

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.

(Theodore Roosevelt, American President from 1901 to 1909)

Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.

(Roald Dahl, author)

Hello girls,

Ms. Dermody here. I hope you are all keeping well and that you had a nice Easter. I'm still missing you all and our lovely literacy and maths sessions in school! I hope you have been well since we were last in touch and that you enjoyed some of the suggestions in my last packs of work. On the school website you can see my email address bdermody@mercyprimaryschool.ie where you will be able to stay in touch with me, tell me how you're getting on and ask for help. Please forward your email address if you would like to receive work and feedback from me.

I hope you are trying to make the most of this time that we have to spend at home with our families. It feels strange to us. We are all being asked to do things that are new to us, like *washing our hands* more thoroughly, *coughing and sneezing into our elbows*, *staying away* from our friends when all we really want to do is play and go to school. If you have any questions you want to ask about what is happening, keep away from the internet and talk to mum or dad.

I hope you are getting on ok with the work I sent in March. I will also be sending you some nice ideas for work to do during the coming weeks when we are at home. Wouldn't it be lovely if you had a brother or a sister that could do some of the activities with you? Or maybe mammy or daddy?

I will be sending your work through the email address above. Please do not worry if you can't do it all. There might be days where the grown ups are just really busy and there's no time to get organised. Don't worry. Just do your best and maybe try the parts you like. You might need an adult to help you find some of the work online sometimes. It is important that nobody feels stressed. This way of learning is new to us all and we will all try to do our best and be as kind as we can to everyone at home.

Did you try any of these suggestions I sent in March? Here is a reminder:

- a. Keep a diary every day/some days
- b. Write and illustrate a story out of your imagination
- c. Get lots of fresh air, in your garden
- d. Read loads! Sit down with mum or dad, read, talk about the story and enjoy
- e. Do a Book Review
- f. Count! Count the windows, the doors, the big spoons, the little spoons.....everything you can! Add the windows and the doors! Add the spoons and forks! Be inventive!
- g. Bake something nice with a grown up
- h. Play board games if you have them eg Snakes and Ladders
- i. Tidy your room, books and toys
- j. Pack away old toys that could go to the charity shop later
- k. Do a project on your favourite animal, country or maybe a famous woman you really admire. Enjoy the fun of collecting facts and illustrating your project.
- l. Paint or draw a picture
- m. Colour in
- n. Get lots of exercise: if you can't get out you could try some of the many online ideas eg Joe Wicks' exercises on youtube

I hope you will find something you enjoy in the work I am sending you girls. Just remember we are all learning all the time and be as kind as you can to everyone at home. I hope to see you all very soon,

Best wishes,

Ms. Dermody