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3rd April 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Staff,

Updates

- We are going to do our best to keep providing you with ongoing updates over the Easter holidays - but please bear with us if this is not always the case!
- As well as our frontline staff, we would like extend our sincere thanks to all the amazing team of staff who are working so hard remotely, to not only support families, but also ensure the continued functioning of the School. #TogetherStronger
- If there are any families who need extra support, please do not hesitate to contact us. If there are any families who are in need of food bank vouchers due to financial hardship at these difficult times, please email the office email address office@five-acre.kent.sch.uk and your request will be managed in complete confidence. We will endeavour to support and help all our families in any way we can.
- After Easter, inspired by 'Ant V Dec Challenges', we will be putting Tim and Richard through their paces in a series of head to head challenges, which will be uploaded onto our Social Media platforms. Please start getting your thinking caps on about potential challenges – Alex will be in touch soon to canvas everyone for ideas!
- Please remember that The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:
Phone: 0800 046 8687
Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday), 10am to 4pm (Saturday to Sunday)
- Please see below some links to free training, which may be of interest to both staff and families
 1. 8 hour free OU course on inclusion
<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/education/educational-technology-and-practice/educational-practice/inclusive-education-knowing-what-we-mean/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>
<<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/education/educational-technology-and-practice/educational-practice/inclusive-education-knowing-what-we-mean/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>>
 2. Understanding autism
Introduces the autism spectrum, how it is experienced by different individuals and families, and why it is a global concern. The course explains how ideas about autism have evolved and explores diagnosis, causes, intervention and life-span development. Widely varying perspectives on autism are illustrated and key societal and cross-cultural issues highlighted.
<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/science-maths-technology/understanding-autism/content-section-overview?active-tab=description-tab>



3. Making Sense of Dyslexia: Education for Children and Young People
<<http://addressingdyslexia.org/sites/default/files/resources/Making%20Sense%20Dyslexia%20Report%202014.pdf>>
4. Dyslexia: Identification and Support
<http://addressingdyslexia.org/free-online-learning-modules>
5. Top tips for understanding ADHD and supporting children in the classroom
<https://www.sendgateway.org.uk/r/top-tips-for-understanding-adhd-and-supporting-children-in-the-classroom.html>
6. Teaching Students Who Have Suffered Complex Trauma - Find out what complex trauma is, how it affects children and adolescents, and what can be done to help.
<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/education-for-all>
7. Exploring children's learning:
Four theories of child development are explored. Each theory views child development from a different perspective and all have underpinned psychological research for many years, and continue to do so today.
<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/education/educational-technology-and-practice/educational-practice/exploring-childrens-learning/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab>

Finally, we would like to thank everyone across our School community for the hard work and commitment you have demonstrated, in supporting our amazing pupils during these challenging times.

Take care all.

Kind regards

The Senior Leadership Team

