



Dear all,

Welcome back to the summer term at/not at Noadswood! Sorry I've got a little behind with my letters this week! I promise to be right back atcha with three per week next week. I'm also going to knock out a little assembly for you – you might think from that I enjoy putting self onto camera, which would definitely not be true, but I'd love to speak to you for a few minutes as well as write, so we'll give it a go.

It's been a pretty busy week meeting – virtually - with lots of your teachers and other colleagues at school in as 'normal' a way we can manage to keep everything going as it needs to for you all. As well we've been working on our plans to help the Year 6s coming up still feel they're part of a really super 'transition plan' even while we can't be together. I find we meet for even longer than when we're at school because no one is rushing off to teach or to see you all out and about at breaks/lunches (or to check none of you guys are making mess! ☺)

We've also been taking a really careful look at the learning we're assigning you on Frog so that we make this next few weeks as clear and enjoyable for you as we can.

**Remember to check in to your ePraise** – some of you are, but still lots of you aren't and it's a really good way for tutors, your class teachers, House Leaders, ELSAs, all of us to get messages to you. And it's also a place where you can ALWAYS and that's ALWAYSSSSS get a message to one of us if you want to ask/check anything about your work/how much you need to do/what's most important to get done or to offload any kind of worry. When you do, we'll be delighted to answer as soon as we can – we want you to use it, you're not a nuisance, or stepping out of line, and it's not just for your parents. We WANT you to use it.... Did I emphasise that enough, do you think? ☺

**While we're on communication**, remember you can also call Loveday's Lifeline between 10am-12noon with any queries or worries each school day on: 07946 884 122

And you can always **email me about anything at all**, as well as sharing your fab work and other things you're getting up to at [headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk)

All this is on top of the regular check ins lots of us are doing with lots of you – I love hearing from colleagues about stories you read to them, or ambitions you share with them. Sometimes you just share your frustrations, or your pressure points with annoying siblings, or you talk to us about why you're just not on top of your work – all of that and anything else is more than ok. Talking is what's important, communicating with someone, not feeling you have to say anything in particular or be a super hero, so make sure you're reaching out to someone at school or at home.

Now to the most important part of these letters, as all of you know by now.... Pets! Jake sent me the most fantastic array of animals and creatures, plus a super descriptive write up about them all – thanks so much, Jake. But look out, anyone with a fear of spiders, although I think the giant water spider below is beautiful, myself!

***'Here are some pictures of my pets (my dog, Nala and my Crested Gecko, Gizmo) and some wildlife that I have found either in our garden or out on a walk. I really hope you like them.***

***I have never seen wild lizards in the UK before so it was a joy when I saw them. I think the first time I saw them it was a mixture of Common and Sand lizards but from then on it has only been common Lizards, but they are still as fascinating as the Sand Lizards.***

***The Stag Beetle larvae I found in our garden. I am very lucky that they live in our garden as they take 7 years to grow into a Stag Beetle, so hopefully I will see them again in years to come.***

***My dog Nala is a lazy dog at home (as you can see from the pictures) but she is doing her bit now to help us get our exercise (even if it is by stealing our washing off the line and making us chase her to get it back.)***

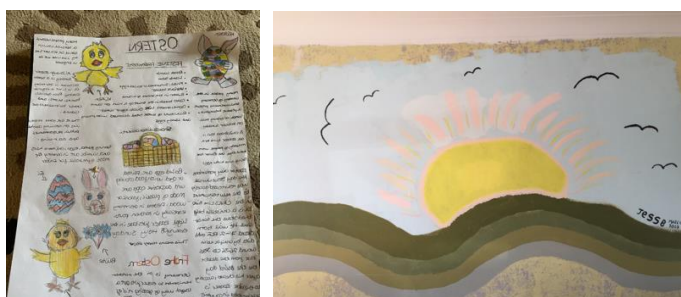
***My Crested Gecko, Gizmo, makes me happy during rainy days, there is never a boring day with her in my room to keep me company.***

***I found a giant water spider out on a dog walk, and my whole family were fascinated by the colours on it. We had only seen dull coloured water spiders before so this was a big surprise.***

***The Grass snake in the picture is the 4th Grass snake we've had in our garden. We'd one a few years ago and haven't had a year without one since. I've always wanted to hold one but they were always too quick, so I was really happy when I got to hold it.'***



There's also been some more lovely work sent my way, such as this beautifully put together research for her German by Rebekah and a gorgeous mural by Jess :



Joel created a poster for Earth Day, yesterday, reminding us of the important things we can do to protect our planet:



And Mr Wilkinson has shared with me some more of your awesome photography and art which I will showcase over the next couple of letters, starting with Callum's work today:



It's equally lovely seeing what those of you going into school are getting up to, such as today's 'Easter Egg Hunt' (paper eggs!). Thanks to Mrs Blowers and Mrs Hockings for looping me in to this one, and well done, guys, for having fun:



Look at this really super Lego Porsche from Ted, whose work really cheers up my inbox a lot, and some impressive gym practice from Jasmine. She's missing her usual gym club training, but that's not stopping her from putting as many hours as she can, safely, at home:





Jasmine has also worked so hard to put together a gorgeous film, with all her pals at her gym club, to thank frontline workers for all they're doing to keep things going for us all – it captures how we're all feeling so brilliantly.

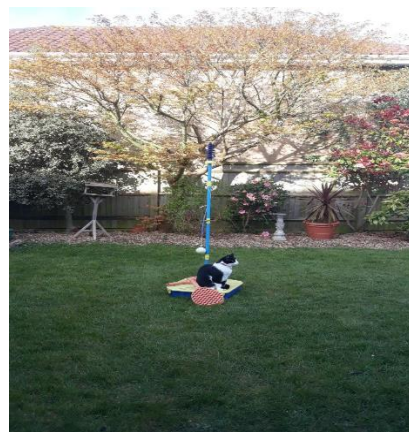
[Jasmine's film – click here to view](#)

Mrs Lambley and family sent me this terrific, 'Window on our World' over the hols, and she did not forget our rules about including pets, for which we thank her:

***'1. Creating our own pub at home to celebrate a special anniversary with a meal (& our own accommodation!)***

***2. My daughter's showstopper baking for her Food Tech homework. It was delicious and slices were delivered to a few local colleagues to celebrate their birthdays/Easter!***

***3. Got to have a pet one...teaching Sooty to play swingball in the garden! She's 1 16.4.20, but her sister Squeak is not 1 until the next day...as they were born either side of midnight!'***



That cake looks toooooo scrummy (wish I had been one of those local colleagues, Mrs L!) and Sooty is a sure thing for Wimbledon 2021 – he can get training going nicely in the garden.

We continue to want to provide you with fun and varied activities to do during your day that are as important as work because they make your brain go in some different directions and they make you feel good. Mrs Goulding got in touch with me over the hols and said to me, 'My mum could always name every wild flower when we were out on walks or in the woods so I have set myself the task to be able to do the same! It doesn't cost anything just a keen eye, maybe a photo on your phone or even picking the odd sample. Just get the samples home look up what they are, in a book or on Google, and record what it is and when you saw it. I have over 30 in just a week! The kids could take it further - drawing pictures of their samples or even being true botanists and investigating how each flower is made up ie its petals, stigma stamen and style?' What a lovely idea, right? Give it a try on your walks, and send me some pics and I will share them with Mrs Goulding, too.

Or maybe you'd fancy some fun science to supplement what our brilliant Team Science are setting for you? If so, go to: <http://www.fawleyonline.org.uk/> where the guys at Fawley have been preparing some resources for you to thank you for staying home and keeping everyone safe.

When you hit the site, click on the cartoon characters and you'll get to a primary and secondary pack of work – maybe you could work on some of the primary activities with a younger brother or sister if you have them? And then in the secondary pack, there is a volcano experiment to be done alongside an adult – sounds exciting, with very few ingredients needed, and then a wordsearch all with some really good science involved. Why not give it a go, and if you complete the work or do the experiment, you could send me pics to [headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk) and I'll pass them on to Angharad Vaughan, one of the Community colleagues there – she'd love to see them, as I would.

We'll end as we always do with some good things to help our wellbeing, and I don't even have to reach for one of my special books for an idea, because our students are stepping up for themselves. First, look at this fantastic 'Kindness Calendar' that Alisha worked through over the break – well done, you! Here's the best thing about kindness and doing good stuff: you feel better just as much as everyone around you does, it's 'mind magic' It's generous to others but also one of the best forms of self-care there is. So see what you can reach out and do for others this week and next. If you make yourself a little calendar, or you do just one 'reaching out' sort of activity, tell me all about it at [headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk)



## APRIL

Saturday 4th April I made my Mum and Dad a cup of tea	Sunday 5th April I tidied my bedroom	Monday 6th April I wrote a card to my Nan and Grandad	Tuesday 7th April I sung Happy Birthday to a family member	Wednesday 8th April I made brownies for my Sister
Thursday 9th April I clapped for the NHS at 8pm	Friday 10th April I helped de-weed the front garden	Saturday 11th April I fed my Grandads fish	Sunday 12th April I created my Sister's Easter Egg Hunt	Monday 13th April I did a facemask for my Mum
Tuesday 14th April I face timed my Cousin because she missed me	Wednesday 15th April I helped my Sister writing letters	Thursday 16th April I clapped for the NHS at 8pm	Friday 17th April I helped my Sister find woodlice in the garden	Saturday 18th April I helped my Dad fix the hot tub
Sunday 19th April I let my Sister do my makeup				

Finally, here's an extract from Shannon's superb PowerPoint she's worked on at home and in conversation with one of our ELSAs, Miss Harwood, on a 'Worry Box' of activities to help us when our minds wander to worries about this virus and all that it's doing in our lives – we'll post the whole piece of work on the Wellbeing site on Frog for you to look at in full. Top work, Shannon, and an excellent way to work through your concerns!! 😊



**WORRYING  
WORKS  
90% OF THE THINGS  
I WORRY ABOUT  
NEVER  
HAPPEN**

How likely is it going to happen

- A whopping 91 percent of worries were false alarms. And of the remaining 9 percent of worries that did come true, the outcome was better than expected about a third of the time. For about one in four participants, exactly zero of their worries materialized.

Looking forward to seeing more of your work, the things you're enjoying and, of course, your animals, ready for next week's letters. Or if you join in with any of the ideas in this letter, or you come up with any ideas yourselves – I love seeing and sharing it all. I'm off to watch the Big Night In for Comic Relief/Children In Need, now – let's see how much the country raises for the people that need it the most tonight.

Keep well, keep safe, and I'm with you through it all,

Miss Marshall