

HOLYWELL SCHOOL

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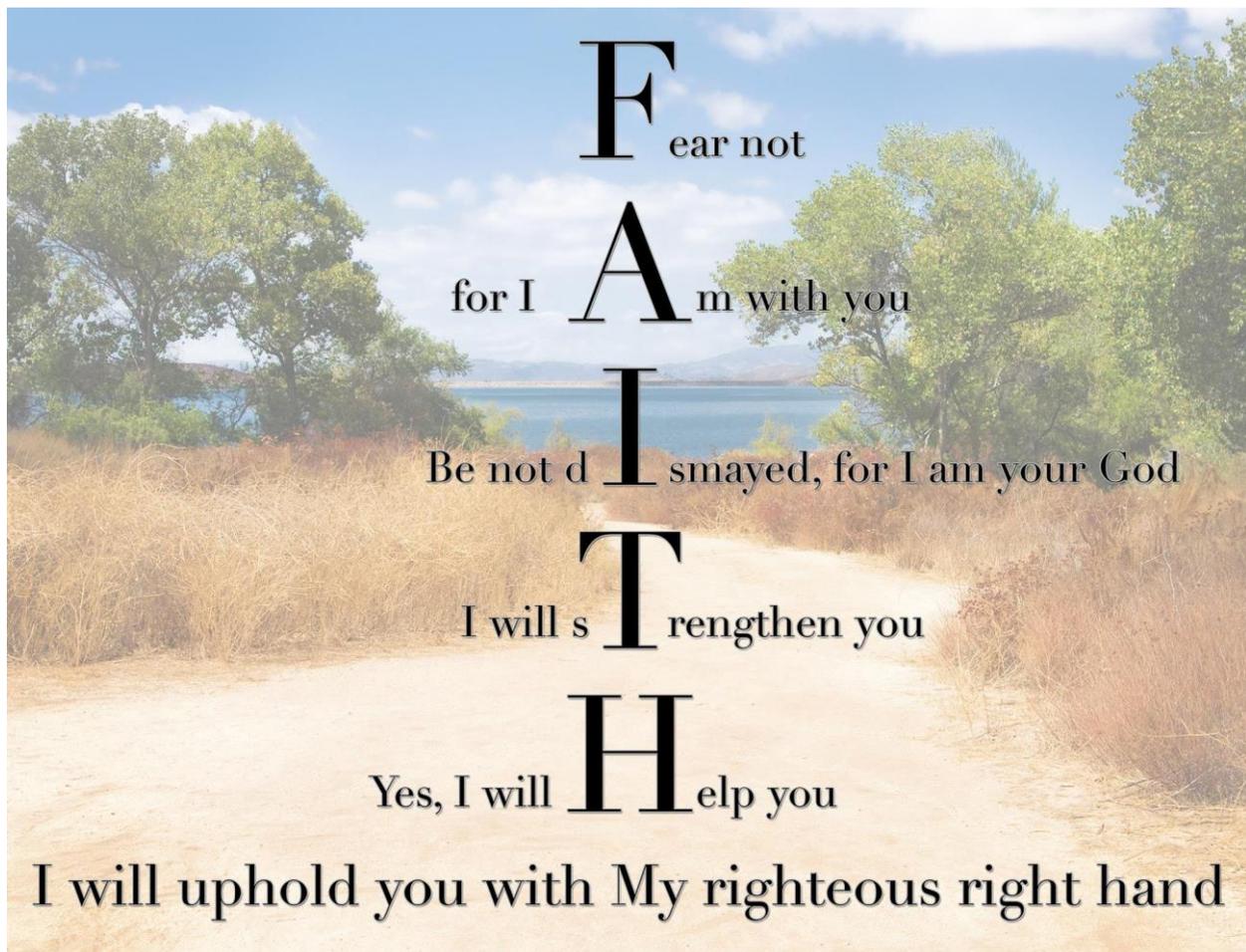


*A Church of England School
providing a Values Based Education*

Update Letter 7th April, 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

I hope that you are all well and coping with probably the strangest Easter break ever! It was encouraging to hear from the New Zealand Prime Minister – Jacinda Ardern – that the Easter bunny is a key worker! Like Ms. Ardern, we hope that everyone will ‘stay-at-home’ to stop the spread of the virus. As Easter approaches on Sunday, you might want to follow Ms. Ardern’s suggestion for celebrating Easter whilst still observing social distancing: “I have a bit of an idea,” she said. “Maybe draw an Easter egg and prop it into your front window and help children in your neighbourhood with the Easter egg hunt, because the Easter bunny might not make it everywhere this year.” For something more traditional, St Mary’s Church in Wootton is offering a streaming service via YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZvCU7xTRXeo4I4L5U10cxQ> and St Peter and St Paul’s Church in Cranfield is offering written services: <https://www.cranfieldchurch.org/services>. Whatever your faith or belief, I hope that you find some time to pause and count the innumerable blessings we have to be thankful for in such difficult and challenging times.



Isaiah 41:10



Headteacher: Mr MG Simpson MA, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Van Der Merwe – Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mrs H Donnellan

Acting Assistant Headteacher / DSL: Mrs J Davies

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Work

With regard to work, please note, we are not asking students (or parents and carers!) to do any school work over the Easter break. We will re-commence our 'Show My Homework' online provision after Easter (and work should be available from Tuesday 21st April when the Summer Term was due to start). In the meantime, if you need some work for students, please check that they have completed everything on Show My Homework and then have a look at either the Emergency / Self-isolation packs on the website (in the student section) or the wellbeing resources. There was also a series of fun challenges in the last school newsletter (available on the website and on WEDUC).

The DfE have now provided a helpful list of online resources which can be accessed via this link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education>.

After Easter the BBC are also providing a comprehensive package of programmes – when we know more, we'll send you details.

Safe together, safe online

As everyone is using technology more, it might be worth spending a little time as a family going through some online safety. Basic tips when sharing information include include:

- Keep personal information safe – ask yourself: What could they find out?
- Don't say too much.
- Be careful on cam.
- Don't meet up without an adult you trust.
- Block and report.
- Know how to report.

... and when using social media, here are some 'Dos and Don'ts':

DO

- Do be selective
- Do know the privacy settings
- Do stop and think before you click.
- Do choose sensible, strong, hard-to-guess passwords and change them regularly
- Do be sure to visit social networks only from fully protected computers

DON'T

- Don't publish identifying info
- Don't use inappropriate language
- Don't give any app additional permissions
- Don't make your online presence all about you
- Don't mix wall posts and personal messages

I've attached some documents from "Thinkuknow" which is the education programme from NCA-CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline. There are some useful discussion suggestions. Here are also a couple of links you might want to have a look at together:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/online-safety-whole-family/> and <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Listing/?cat=66,67,68,69,70,72&ref=4765#mMain>

After Easter we'll check in with you to see how you are all doing ... and, in the meanwhile, if you need any support about anything, please drop us an email (school@holywellschool.co.uk) or give us a call.

With all best wishes

MG Simpson

Mr MG Simpson

Headteacher