



# The Moggy Messenger

A little school with big ideas

Moggy Messenger 22nd May 2020



## Message from our Executive Principal

Dear Parent/Guardian

I do hope you are all safe and well. I have been taken aback by the fantastic work I have received from the children recording their memories of lockdown, for our **Moggerhanger Scrapbook**. I have shared one on class Dojo and in this edition of the newsletter I have included several more. If you have not sent your child's entry for the scrapbook to me yet it is not too late and you can post it to Moggerhanger or email me on [khayward@sandysecondaryschool.com](mailto:khayward@sandysecondaryschool.com).

I am also really pleased with the work being sent to staff from the activities being set on class Dojo, so please keep encouraging your son/daughter to do this and share it with the class teacher as much as possible. Activities on class Dojo will continue throughout the summer term for all year groups, so that even if children are not in school, they can access work.

It was **National Thank a Teacher** day this week, but I would like to change it to a **Thank You to All School Staff** day. We have an **amazing team** at Moggerhanger and they really have been going above and beyond, especially during this pandemic. They have supported each other and have done some amazing work for the last few weeks, and I know they are now busy planning for our re-opening of Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 as of 1<sup>st</sup> June, as well as to key worker and targeted children.

We will all now be **based back** at **Moggerhanger Primary School** and I will be writing to individual year groups, as well as a whole school letter, about the procedures we will be following over the next few days, when we re-open.

I know this is a difficult time for parents and I do assure you we will be following all of the Government and DFE's guidance to keep your child as safe as possible.

We will be having **staggered start and finish times** for **each year group**, but to avoid parents having to wait for **siblings in other year groups** who may have a different start or finish time, they should **come in together and go home together**, at the earliest finish time. Thank you to you all for returning your reply slips to us to help us plan for 1<sup>st</sup> June.

Unfortunately, when we do return on 1st June, **Innovate**, the catering company we use, will only be able to provide a **packed lunch**. This will be changed daily and the cost will for be the same as a normal school dinner. I know this is not ideal, but it is to support **social distancing** for their **staff** and for the safety of our **staff and children**. This is also because we will be **staggering lunchtimes** and all children will stay in their classrooms to eat their lunch, before going out to **play as a class at separate times**. If you wish your child to have a school lunch, please book through Innovate in the normal way.

**Play times** will be very **different**, as the children will be encouraged to stay at least 1 to 2 metres away from each other and they will not be able to use any of the climbing frames. We will be providing hula hoops and balls that they can use on their own and these will be cleaned between use.

We will be providing **wrap-around care** at the school from **8.00am to 8.50am** and from **2.50pm to 5.15pm**. If you require this service you will need to **book** it a **month in advance** and we would ask this is done by **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May** for the month of **June**. We will be charging for these sessions based on our new policy, which you should have received following our consultation.

We will be open, as a school, from **Tuesday to Friday during half term, based at Sandy Secondary School**,

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for the **children of key workers**, who need this provision over half term.

Please can I ask that if your child is returning to school, that they wear **full school uniform**. This can now be the summer uniform of **shorts** and a white or **navy polo shirt** or the **summer dress in blue**.

Please can you also ensure your child has a **water bottle** that is **clearly marked** with their name, as this will go onto their desk. All children will have their own stationery on their desk to use and we would ask that you **minimise** what they **bring into school**. Children will only need their **trainers**, they will **not** need their PE kit or forest school clothes.

For **Years 1 to 6** we will not be using their pegs to hang anything on. They will have a **storage box** next to their desk to store their own items; this is again to support social distancing.

**Reception** will also have a **different system** for storing their items, as they go into the classroom. We are also **changing the entrance** to school, as there will be a **one way system** to the front door or side gate, with **distance markers** that we ask you to abide by.

Senior staff will be out and about to support with this on the first day, to help you all get used to the routine. I will, of course go over these new routines again in my letters, as well as add anything else you need to know for your child returning to school.

In this issue of *Moggy Messenger*, I have also included a copy of **Coronavirus—A Book for Children**. This may help you to explain the virus to the children and the reason why they haven't been able to see family and friends.

I would also like to update you on some staffing changes that will be happening at the end of this term and by Christmas at the school:

**Mrs O'Brien Head of School**, will be retiring at the end of the summer term. Mrs O'Brien has decided that she wishes to spend more time with her family and sees this as a natural break in her career, following her huge success and impact on the schools she has worked in.

**Mrs Devine** will also be retiring, but at the end of the autumn term, to pursue her love of travelling with her family, and has kindly agreed to stay and help us induct our new member of staff. Mrs Devine has made a massive difference to the lives of many children and has helped many progress above expectation.

Both staff will be greatly missed by all, and we wish them all the happiness in their respective retirements.

**Mrs Halls**, our Administrative Assistant, will be returning to Sandy Secondary School full time in June, and I would like to welcome **Mrs J Russell**, who joins us on 1<sup>st</sup> June. I would like to say a huge **thank you** to Mrs Halls for doing such a **wonderful job**.

On the next page, I have included some details about a campaign we have started, called **A Smile for Holly**, for a former student of Sandy Secondary School. As some of you already know, **Holly Barker** is just 19 years old, and has been diagnosed with a very rare form of liver cancer. Please take time to read my letter, and help us to achieve our **goal of 100 different items**, such as **cards, poems and pictures**, that we can give to **Holly** to put that **positive smile** back on her face. Thank you.



**Take care and stay safe.**

**Miss K Hayward**  
Executive Principal



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KHD/jm

20<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

## A Smile for Holly

You may remember that I wrote to you recently asking for your help to raise £80,000 for a former student of ours, Holly Barker, to go to America to have further tests and treatment for a rare liver cancer, called Fibrolamellor.

Holly is 19 years of age, and throughout her life she has had to face epilepsy, severe visual impairment following a road accident and learning difficult caused by Asperger's, but this has never been an excuse for Holly and she has always tried her best and done it with a smile on her face and a positive attitude.

Unfortunately, the chemotherapy Holly is having is not working in the way the doctors had hoped, and Holly is now seriously ill in hospital with sepsis, and at present the positive attitude and smile she usually has, is very difficult for her to muster. Her family are trying to keep her spirits high and give her hope, through continuing to raise funds for research into this disease.

We would like to show Holly that she has all of us behind her, wishing her a speedy recovery and looking forward to returning home again. We are, therefore, starting a campaign called "A Smile for Holly". We would like as many people as possible, including children, to send Holly cards, messages of support, poems or pictures giving her hope, and that we are all sending positive wishes, to put that smile back on her face. Cards, poems, pictures, etc, can be posted to us at the address below, emailed into school using [parentcontact@sandysecondaryschool.com](mailto:parentcontact@sandysecondaryschool.com), or dropped off in our outer foyer. We would like to get at least 100 different items to be able to take to Holly as soon as possible, to show her that we are all wishing for her to get better and that she has our full support.

Please help us to put that smile back on Holly's face, by knowing that we are all there for her, and she is in our thoughts, at this difficult time.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours faithfully

Miss K Hayward  
Executive Principal



A Smile for Holly

## MOGGERHANGER PRIMARY SCHOOL

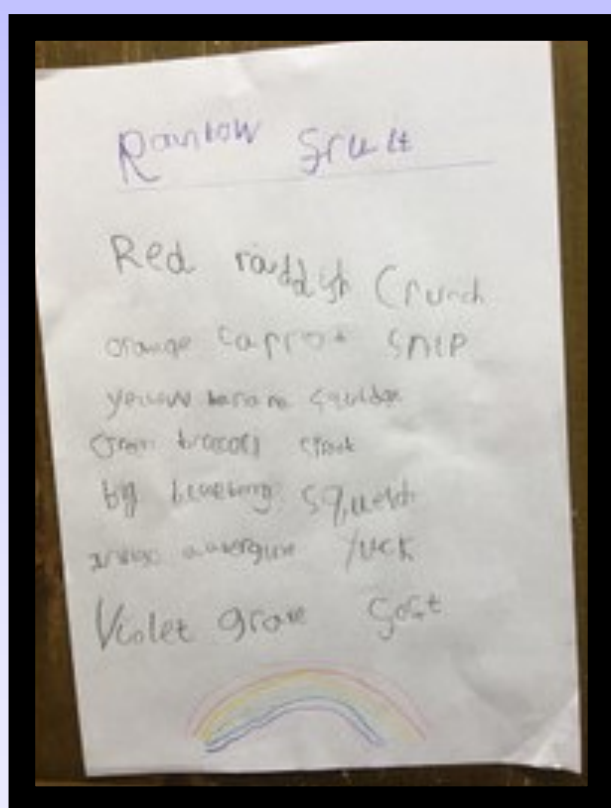
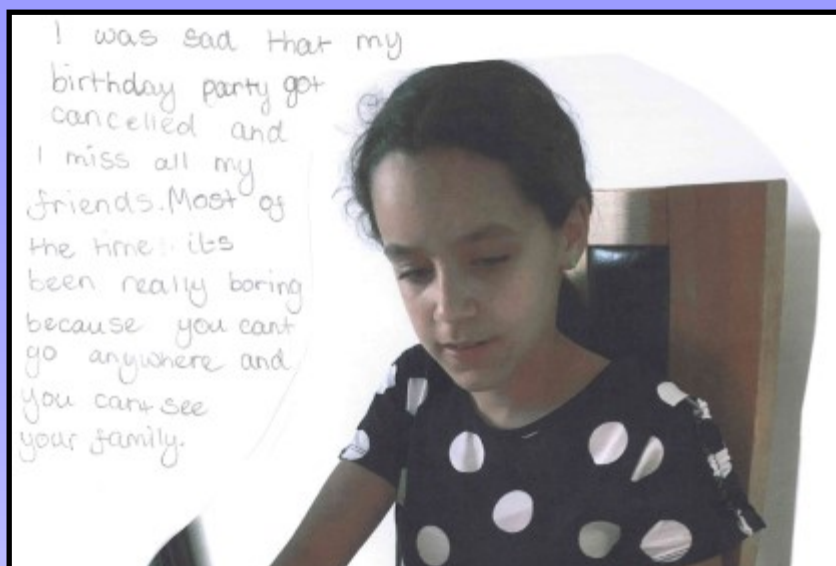
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Well done to Noah in  
Woodpeckers class who has

Red radish crunch  
Orange carrot snip  
Yellow banana squidge  
Green broccoli sprout  
Big blueberry squelch  
Indigo aubergine yuck  
Violet grape soft



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We are in lock down at the moment,  
and don't I know it. With Mum, Dad and Bro.  
I thought it would be over as quick as a wink,  
this lock down really stinks.  
We can't even go to the sweet shop,  
or even buy a mop!

I know the NHS is doing their best,  
to put a stop to this beast,  
while we have a scrumptious feast.  
I'll be at secondary soon,  
and I'll be over the moon.

I hope this is over before October,  
and November and you can't forget December.  
Imagine what Christmas will be like,  
with people wanting a bike.  
We can't go to swimming lessons anymore,  
so we have to stay in bed and snore.

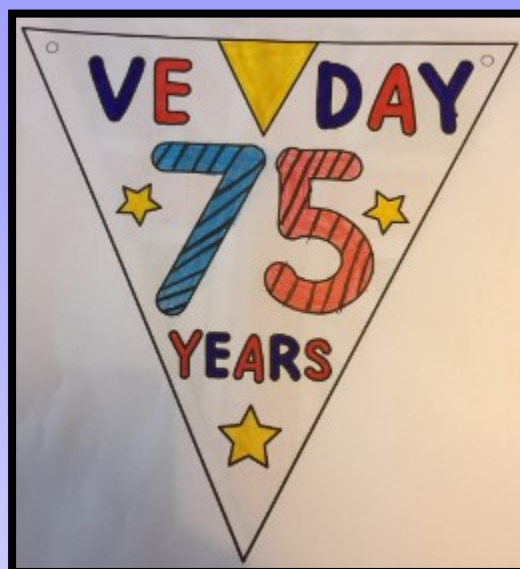
Here I am complaining,  
when I should be saying thank you.  
To you, the NHS and all the other key workers,  
so I'd just like to say Thank you!

**Chloe-Louise Johnson**  
**Kites class**

**01767 640270**

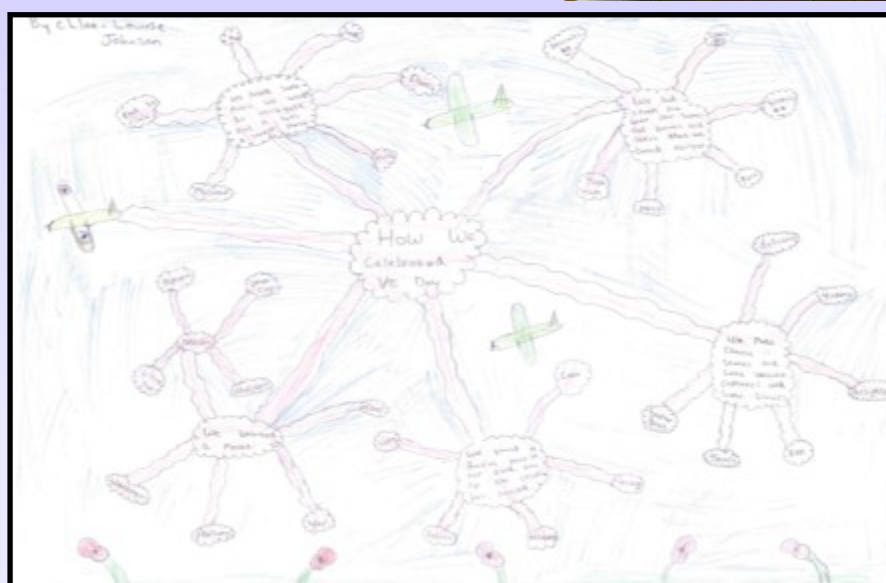
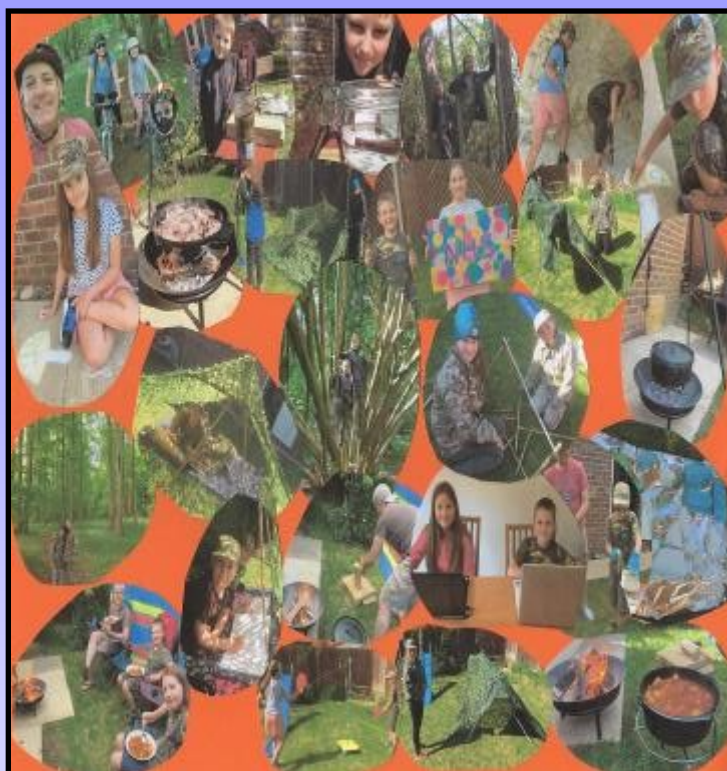
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Some of the VE day celebration bunting made at home by some of the children in Kites class.





Well done to Ethan in Owls class who has made a lovely lockdown collage .



## Coronavirus Catastrophe

My life in lockdown isn't that bad,  
As I make garden campfires with my dad,  
And campfire meals that are yum,  
All specially made by my mum,  
Playing all day with my brother,  
I wouldn't swap him for any other.

It's a coronavirus catastrophe,  
But let's think positive so it doesn't have to be.  
It's a coronavirus catastrophe,  
But let's think positive so it doesn't have to be.

We're working hard in the school as mum,  
But after lunch it's just sun,  
Doing PE with Joe every morning,  
He's such good sun it's never boring,  
English and maths on glassdigo,  
I'm whizzing through the sheets, I'm never slow.

It's a coronavirus catastrophe,  
But let's think positive so it doesn't have to be.  
It's a coronavirus catastrophe,  
But let's think positive so it doesn't have to be.

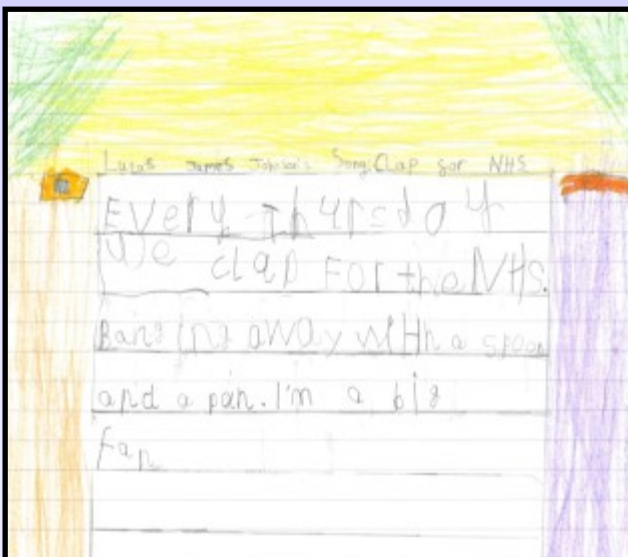
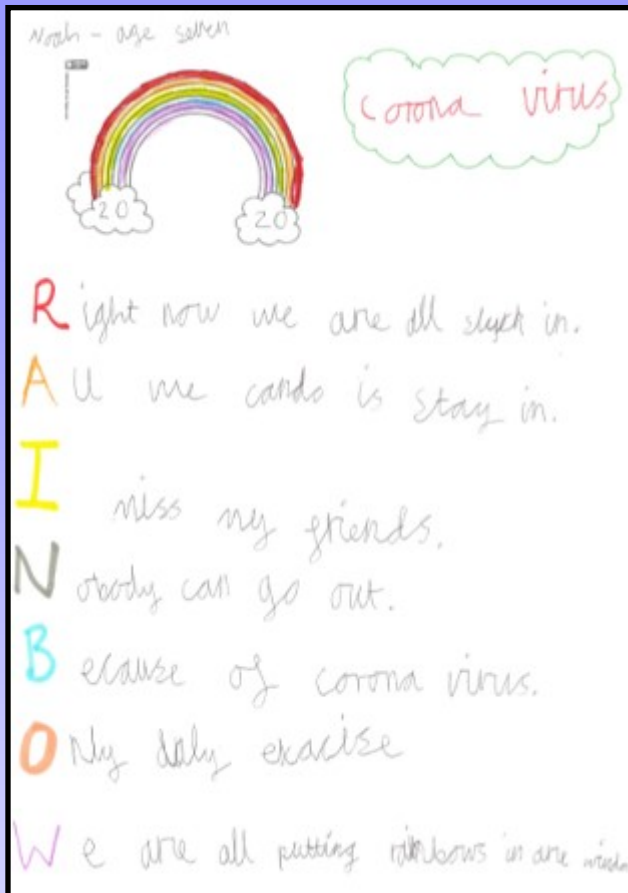
Going on bike rides all the time,  
Finding trees that are good to climb,  
And we found chalk caves too,  
We dyed the chalk and dyed it blue,  
Paddling pool out when it's hot,  
Spending time with my family quite a lot.

by Abigail





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Nursery have been busy with their home learning and have shared some lovely photos and videos on class Dojo, here are a few.



Annabelle has learned to ride her bike without stabilizers.



Chloe's drawing skills have really come on while she's been at home.



Johanness and Elise enjoyed our sink and float activity.

Kaie painted a rainbow for his bedroom







**Bethany & Isabella found a lovely toad while out on their walk.**



**Arabella has been learning to tell the time.**

## Reminder—Chesskid

If your child has recently received log in details for Chesskid don't forget to have a go.

There are lots of activities including fast chess, puzzles and chess lessons. Your level on starting is 'Pawn 1' and you can move up the levels by watching the short lesson and taking the interactive quiz at the end. It is possible to move up the levels quite fast.

If you did not initially sign up for ChessKid, it is not too late to do so - please let the office know.



by Elizabeth Jenner, Kate Wilson & Nia Roberts

Illustrated by Axel Scheffler



# Coronavirus

A book for children



Consultant: Professor Graham Medley

Professor of Infectious Disease Modelling,  
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

nosy  
crow

There's a new word you might have heard.

You might hear people talking about it or you might hear it on the news.  
This word is the reason that you're not going to school. It is the reason you  
can't go outside very often or visit your friends. It might be the reason why  
the grown-up or grown-ups who look after you are at home.



The word is



# Coronavirus



But what  
is it and why is  
everyone talking  
about it?

## WHAT IS THE CORONAVIRUS?



But what's a virus?

The coronavirus is a kind of **virus**.  
Viruses are tiny germs that are so small that you can't see them.

They are so light that they can float through the air in tiny drops of water, and they can sit on your skin without you feeling them. If some of these germs get inside you, they can use your body to make more germs, and that can make you ill.

Do I have germs on me now?



Yes, but hardly any of them are dangerous

There are lots of different sorts of coronaviruses and some of them infect people. If you have been infected with one of these coronaviruses, all you probably had was a snotty nose or a cough.

ACHOO!



Bless you!

Bless you!

Could be a coronavirus...



But when this **completely new** coronavirus germ gets inside a human body, it causes an illness called COVID-19. When people talk about "catching the coronavirus", they are talking about this illness.

## HOW DO YOU CATCH THE CORONAVIRUS?

Because this coronavirus is new, scientists don't know everything about it yet. But they think that there are two main ways that people can catch it.

Coronavirus germs live in people's throats and mouths. When someone who has the coronavirus coughs or sneezes or breathes out, the germs come out of their mouth in tiny drops of water.



Though you can't see the germs, you can sometimes see these tiny drops. In cold weather, they make a cloud of steam! So if someone else accidentally breathes in the air with the coronavirus germs in it, they would probably get the illness.

It's so cold today!



Yes, I can see our breath!



It's easy to get the coronavirus germs from inside your body on your hands when you touch your nose or your mouth.

If the person with the coronavirus germs on their hands uses a door, the invisible germs can live on the handle for hours. When someone else opens the door, they get the germs on their hands too.

And if they touch their nose or mouth, the germs can get into their body.

Hmm, I wonder if there are germs on this door handle?



NO!



So you can also catch the coronavirus by touching things that someone with the virus has already touched.



## WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU CATCH THE CORONAVIRUS?

Some people, particularly most children, hardly feel ill at all when they get the coronavirus. But they still have coronavirus germs in their body that they could give to someone else by mistake.



When they get the coronavirus, lots of people get coughs and a high temperature. Some people also have a headache or aches all over their body.

People are usually ill for a few days. But bodies are amazing things. When a new germ, like the coronavirus, gets into someone's body, their body knows that the germ shouldn't be there and starts killing it.



The body has an amazing weapon against viruses called **antibodies**. Tiny cells in your blood make antibodies to fight each different virus invader. The antibodies catch the viruses, then the blood cells swallow them up and destroy them and then the person gets better.

Each of us has more than 10 billion different kinds of antibody inside us.



That means there are more different antibodies inside you right now than there are people in the world!

## SO WHY ARE PEOPLE WORRIED ABOUT CATCHING THE CORONAVIRUS?

Nearly everyone has a body that is healthy enough to fight the coronavirus. But there are some people who find it harder, because their bodies aren't as strong. They might be people who are more than 70 years old, or already have other illnesses like cancer that might make their bodies weaker.



They need more help to fight the coronavirus. This means they have to go to hospital and they might need to use a special machine called a **ventilator** to help them breathe.



However, sometimes even this might not be enough to help them get better and, if that happens, then sadly they might die.

That's why these people really need to stay at home, away from anywhere they might catch the coronavirus.



They won't be able to have visitors. That might mean you won't be able to go and visit some of your family for a while, to help keep them safe.





## IS THERE A CURE FOR THE CORONAVIRUS?

Most people get better from the coronavirus by themselves. But doctors and scientists want to help everyone do that quickly and safely.

Doctors don't have a cure for the coronavirus yet because it is a new illness. Some medicines that doctors already know about might help, so they are trying them out on people who are ill.

But even if they don't work, scientists are also working on making completely new medicines for the coronavirus that no one has ever had before.

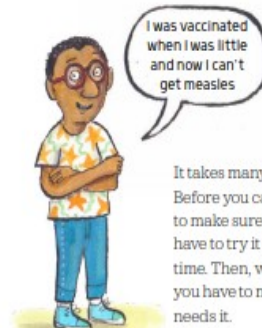


Another thing that scientists are working on is a **vaccine**.

A vaccine is a special medicine that is usually injected into your body while you are healthy. Inside the medicine are weak or dead virus germs. The antibodies in your blood can practise killing these germs, so that if you catch that virus, they can start fighting the live virus germs faster.



You probably already had some vaccines when you were a baby. So that means you won't get some illnesses!



It takes many months to make a new medicine. Before you can give it to lots of people, you have to make sure that it is safe for everyone, so you have to try it out carefully on a few people at a time. Then, when you know it works and is safe, you have to make enough for everyone who needs it.

## WHY ARE SOME PLACES WE NORMALLY GO TO CLOSED?

Although lots of people will get better from the coronavirus, it's really important that people who might become very ill don't catch it. This means we need to make sure that as few people as possible get the coronavirus, so that we don't pass it on to anyone who might get very ill. And if lots of people get ill and have to go to hospital at the same time, then hospitals will get too busy to look after people properly.

It's so easy to get the coronavirus that we need to be very careful that we don't get too near people who don't live with us.



And that's why all the places where lots of people are together - like schools and libraries - are closed at the moment. The government of this country has said that people can only go outside their homes if they really, really have to.



Some people, like doctors or nurses or people who work in food shops or people who deliver things to our homes, have to go out of their homes to go to work.

Most people can also go out of their home if they need to buy food or to exercise, but they must be very careful not to go near anyone else.

If you or anyone in your family feels ill, and thinks they might have the coronavirus, you can't come out of your home at all for two weeks.

We all have to stay at home to protect the people who will find it hard to fight the coronavirus.



## WHAT'S IT LIKE TO BE AT HOME ALL THE TIME?

Sometimes being at home with the people you live with can be great fun. You can do things together that you wouldn't normally do when you are at school or when the grown-ups are at work.



These are all normal things to feel. And everyone who lives with you probably feels the same way sometimes, even if they try not to show it.



The grown-up or grown-ups who look after you might also feel worried. Sometimes they might feel worried about work. Sometimes it might be hard to buy the things that you all need, and that might worry them too.

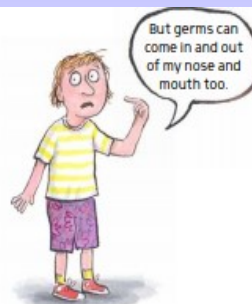


If you are worried, talk about your worries to a grown-up who looks after you. If you are still going to school, maybe you could talk to a teacher. Or maybe you could talk to a teacher or someone else in your family on the phone or using a computer or tablet.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

You are already helping a lot by staying at home. But you can also help by taking extra care to make sure you don't catch or pass on the coronavirus to anybody else.

Did you know that viruses are killed by soap? So if you wash your hands really carefully and for long enough, you won't have any coronavirus germs on your hands. You can sing a song while you wash your hands to make sure you are washing them for long enough - long enough to sing Happy Birthday twice!



If you have to wipe or blow your nose, use a tissue and put it in the bin straight away. Remember to wash your hands too, because the coronavirus lives in your snot and it can get on to your hands from the tissue.

If you have to cough or sneeze, do it into the inside corner of your elbow, not on to your hand. Then you can't give the coronavirus to other people that way.



If everyone does these things, it will make a big difference!



## WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

Another important thing you can do is to be kind to the people that you live with. Things will be different and perhaps difficult for all of you.

If you live with brothers and sisters, you might sometimes find them annoying. But try not to fight with them.



If you live with grown-ups, maybe you can help them by doing what you've been asked to do or giving them a big hug.



If you are not at school, do your school work. It will help to keep your mind busy, so you won't be bored. And then, when you go back to school, you will have learned a lot!

If you don't have a screen of your own, talk about how you can share screen time fairly with everyone who needs it.

Remember, grown-ups who live with you might have to do work as well. If they do, you can help them by not disturbing them when they are trying to work. Then they will be more likely to have time to do fun things with you. Maybe you could make a list of things that you would like to do with them.



## WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT?

This is a strange time for everybody, and it's happening all over the world.



But if we are all careful and we all stay at home, we are doing what we can to stop the coronavirus spreading. And that gives the scientists and doctors time to work out how to cure the illness and maybe stop people getting it altogether by using medicines and vaccines.

One day, quite soon, though nobody knows exactly when, you'll be able to visit people you love who don't live with you, play with your friends, go to school again and do lots of other things that you enjoy but that you can't do now.



One day,  
this strange time  
will be over.







## MORE INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN

If you want to learn more and keep up to date with news about the coronavirus:  
**CBBC Newsround**

<https://www.cbbc.co.uk/newsround>

If you feel worried or anxious, here are some links to places that can help:

**Childline**

A free helpline that you can call any time to talk about any worries you might have.

Telephone: 0800 1111

They also have more advice here:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/anxiety-stress-panic/worries-about-the-world/coronavirus/>

**Young Minds**

A charity which supports young people's mental health.

They have more advice on what to do if you are feeling anxious here:

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/taking-action-to-do-if-you-are-anxious-about-coronavirus/>

## MORE INFORMATION FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND CARERS

**British Psychological Society**

Advice on talking to children about illness

<https://www.bps.org.uk/news-and-policy/advice-talking-children-about-illness>

**Contact**

Coronavirus information for parents of disabled children

<https://www.contact.org.uk/advice-and-support/coronavirus-information-for-families-with-disabled-children/>

**The National Autistic Society**

Coronavirus resources for autistic people and families

<https://www.autism.org.uk/services/helpline/coronavirus/resources>

**The Samaritans**

Free 24-hour support helpline

Telephone: 116 123

<https://www.samaritans.org/>

**Unicef**

What you need to know about the virus to protect you and your family

<https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/covid-19>

## HELPING THE NHS

Doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers and all the other people who make up the health service in our country do an amazing job every day, but are working especially hard while people are getting ill with the coronavirus. If you would like to donate some money to help them, you can do so here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/charities-together.co.uk/>

## ABOUT THE PUBLISHER

Nosy Crow is an award-winning, small, independent children's book publisher. We made this free digital book because we felt that children and parents might find it useful. We publish lots of different kinds of books for children aged 0-12. You can find out about them here:

[www.nosycrow.com](http://www.nosycrow.com)

