



Today is the first day of the Summer Term 2020. I must say it is very strange and surreal not actually being in school with you and greeting you at the school gate in your summer dresses and shorts to match the wonderful weather we have been having recently. What a challenging time for us all and especially for our children.

Home learning has already been set and published and this will continue for the foreseeable future. The style in which your home learning is delivered may vary as some staff will set weekly activities and others will set daily tasks, but all children will have spellings that will always be set on a Monday. This is one activity they can do independently as every class does this in school regularly in usual circumstances.

Tasks may be more open ended to help cater for the diverse range of abilities within each class and this will enable children (and parents if they wish to help), do what they can independently if they choose to act on activities that are posted.

PLEASE REMEMBER: The learning being sent home is not intended for you to provide home-schooling. This is an unprecedented emergency situation impacting on the whole world so let's keep it in perspective. Home-learning is a choice. What schools are currently offering is, at best, distance learning. You are, and always have been, your child's primary educator. If you decide that your child isn't going to engage with anything sent home and is going to spend the entire day playing in the dirt, baking, or watching TV, then that is your choice. That is your right. There is nothing to stress or feel guilty about. If you become overwhelmed by links and suggestions then remember these are just that- suggestions of things your child could do at home.

It is not the time in class, but what we do in the time we have, that matters.

Please let me assure you that the learning your teachers are preparing are suggestions and ideas to keep your children occupied, focused and busy. We would always rather your child was active than on a screen too much as taking daily exercise as a family will have much longer lasting benefits.

Building with Lego, drawing, cooking and playing outside are all extremely valuable learning experience. If your child is old enough, try to get them to do little bits independently. Otherwise try to do something that all ages can engage with, reading a story together, some free writing, junk modelling, baking etc. Our teachers would love to hear about what you are doing, even if it isn't the learning they set.

DON'T FORGET: We are here to support and help you, albeit at a distance, if we can. If there is anything you are unsure of and you want to ask then feel free to communicate with teachers privately through the message feature on Dojo. We will also be keeping in touch with you via Dojo ourselves.

You are all amazing members of our Constantine School Community, you are doing a great job and we miss you all immensely- (hence we spent our Easter weekend making the attached picture message for you all).

Please take care and stay safe.

Mrs G and the whole Constantine School Team ☺