

**School Partnerships and Enrichment Team**

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|  |  |  |  **Parents Newsletter – Home Edition April 2020** |  |  |  |  |

**SPOTLIGHT ON – Home Learning**

As we approach the one-month mark since lockdown was announced, we thought families could benefit from regular newsletters. There is lots of information available to parents currently online and at times it can feel slightly overwhelming to navigate through, so this edition includes some STEM focused activities (*STEM* - Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths).



**Kew Gardens** - <https://www.kew.org/learning/learning-at-home>

**Kew Gardens have released some curriculum-aligned resources designed for KS1 –⁠ KS5 to keep pupils on track with their learning.** Get stuck into some fun challenges to do at home. Download power points and be immersed in the world of plants and fungi with videos, games and challenges.

**Mindfulness** - [https://www.kew.org/reahttps://www.bbc.co.uk/newsletters/SchoolsNotOut/zn2c47hd-and-watch/mindfulness-at-home-kew](https://www.kew.org/read-and-watch/mindfulness-at-home-kew)

Make a space during this chaotic time to centre yourself in nature. Karen Liebenguth, who runs Kew's mindfulness courses, gives us some tips on how you can ground yourself.

**STEM Learning**

To support parents and carers with home learning, subject experts have put together a selection of activities and materials, all of which are completely free for everyone to access. Launching free home learning support for children aged 4-19 with a video from Tim Peake <https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning> and a **Guidance for families section**

[https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning#guidance-for-familiesCurriculum](https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning#guidance-for-families)-linked resources

Resources for home learning

[Primary resource of the day](https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/28185/fraction-activities-students-aged-5-7)   [Secondary resource of the day](https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/29557/lifting-lemon)

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Guidance for families

* [Science of learning for parents](https://sites.google.com/stem.org.uk/science-of-learning-at-home) <https://sites.google.com/stem.org.uk/science-of-learning-at-home> Join Paul Howard-Jones to explore what goes on in the brain when learning is taking place, and what that means for how you can support your child's learning.
* [Home learning survival guide](https://www.stem.org.uk/sites/default/files/pages/downloads/Survival%20guide%20for%20parents%20and%20carers%20home%20learning.pdf) <https://www.stem.org.uk/sites/default/files/pages/downloads/Survival%20guide%20for%20parents%20and%20carers%20home%20learning.pdf> Top tips on home learning, covering everything from making use of what you have around you to creating simple routines.
* Coping with coronavirus <https://www.stem.org.uk/coronavirus-and-school-closures> Tips, advice and guidance about home learning and supporting your child’s mental health and wellbeing during lockdown.
* Families: activities to do at home<https://www.stem.org.uk/home-learning/family-activities> A range of fun, hands-on activities for families to use at home, suitable for all ages from 4 to 16.

**The Institution of Engineering and Technology**

**Free STEM resources for primary and secondary school children** <https://education.theiet.org/>

Home learning teaching resources and activities for 5-16 years old (Key Stage 1, KS2, KS3 and KS4) including lesson plans, handouts and videos with free resource packs are available to download which will keep your children busy and entertained.



**Teach Computing -** <https://blog.teachcomputing.org/computing-resources-for-home-learning/>

Teach Computing have collated a variety of useful websites that can support with home learning of computing.

**BT Barefoot** - <https://www.barefootcomputing.org>

Lessons and online guides are available for primary aged students, covering the primary computing curriculum in an engaging and exciting manner.

**Computing with Dr. Chips -**  <https://drchips.weebly.com/>

Join Dr. Chips for his weekly computing activities, new activities are available **every Tuesday.**

**STEM Home Teaching -** <https://www.stem.org.uk/home-teaching>

Subject experts at STEM Learning have collated suitable resources and family activities to support Key Stage 1 and 2 students with computing.

**Code Club -** <https://codeclub.org/en/>

Code Club is a global network of free coding clubs for 9 to 13-year olds. Participate online with these online materials and develop programming skills in Scratch, HTML & CSS and Python.

**Childnet** have produced a Parents and Carers Toolkit

 <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/parent-and-carer-toolkit> to support children and young people with the space to communicate, explore, laugh and learn through the internet as well as some specific advice on setting parental controls <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/hot-topics/parental-controls> Have a look at theParents and Carers resource sheetwhich contains a list of useful websites and resources to help you keep your child safe online. It signposts to places to go for advice, ways to stay up to date, top tips and places to report.

<https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Parents-and-carers-resource-sheet-1019.pdf>



**What is…Houseparty?** A guide for parents and carers

Houseparty is an app that many young people are using to stay in touch with their peers and play games during the school closures and lockdowns of COVID-19. Many young people see this app as a fun and exciting way to talk to their friends in a time where they can’t speak face to face. <https://www.childnet.com/blog/what-ishouseparty-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers->

**Learning to draw by video with Rob Biddulph**

In March 2020 he started #DrawWithRob, a series of twice-weekly draw-along videos designed to help parents whose children were forced to stay home from school due to the coronavirus pandemic. Look out for a draw-along video every **Tuesday and Thursday at 10am** that parents could watch with their children <http://www.robbiddulph.com/draw-with-rob>

[**Free Book on the Coronavirus Created by "Gruffalo" Illustrator**](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/tyS0CxGO8TxOWykuxJcxY?domain=lists.amightygirl.com)**.** The new e-book is by Axel Scheffler, the illustrator of [**The Gruffalo**](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/AILZCqjw6SXWMDZFqykMY?domain=lists.amightygirl.com)**,** with input from educators, a child psychologist, and medical experts. Designed for children  from 5 to 12, it addresses  questions about the virus in a child-friendly, non-scary, and fact-based way, available as a free [downloadable PDF](https://nosycrowcoronavirus.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/Coronavirus_ABookForChildren.pdf) or it can be downloaded as an e-book on Amazon.

**BBC Bitesize** have created with teachers and other educational experts and feature a mix of videos, animations, practice activities, quizzes and games for children of all ages <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

Sign up for the ‘Children’s & Parenting’ emails- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsletters/SchoolsNotOut/zn2c47h>

**Toolkit: SEND**

SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) resources, activities and support to help you and your family during lockdown. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zh9v382>

*We make every effort to ensure that the details above are correct, Please contact* *sthompson@ealing.gov.uk* *with any comments or suggestions for items to include in future newsletters.*