancing remains in place it will not be possible to have all our pupils in school at the same time and therefore some element of home learning will be necessary. We will be looking at how we can link Seesaw tasks to key curriculum objectives so that parents can easily see what they need to do to help their children. We appreciate that these are difficult times for everyone. We are proud of the resilience and ingenuity that our children and their families are showing so that they can keep learning.

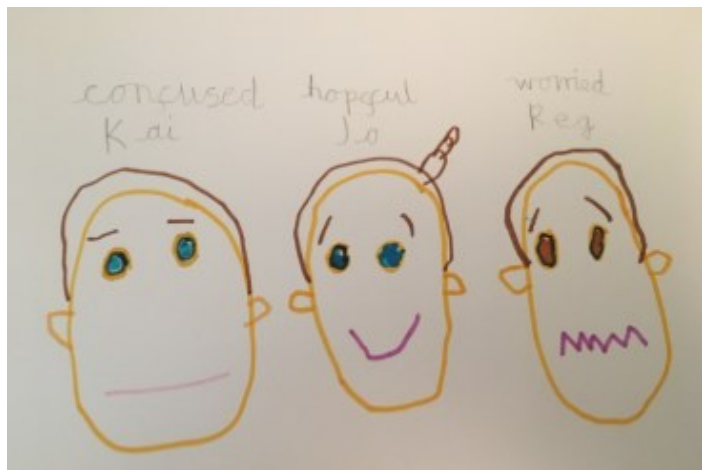
We are not able to provide paper packs of work for children any more. This was done as a very short term measure when lock down began as a way of providing some tasks until we could set up our digital learning platform. This is fully in place now and we urge anyone who has not already started to use Seesaw to get it set up and running! The photographs below are taken from what has been submitted on Seesaw this week and show Mikey J , Jamie and Charlie ( with his sister) embracing learning at home—well done!



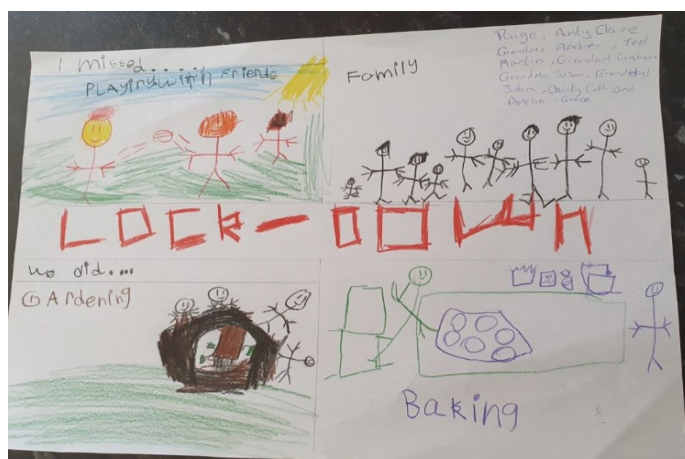


## Art Competition

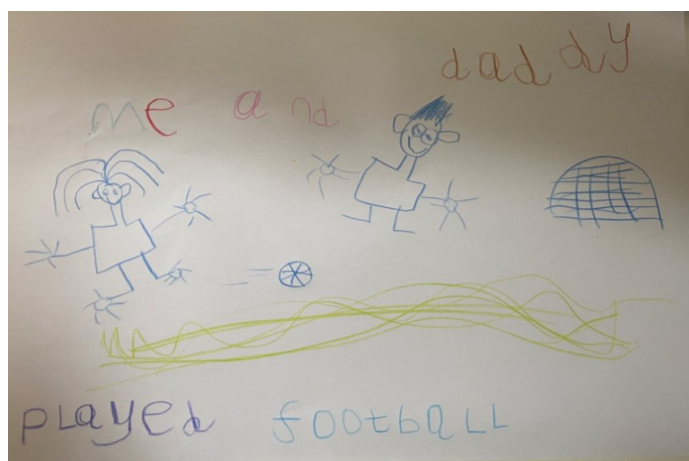
As a project for the Whit holiday we asked pupils to create a piece of art work or a poem to describe their feelings during the lock down period. There have been some fantastic responses which have really showed us the impact that not being at school has had on our pupils. We are planning ways to help all our pupils, and their families, to come to terms with these feelings as we hopefully move to better times. We are currently collating all the exhibits in to a digital format so that they can be seen by everyone. Here are just a few of the pieces shown below.



'Confused, Hopeful, Worried' by Kai



'Lock down Diary—things we missed and what we did instead' by Charlie E



'Playing football with Daddy' by Ella-Rose



'Looking after my family' by Robyn



'Lock down word art' by Ruby C