



# Newsletter

Heber Primary School

Heber Road, London, SE22 9LA

t: 020 8693 2075 | F: 020 8299 0239  
w: heberprimaryschool.com  
e: adminoffice@heber.southwark.sch.uk

twitter : @heberschool

## School Closure Update

Issue number: 24 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2020

Some of you may be aware that despite having planned to stay open to support the children of critical key workers, Heber had to close last week, due to a high level of sickness amongst the school's Senior Leadership Team and other teaching staff as well.

We are very grateful to St John's & St Clement's, who offered to support Heber by offering critical childcare to Heber children in their own setting. The Local Authority has asked a number of schools to become Hub Schools to support schools with very low pupil numbers and staffing difficulties and SJSC is one such school. Two of our pupils have been attending, and this childcare offer will remain in place throughout the Easter holidays and for the foreseeable future. There are a number of health and safety benefits to joining forces with another school in this unprecedented situation, as it means that less staff are required overall to look after the small number of children we are supporting, as well as less cleaning and catering staff. There is a member of Heber staff onsite at the school every day to ensure there is a familiar face for our children.

We would like to reiterate that this emergency childcare provision is being offered for children who might be vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response, and cannot be safely cared for at home. **If it is at all possible for children to be cared for safely at home, then they must be.**

If you would like to enquire about a childcare place over the Easter period or beyond, and haven't done so already, please contact [adminoffice@heber.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@heber.southwark.sch.uk) by lunchtime on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**, as pupil numbers have to be agreed with SJSC in advance on a weekly basis. No place is guaranteed until it has been confirmed by the school. Can parents who have already used the service or made contact with us also confirm their situation and requirements by the same deadline.

## World Autism Awareness Week

This week is **World Autism Awareness Week**. At Heber we have 15 children with a diagnosis of autism with a few more in the process of being assessed. That makes for a lot of families and young children trying to understand and embrace their differences. We are incredibly fortunate that the children and families at our school believe strongly in accepting how wonderful we are in our diversity. Feel free if you can to use these resources for support and to help us spread awareness and increase acceptance.

- Amazing things happen child friendly video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JdCY-cdgkl&app=desktop>
- Free downloadable lessons <https://www.autism.org.uk/get-involved/world-autism-awareness-week/schools.asp>
- Top tips for families <https://www.autism.org.uk/services/helplines/coronavirus/resources/tips.aspx>

## Parent Line – School Nurse Support

Parent Line is a messaging service for parents and carers of school aged children in Lambeth and Southwark. Parents and carers can message a school nurse to get confidential advice about their child's health related issues. School nurses work during school holiday periods, so you can get in touch then too. The Parent Line number is **07520 631 130**. This is a text number only and cannot receive phone calls. Find out more about the service and confidentiality on the [Evelina London website](#).



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## Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

We are ensuring that we support our families who struggle with the cost of school meals. If you are entitled to Free School Meals and the Pupil Premium based on benefits-related circumstances, you will have received a voucher this week to pay for your child's school meals. This support will continue in the new term, from Monday April 20<sup>th</sup>. The government are setting up a new national voucher scheme for this, through Edenred, and we will be contacting all our families entitled to Pupil Premium regarding this shortly. You can read about it below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/voucher-scheme-launches-for-schools-providing-free-school-meals>

If your circumstances have changed recently and you think you may be entitled to benefits-related Free School Meals, please email [adminoffice@heber.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@heber.southwark.sch.uk) with your name, child's name, address, date of birth and NI number. Please submit this by **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April**. We will make the appropriate checks and get back to you as soon as possible.

## Happy Maternity Leave Mrs Davies!

This week would have been Mrs Davies' last week in school. You may have noticed the growing bump! Mrs Davies is expecting a baby in May and we would like to wish her all the very best for the months ahead with the new arrival.

We are very happy to introduce you to Mrs Campbell who will be taking over for the summer term as our Art Teacher, albeit under unusual circumstances for now! Mrs Campbell will be in touch soon to talk to you all about how we would like to support the children with art during this period when they are not in school.

## Supporting Vulnerable Children

The Inclusion team would like to remind you that we are here to support you if you need us. Undoubtedly most of us have a level of worry about how this extreme situation affects our lives now and in the future. Please contact us if you/your child would like to touch base with us. We are happy to talk through any concerns or just for you/them to hear a familiar voice so that even though we can't see you, you know we're still here. Remember to use the links and resources we have sent to help your children better understand why staying home right now as much as possible, is the best solution. We are also incredibly conscious of our more vulnerable families at Heber. There are those who have additional difficulties and for whom this time is even more challenging. These families include amongst others: families who struggle to access learning online or who depend on adult support for learning including those for whom English is an additional language; those with children who have significant special educational needs and or whose anxiety may be heightened by the current situation; those where there might be safeguarding needs; families in financial difficulty, struggling without enough food/resources and anxious about how they will pay bills with unforeseen job losses/pay cuts. Please rest assured that for these particularly vulnerable families, the team are keeping close contact through regular telephone calls and email, connecting them to food banks and other relevant services to support individual circumstances. If you/your child would like to hear from us, please email any member of the team. We will continue to do whatever we can to support and boost the morale of all our families.

### The Inclusion Team are:

- Miss Hannah Darkin – Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) [hdarkin@heber.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:hdarkin@heber.southwark.sch.uk)
- Mr Lewwis Spence – Learning Mentor – [lspence5.210@lgflmail.org](mailto:lspence5.210@lgflmail.org)
- Mrs Lyndsey Jefford – Assistant Head Pastoral – [ljefford@heber.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:ljefford@heber.southwark.sch.uk)
- Mrs Genevieve Joseph-Williams – Assistant Head Inclusion [gjoseph@heber.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:gjoseph@heber.southwark.sch.uk)



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## Home Learning Over Easter

As a school we have carefully considered what provision should be in place over the Easter holidays with regards to online learning. Although the holidays are usually a time when we take a break from learning, we understand that some support with regards to maintaining routine and structure would be welcomed by the families in our community. Therefore, you can expect to see some suggestions for more open ended, fun learning projects over the Easter holidays posted on Google Classrooms by teachers for the Easter break. This approach will also allow teachers to focus some of their Easter break on their own families at this difficult time. As a result, teachers will be returning to their Google Classrooms to continue the current, more regular provision from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April. Please note that these activities remain optional. Remember, any activities you are doing with your children at home such as cooking together, talking through the news, and jobs around the house are really valuable for your children's learning and development.

In addition to the above, Mathletics, Times Tables Rockstars, the Literacy Shed, and Spelling Shed will all still be accessible during the Easter holidays, as well as any tasks that have been posted on Google Classroom that your child has not managed to complete. There are also a range of other online resources available to support your home teaching, some of which are shared with you below. If you feel that it is important, please continue to encourage a routine or timetable with your child, as this will help immensely with keeping structure at this challenging time. I also recommend talking through what the next day is going to look like the evening before, so expectations are clear before the day begins. Finally, if you haven't already, designate a room or an area in your home as your home 'school'. This will help with separating school life and learning time from home life and down time. For an example of a visual timetable and more information regarding support that the school is offering our children, please see Miss Joseph-Williams' inclusion email sent out to all parents last week.

Best Regards, Mr Elliott

### Nursery and Reception

[Starfall](#) - Where Children Have Fun Learning to Read  
[Cool Math for Kids](#) – Maths games  
[Unite for Literacy](#) – Free ebooks with narration  
[Interactive](#) – Reading material for nursery and reception aged children  
**YouTube Channels**  
[Kids Learning Tube](#)

### Years 3 – 6

[Travel and Leisure](#) – A virtual tour of 12 famous museums  
[First News](#) – Activities and free children's newspapers  
[Science Kids](#) – Fun Science and Technology for kids  
**YouTube Channels**  
[Crash Course Kids](#)  
[Science Channel](#)  
[Geek Gurl Diaries](#)

### Years 1 and 2

As Nursery and Reception and:  
[PBS Kids](#) – Educational games, videos and activities  
**Youtube Channels**  
[Sci Show Kids](#)  
[Nat Geo Kids](#)  
[Free School](#)  
[Geography Focus](#)  
[Science Max](#)

### All Year Groups

[Scholastics](#) - Day-by-day projects to keep kids reading, thinking, and growing.  
[Daily and weekly learning tasks by year group](#)  
[Funbrain](#) – games, books, comics, and videos that develop skills in math, reading, problem-solving and literacy.  
[Mathsbot](#) – maths puzzles  
[White Rose](#) – Scheme of learning used by Heber School



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## Google Classroom Highlights

Teachers and children alike have been embracing online learning over the last two weeks. A particular highlight has been Mr Stevens' 'Hebernory' story telling videos, available [here](#). So far Mr Stevens has lovingly read Firebird by Saviour Pirotta, and installment one of Dick King Smith's The Hodgeheg. Look out for installment two coming soon!

Mr Treen has also been busy posting Musical Birthdays throughout the 'Google School', as well as maintaining his commitment to developing singing in the school by posting virtual Singing Assemblies to all year groups.

Miss Farrelly has been busy working with First News in order to provide all children in the school with a free eCopy of the children's newspaper, so look out for that on your Classroom streams!

Finally, Miss Davies has been beavering away in the background too, providing all classes with Art activities to keep us busy at this challenging time.

Here are some fine examples of the children's learning from throughout the school:

To Mr Treen,

I think that what Muhammad did was wrong. Everyone should respect people's culture and religion even if they don't have the same. There is nothing wrong with him having a different belief to them, but it is incredibly unfair if he treats their idols like that. I bet Muhammad would't like it if they damaged his place of worship at all.

Clara, it is clear you understood the story well and are learning about religious beliefs. I really like how clearly and eloquently you described your opinion - one house point.



Roman Catapult – Yr 3

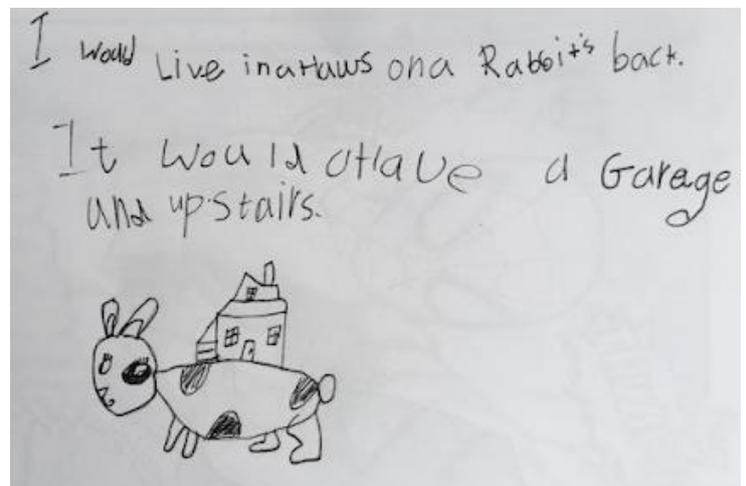


Geography by Ethan – Yr 4

RE Learning – Yr 5



Endangered Animals by Matilda – Rec C



Writing Task by Nancy – Yr 1



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Art Activity by Shameeka – Yr 3



## THE LONDON WALL

THE LONDON WALL WAS BUILT BY THE ROMANS IN THE 2ND-3RD CENTURIES TO KEEP THEM SAFE FROM ATTACK.



THE WALL HAD FIVE GATES INTO THE CITY: LUDGATE, NEWGATE, CRIPPLEGATE, BISHOPS GATE AND ALDGATE.

UNTIL THE MIDDLE AGES, THE WALL WAS THE BOUNDARY OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

IT WAS 2 MILES LONG AND UP TO 6 METRES HIGH AND 3 METRES WIDE.

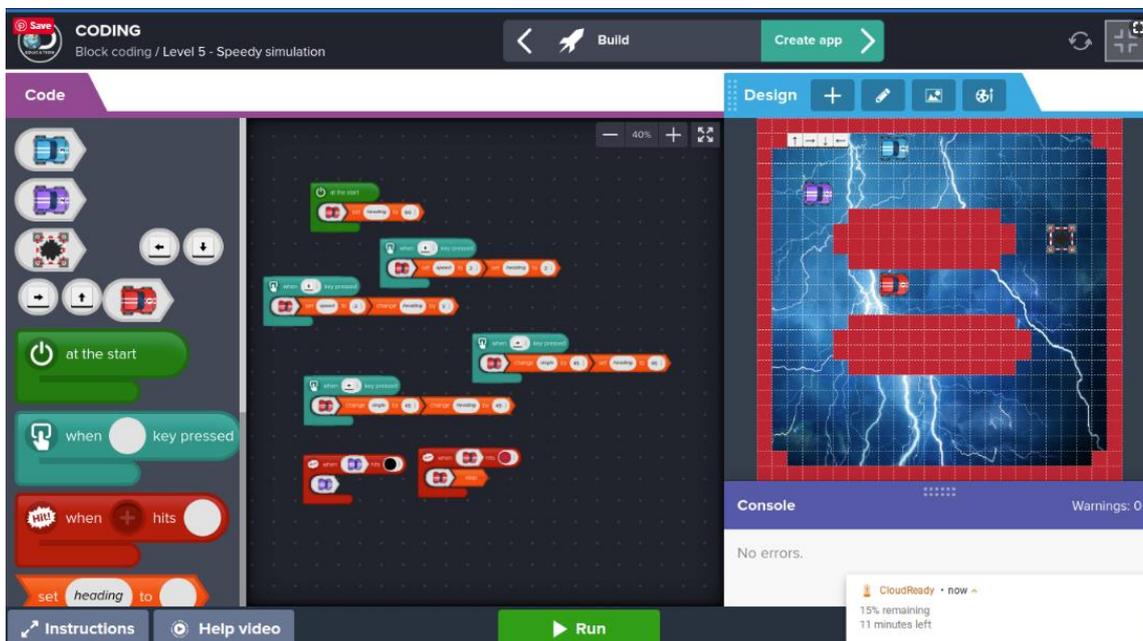
MORE TOWERS & GATES WERE ADDED IN MEDIEVAL TIMES.

DURING THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON, MOST OF THE CITY WITHIN THE WALLS WAS DESTROYED.



ONLY A FEW BITS OF THE WALL STILL EXIST TODAY.

History Task by Linus – Yr 2



Coding a Game by Gabriel – Yr 6

We have been incredibly impressed with the work and creative activities that we have been hearing about and seeing. Well done to all of our children you are doing a brilliant job as are the parents!

Our staff team have been working extremely hard under these new and challenging circumstances that we have all found ourselves in. I would like to say a huge thank you to them all for their commitment to supporting our pupils and families. We have learnt a lot about remote learning and remote working in recent weeks and in true Heber spirit the teamwork has been exceptional!

We miss you all terribly. Look after yourselves and each other. Best wishes, Miss Rosenberg