Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you and your families are well at this time.

Now more than ever it is important to prioritise both your own and your child’s wellbeing and with this in mind, we offer the following thoughts:

* Be kind to yourself
* Consider your child’s behaviour as a communication – at times they may be communicating their anxiety and frustration about the current situation to you
* Have a regular daily routine which includes being physically active with your child
* Keep in touch with family, friends and support networks
* Know that every child grows and develops differently - your child will do things at their own pace and will have their own interests and likes
* Don’t worry if things go wrong - no one can be a full time teacher, childcare provider, parent and worker all at once
* Children learn through play - have fun!

To help you through this time we are sharing suggestions for activities via a private Early Entitlement (EE) Facebook group. The activities are easy to set up and don’t require the purchase of any commercial educational resources. We understand the pressure you may feel to complete tasks with your child, therefore we are only posting one activity a day as an idea that you may wish to try. We hope you find the ideas helpful and fun and enjoy trying them together.

The EE Facebook group has been set up for the sole purpose of supporting you with home learning and is not a platform for querying or discussing any other matters. The commenting facility will be unavailable due to data protection guidelines.

Should you have any queries regarding the ideas posted, please contact us using the Early Entitlement e-mail below. Please note both the Facebook group and e-mail inbox are monitored during work hours only. Responses may take up to two working days.

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| Other matters can be resolved by contacting the:-  Early Years Support Team with Early Entitlement funding queries: [eefunding@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:eefunding@flintshire.gov.uk)  Family Information Service with queries about the provision of childcare for children of critical (key) workers and vulnerable children:  [fisf@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:fisf@flintshire.gov.uk)  Early Entitlement Team with queries linked to education: [earlyentitlement@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyentitlement@flintshire.gov.uk) |

In order to join the group, please follow the link below and submit a ‘join request’, for which you will need to answer 2 questions to confirm that you are the parent of an EE registered child. Once a ‘join request’ is received and verified, you will be admitted to the group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/229777755121238/>

In years to come, when we look back on this challenging time, we will remember who we were with, what we did together and how that made us feel. Spending time together, sharing a story, building a den in the living room, going for a walk or enjoying any activity are all valuable learning experiences that will make treasured memories for both you and your child.

Stay safe,

Flintshire Early Entitlement Team

