



May Newsletter 2020

## Message from the Senior Leadership Team

Dear all,

We hope that you and your families are safe and well. We are missing the pupils very much and know that staff cannot wait to see their classes again. Even when we are in school, it does not feel the same because it is our pupils, staff and families that make the school the amazing place that it is. During this difficult time, we pray that we continue to support each other with compassion and kindness and hope you are finding peace.

We wanted to take a moment to thank you all for the amazing job you are doing - juggling busy home lives and jobs with keeping on top of home learning is no easy task! We understand that it may bring a number of challenges, so we wanted to take this opportunity to say well done and try not to worry about how your child is progressing. Every pupil and family is in the same position across the country and as a school, we have plans of support in place that will address any gaps in learning as soon as school opens again.

We hear that lots of families are doing a range of different and wonderful things, such as gardening, cooking and creative crafts. This is a great opportunity to connect as a family and share interests – an opportunity we wouldn't necessarily have in our normal, busy lives.

We hope to see you all soon and look forward to seeing more of your fantastic home learning.

Mrs Westwood - Principal  
Mrs Kaur – Interim Headteacher  
Miss Prior – Interim Deputy Headteacher

## Virtue Reflection

Take the time to reflect on what creativity means to you...



*"The creative is the place where no one else has ever been. You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. What you'll discover will be wonderful. What you'll discover is yourself."* ALAN ALDA

# Support for Families

We understand how difficult this time is for many families and would like to take the opportunity to share some helpful websites which have great advice.

## Every Mind Matters



The NHS have created a new resource for all family members. It looks to address how children are reacting to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Please take some time to have a look.

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/looking-after-children-and-young-people-during-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/>

## Dove Resources Year 5 and 6

During the Summer Term we deliver lots of different lessons arounds in our SRE curriculum.

We will be revisiting these once children come back to school but one invaluable resource that we would like to share with parents is the **Dove Parent Self-Esteem Guide**

You can read through guides, complete challenges and help to create a meaningful impact on a child's self-esteem – so they can reach their full potential

These topics are particularly effective for children in Years 5 & 6 although some Year 4 children may wish to have a browse too.

[http://m.mailing.uk.dove.com/rest/head/mirrorPage/@sq\\_YfbyO6iSmueRSig2XPt6tXmgtXJGc5gPmpZoHXn\\_xQehJNZlwSX-ZA4Klb9A8ByZpr6lv\\_kTNI20YTO73ugFIK-U1\\_f9jGJPH9K--okzXU1.html](http://m.mailing.uk.dove.com/rest/head/mirrorPage/@sq_YfbyO6iSmueRSig2XPt6tXmgtXJGc5gPmpZoHXn_xQehJNZlwSX-ZA4Klb9A8ByZpr6lv_kTNI20YTO73ugFIK-U1_f9jGJPH9K--okzXU1.html)

## Coronavirus: Tips to Talk

Let your children take the lead. Sometimes we worry that our children are not coping very well. However, this could be our own worries reflecting back on us.

We feel it is important to limit the sharing of negative news stories. But, it is really important that children know the facts.

Lots of authors and professionals are releasing stories that help to lead conversations about COVID-19. See some helpful links below:

<https://nosycrow.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Coronavirus-A-Book-for-Children.pdf>

[https://660919d3-b85b-43c3-a3ad-3de6a9d37099.filesusr.com/ugd/64c685\\_0a595408de2e4bfcfb1539dcf6ba4b89.pdf](https://660919d3-b85b-43c3-a3ad-3de6a9d37099.filesusr.com/ugd/64c685_0a595408de2e4bfcfb1539dcf6ba4b89.pdf)



Watching trusted news sources will play a part in helping children to feel informed and aware of the situation

Newsround is a great starter before the morning's lessons begin

[www.bbc.co.uk/newsround](http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround)

## Safeguarding

Although we are operating in a different way to normal, we are still ensuring that the children's best interests come first.

The school are in contact with families on a daily basis and we are so grateful for all feedback and communication so far.

If you are ever concerned about your child and wish to talk to a member of the school's safeguarding team, please note you can email them direct via: [npsbsafeguarding@nishkamschools.org](mailto:npsbsafeguarding@nishkamschools.org)

Your concerns will be sent to the safeguarding team at school:

**Designated Safeguarding Lead:**  
Mrs D Westwood

**Deputy DSLs:**  
Mrs G Kaur  
Miss Prior  
Mrs Sembi

All concerns will be addressed within 24 hours.



The NSPCC website has a great advice section, sharing tips on:

Keeping children safe from abuse  
Staying home alone  
Mental health  
Online safety

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/>

# VE DAY

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May saw a very special bank holiday. This day marked the 75th anniversary of VE (Victory in Europe) day. On VE Day, we remember and honour all of the servicemen and women who died fighting for the freedom of our country. Their sacrifice helped to shape the world we live in today and it is for those people we are thankful.

We hope you had an opportunity to share the PowerPoint posted on Dojo and had a chance to take part in this special occasion. If you celebrated in a special way, let us know what you did by posting it on Dojo!



What our Nishkam Passport says...

Creativity is the power of imagination. With creativity, people can discover new ideas, new thoughts that might never have been thought of before. Creativity is a way to use what the Creator has given you, to bring something new into the world. It is seeing something in a new way, finding a different way to solve a problem or get something done.

## Signs of Success

I discover the gifts I have.

I use knowledge and training to develop my gifts.

I think of new ways to make things work better.

I use my imagination.

I take time for inspiration.

Creativity helps me to use the talents God gave me.

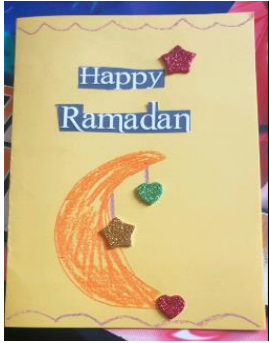
## Whole School Virtue - Creativity

As a whole school, we have been focusing on the virtue of creativity. It has been a pleasure to see the children showing the virtue of creativity in all their home learning. Take a little peek at what each year group have been up to during lockdown...



# Truth

In Reception we have been enjoying recent celebrations such as Easter, Vaisakhi and Ramadan. We have started our new topic "Pirates and Mermaids" and have begun learning about the ocean and ships. We have been enjoying gardening, cooking and our daily talking challenges.



## Literacy

In Literacy, we have been very busy learning how to share facts about sharks, enjoying the story of Rainbow Fish, as well as writing letters for a message in a bottle. We have also been continuing with our phonics learning at home and have practised segmenting and blending to read and write words and sentences.



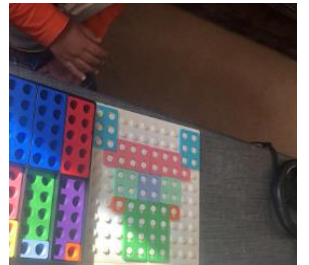
## Maths

In Maths, we have been learning about symmetry, estimating, addition by counting on and capacity. We have really enjoyed using household objects to help us with our Maths work. Counting and chocolates are an excellent mix! We are continuing to develop our understanding of numbers and place value within 20.



## Create and Explore

We have been learning about sharks, habitats and environments. We have also learned about floating and sinking whilst exploring water. We have discussed our feelings, how to stay healthy and even built our own obstacle courses at home.



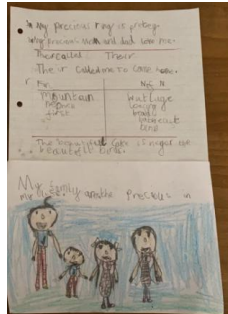
**The Reception team would like to thank all the children and their families for all their hard work at this time. We know things haven't been easy. However, we want you to know that we miss you very much and can't wait to see you all again soon. Keep smiling and stay safe. We will get through this and all be together again.**



# Service

In Year 1, we are so proud of all the FANTASTIC learning that has been taking place every single day! We have loved seeing all your MAGNIFICENT work that you have been sharing with us. You are all superstars and we are very proud to be your teachers!

In English, we have loved learning new words for our Wondrous word of the week. We have had words from 'spectacular' and 'isolate', to 'precious'!

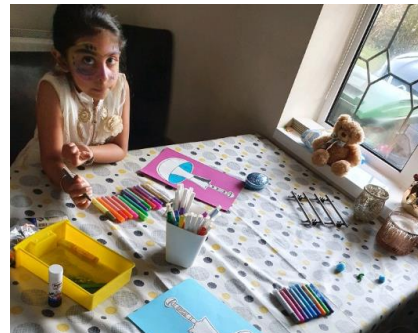


## Creativity in Year 1!

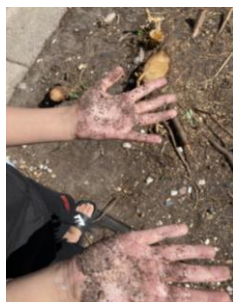
We have been using our virtue of creativity at home from drawing and painting, to baking!



In Maths, we have been learning about fantastic fractions and position and direction. We have been practising these in lots of different ways at home.



In Science, we have enjoyed being mini scientists! We have been taking part in lots of experiments at home about keeping our hands clean, creating weather in jars, using our senses and even growing our own plants!



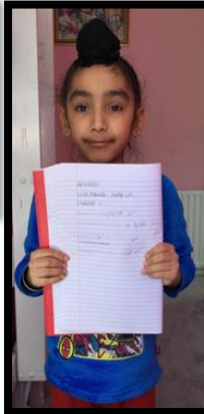
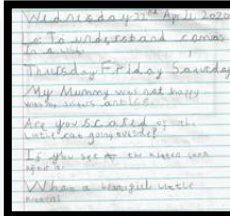
Miss Bath, Mrs Kumari and Mrs Marwaha would like to thank all the children for working incredibly hard at home during this rather strange and difficult period. We would also like to send a HUGE thank you to all the parents, carers and guardians that are supporting the children with their learning, you are all doing an amazing job. We all miss you so much and cannot wait until we are all reunited together at school!



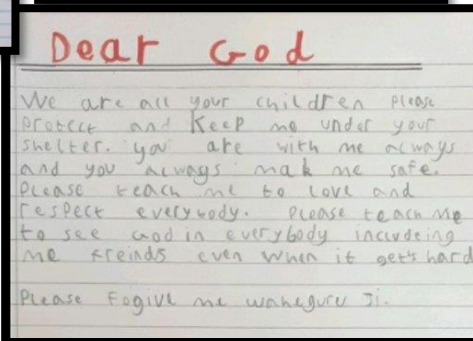
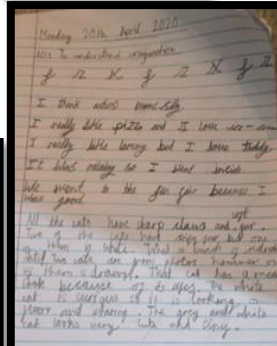
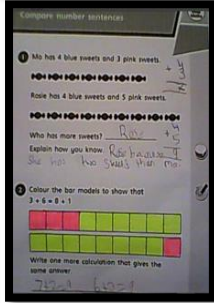
# Humility

We love receiving your pictures, videos and learning. It really does lift our spirits. You make us smile from 'ear to ear' every day!

Every single one of you have been using your virtues at home and made us so proud! We would like to send you a huge hug and a thank you to your parents/guardians for supporting this 'home learning' adventure.



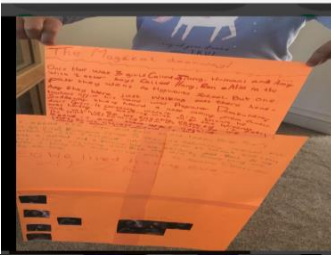
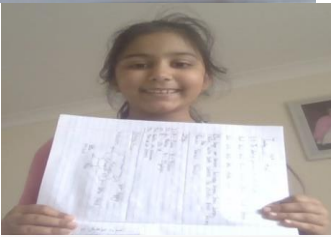
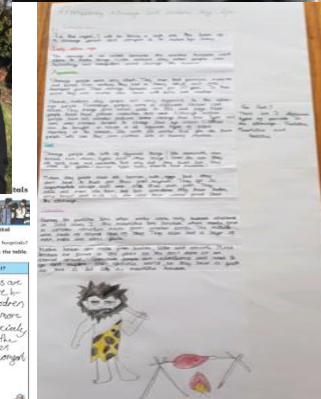
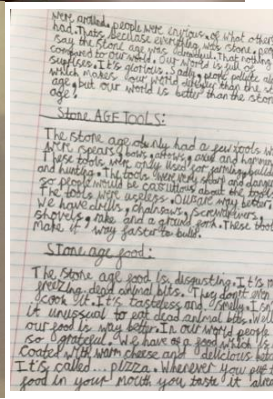
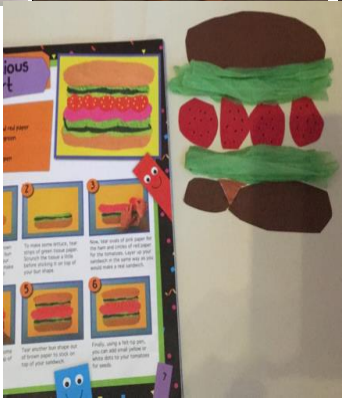
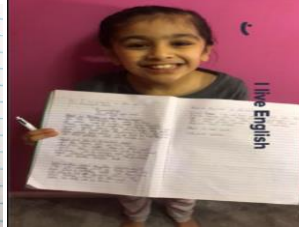
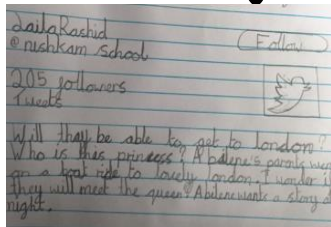
Thank you for showing the Nishkam virtues.



A beautifully thoughtful prayer created by Amarjot S.



# Compassion



A big well done to every single one of you for working extremely hard at home. We are truly overwhelmed with how you have shown such resilience during this time. You have put your heart and soul into this new learning experience and have demonstrated the virtues of respect, excellence, enthusiasm and diligence. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and guardians for their continued support, to ensure children are producing high quality work by mentoring, encouraging and working together.

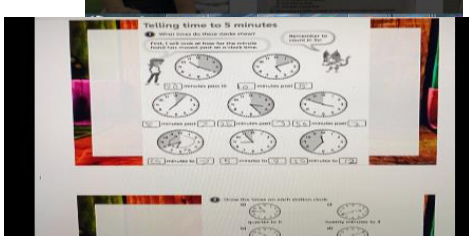
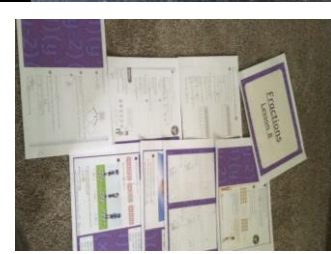
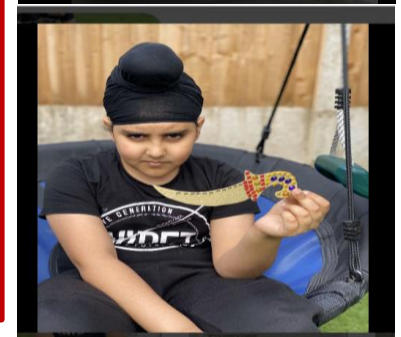
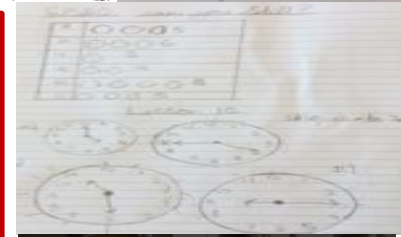
**Maths**-Year 3 started this term by recognising, finding and writing fractions. We have moved on to our next exciting topic of time: learning about the 24-hour clock, looking at digital time, converting the time between analogue and digital 12- and 24-hour clocks.

**English**- We have started reading a magical story, 'The adventure of Edward Tulane'. This story entails the adventures of a lost toy rabbit. Abilene loves her blue china rabbit, but Edward Tulane is extremely vain and only loves himself. On a voyage from New York to London, Edward falls overboard and from there, finds himself on an amazing journey. Come join year 3 on this truly magnificent adventure and read this extraordinary story!

We hope you continue to work hard and enjoy the different tasks set!

Stay safe and well,

Love, Mrs Islam and Miss Shaheen





# Forgiveness

Dear Forgiveness,

Not in a million years would we have envisioned that our learning spaces would have shifted from our once bustling classrooms to a digital, wireless screen. Literally overnight, we were flung into this new way of doing things, not really having much time to outline the expectations to you. Yet, despite the lack of preparedness, we must say you have adapted **exceptionally** well.

Every morning, without fail, you log onto ClassDojo, and feverishly complete the daily tasks at hand. What makes us so proud is that you take care to produce excellent quality of work, regardless of our physical absence. Let's take a moment and applaud every single one of you for your hard work during the last 7-weeks \*-----\* It is through your self-discipline and determination that our role as your teachers is worthwhile.

Look at the fabulous work you have all completed! We would have loved to showcase everything you have done within this time, but it is not possible!

You are all amazing stars and we cannot wait to see you back at school soon.

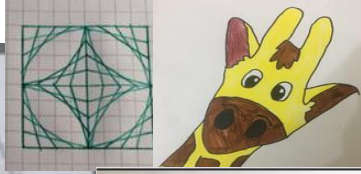
Missing you all,

Mrs Kang, Mrs Sagoo and Mrs Binning.

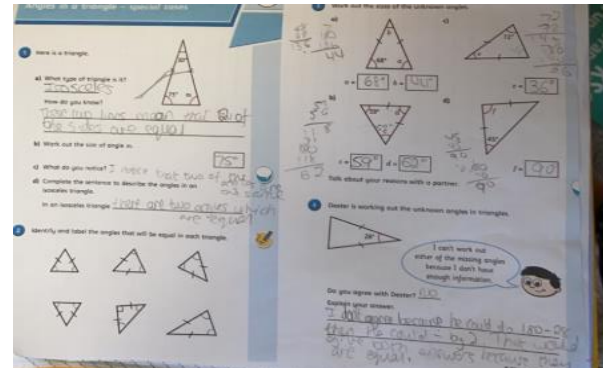


# Contentment

The Year 5 teachers are so impressed with the commitment the Year 5 children have shown to their work. It has been an absolute pleasure to see the work they have produced.

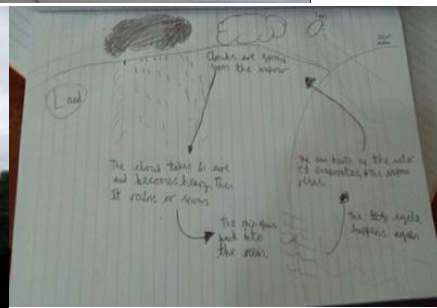
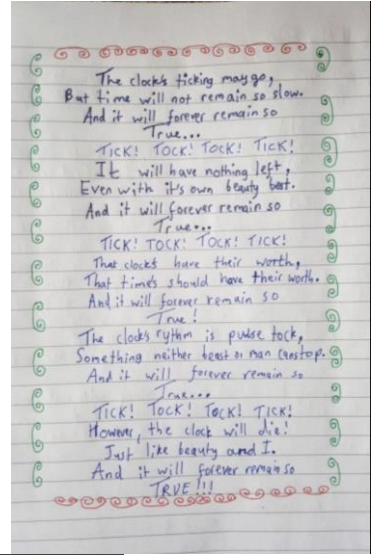
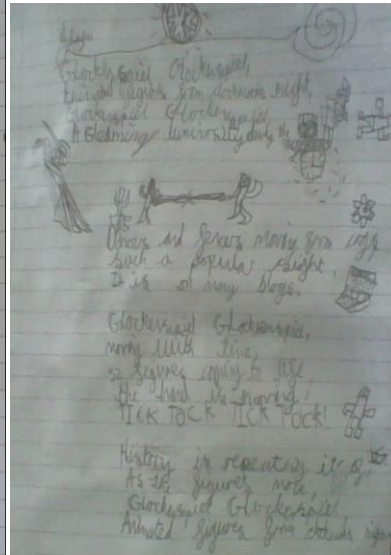
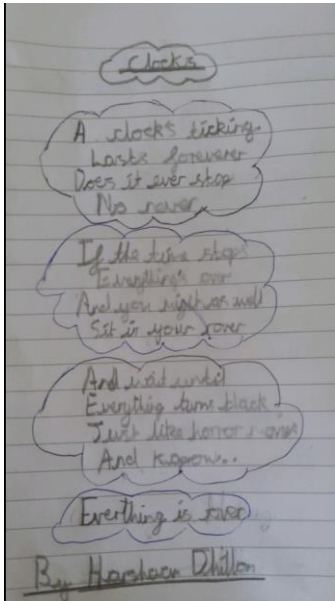


The children have drawn some fantastic animals by drawing round their hand and have mastered the art of creating parabolic curves.



In Maths, we have been focusing on the topic of geometry, in particular; angles, properties of shapes and different types of shapes.

In English, we have been reading our new class novel, Clockwork. We have been writing our own scary poems based on this book. See for yourself!



In Science, the children have learnt how to represent the water cycle in innovative ways.



Our faith lessons have been based on the virtue of Prayerfulness. This week, children had a go at meditating and writing their worries away on balloons.



# Optimism

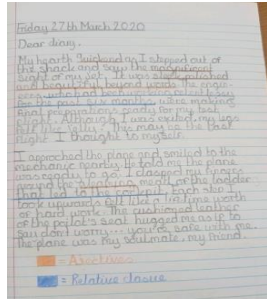
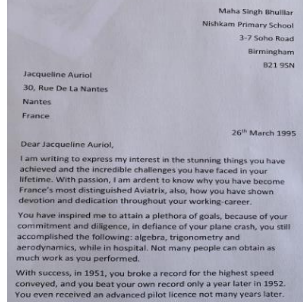
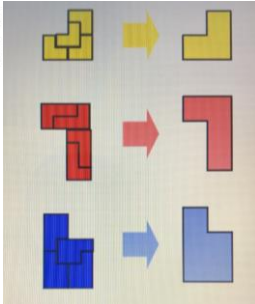
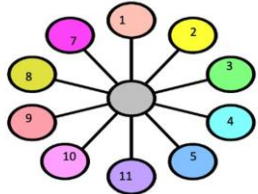
In Year 6, we're so proud of how diligently you've all been working and we've absolutely loved seeing all of the wonderful work you've been sharing with us.

In Maths, we've been learning about measurements, geometry, statistics, arithmetic, algebra, ratio and proportion.

In English, we've been writing a first-person recount from the perspective of Jacqueline Auriol, the first European female pilot to break the sound barrier, horror stories and a series of 'Slow Writing' challenges.

## Number Lines 2 ☆ 14

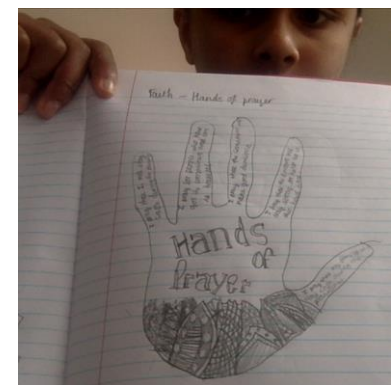
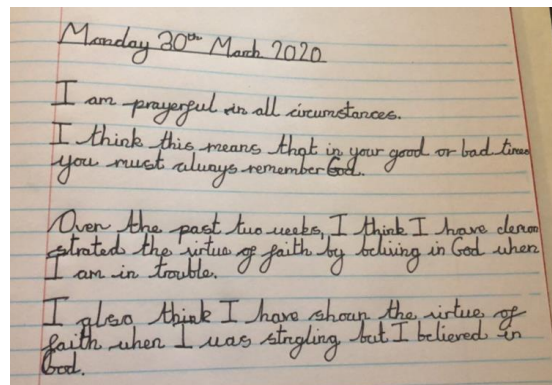
Can you put the digits 1 to 11 in the circles so that every line has the same total?



We've been having fun using the virtue of creativity to create art inspired by Brumhaus, Scott C, Mo Willems and Rafael Lopez. We've been making paper aero planes, tribal masks, bottle gardens, origami dragon's eyes, footballs and moving horses!



As part of our Faith studies, we've been focusing on the importance of the virtues of faith and prayerfulness.



Mrs Sandhu-White and Mr Higgins would like to thank all of the children for working so hard, and all of the parents and families for their continued support with ensuring the home learning tasks can be completed. As a Nishkam Family we will get through this together!



# OPTIMISM 1 AND 2 – THE CLASSES OF 2020

*An Ode to How Wonderful You Are*

We know it's not the usual week,  
Not the one we had in store,  
This year really is weirdly unique,  
Like no other that's come before,

This year there will be no tests,  
No spelling, no maths, no reading  
This year there will be no tests,  
No questions that seem misleading.

Instead you'll stay at home – you'll  
learn to cook and bake,  
You'll learn how to do wheelies on  
your bicycle – it'll seem like a piece of  
cake,  
At home, you'll stay busy – every day,  
with Joe Wick's, you'll do your  
morning exercise,  
At home, you'll work so hard – but to  
your proud teachers that comes as  
absolutely no surprise.

During this pandemic, we were  
worried you'd find it tough to cope,  
But with all your lovely daily  
messages, it's you that's given us  
hope!  
So maybe you've learnt just plenty,  
Optimism 1 and 2 – the classes of  
twenty-twenty.

As SATS week arrives it is not quite the  
same,  
The tests that were printed this year  
never came,  
I won't be stood at the front of the  
class reading you the examination  
'rules',  
This year it's all so different across our  
Nishkam Trust of schools.

For some children, in other schools, it'll  
be happiness and lots of relief,  
But for you diligent Nishkam-ers it  
brings sighs of pure disbelief,  
Because you've all worked so hard in  
advance of this SATS week,  
Giving your all and achieving  
personal bests were the goals that you  
would seek.

Algebra, fractions, the times tables  
drills,  
Inference, retrieval, all of the reading  
skills,  
Past, present, progressive... and all of  
the SPaG sessions,  
You've practised and mastered them  
over the years, throughout all your  
lessons.

So the 2020 SATS tests will not happen  
at all this term,  
But do remember that these tests don't  
measure everything you learn,  
At Nishkam we all want to grow as  
people and know we've always tried  
our best,  
Many of the virtues you've developed  
and demonstrated simply cannot be  
defined by a test.

So, here at Nishkam, I can tell you that  
you've made us all so proud,  
Your teachers sit here with pride and  
we'll shout this out loud:  
"Year 6, you amaze us, you've come  
so incredibly far...  
And we certainly don't need a silly old  
SATS test to see how incredibly  
wonderful you all are!"

*You make us so, so proud! Mr Higgins, Mrs Sandhu-White, Mrs Samra, Ms Owen.*



# At School...

As well as completing their daily set tasks, the keyworker children at school have been working collaboratively on creative projects! From rainbows and banners, to Easter Bonnets and clay insects, the children have truly shown the virtue of creativity!

Here is our very own school rainbow:



We have made posters of thanks for some of the many front line workers. Here are the ones we made for The Royal Mail and the Ambulance Service. It certainly spread a lot of smiles during this difficult time!



We made clay ornaments for our new Nishkam Garden. We can't wait to see them painted and hidden amongst our plants!

