

Dear Families

We hope you had a chance to enjoy some time with family over the Easter break and managed to enjoy an Easter egg or two... I hope your families are safe and well. Our thoughts are especially with those who are ill or dealing with challenges currently - we are thinking of you.

We have all had to adapt to new ways of working, so I wanted to take the chance to say what an amazing job you're doing supporting your child's wellbeing and learning during this time. It's definitely been a strange and challenging time, so it's understandable if you and your child feel anxious or frustrated at the moment. We're here for you every step of the way as we figure this all out together. Parenting is rewarding, but as we all know, difficult at times and we know this climate had made it so much tougher... We are still here to support you – standing together in these times and reaching out to us if you need support is important.

If you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by contacting your child's tutor, Director of Learning or their class teacher. You can also use the secretary email account; secretary@westgate.slough.sch.uk if you are unsure of who to contact or who is best to support you with your query.

There will be plenty of learning for students to get stuck into over the summer term. Do remind your child to take breaks away from screens as well, and also make time for having fun and connecting with friends and family. We will continue to improve and refine what we do and how we do it. In these unprecedented times we continue to keep student safeguarding, pastoral support and teamwork at the heart of what we do at The Westgate School

Please find attached a document to help to keep your child safe online from an organisation 'Think you Know'. It is targeted at keeping your child safe online during a period of remote learning. For further consideration if you have the time is advice on supporting teenagers during 'lockdown': <https://parentinfo.org/articles/parenting/all>

While we can't say yet when we will be able to open the school fully, rest assured that we'll continue doing our utmost to keep pupils learning and the school connected. Remember 'it might be stormy now but it doesn't last forever'. I am sure students and staff are going to truly value walking back through the school gates when we are able to re-open. Times like these makes us appreciate and value things we often take for granted.

Stay safe.

Kind regards

Mrs Cooper