



April 2020

Winnersh Primary School, Greenwood Grove, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 5LH  
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Dear Parents,

Well this wasn't how we were expecting to start our summer term! It is a very strange time for all of us at the moment. I hope you are all keeping safe and managing to juggle everything!

Thank you to all the staff who have also been working very hard at home. We are all missing the children very much and are looking forward to seeing you all again very soon.

As you know the Pre-school is closed until we have permission to re-open. If you wish to contact us, please do so through email ([greenwood@weycp.org.uk](mailto:greenwood@weycp.org.uk)) as I am checking it daily.

We have been sent lots of information to help parents and children through this difficult situation. I have attached a word document provided by the Local Education Authority and include other useful links.

Stay safe!

Mrs Harte

### School Placements

Those children who are due to start school in September, should have found out by now where they will be going. We hope you are happy with your placements. We would have spent this term getting the children "school ready". I came across a useful document, which I have attached to the email, that may give you some ideas of the kind of things we would be working towards.

#### NSPCC Coronavirus: advice for parents

The NSPCC has updated its coronavirus advice for parents to include information about coronavirus lockdown and separated parents and supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Read the advice: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\), lockdown and separated parents Supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities](#)

### TERM DATES

#### Summer Term

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 INSET Day

**Start of Term**      **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 Bank Holiday (Closed)

**Half Term**              **25th-Friday 29th May**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020 INSET Day

**Return**                  **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June -**

**End of Term**          **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020**

### Bookstart

Please see below the latest updates from Bookstart:

#### Keep everyone entertained with BookTrust HomeTime

Check out the latest videos, stories and competitions on BookTrust HomeTime, created to help keep your family engaged at home. Plus, [read an uplifting letter to book lovers young and old](#) from our president, Michael Morpurgo. #BookTrustHomeTime #UnitedByBooks

#### Pyjamarama moves to Friday 1 May 2020

We've brought Pyjamarama forward to Friday 1 May, to bring everyone together for a day of pyjama-fuelled fun at home. Register today and get ready for a fun-packed day indoors (in pyjamas!) celebrating bedtime stories with families all over the country. [Register to join Pyjamarama here.](#)

#### Well-loved children's characters lend a hand

The Gruffalo, Stick Man and the Smartest Giant in Town are here to help you explain the changes of these crazy times to your children. Take a look at Julia Donaldson and Axel Sheffler's new illustrations, helping to explain social distancing, home-schooling and helping others in an accessible and friendly way to young children. [View the illustrations here.](#)

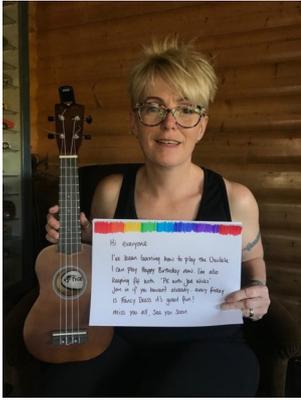
#### Learn to draw with Rob Biddulph

We are having great fun learning to draw our favourite characters with celebrated children's illustrators. Grab a pencil and [learn to draw Fred Bear with Rob Biddulph](#), author and illustrator of GRRRRR!, Odd Dog Out and Blown Away. Plus, find more illustration lessons [on our Youtube channel here.](#)

#### Win a copy of Elephant In My Kitchen!

If you thought your house was pretty chaotic at the moment, Rafi has got a house full of wild animals! Enter our competition by Thursday 11 June 2020 to win a copy of this hilarious picture book by Smriti Halls and Ella Okstad, introducing children to big ideas of conservation and saving the planet. [Enter the competition here.](#)

# Messages from the staff



Hi everyone,  
I've been learning to play the ukulele. I can play Happy Birthday now. I'm also keeping fit with 'PE with Joe Wicks'. Join in if you haven't already, every Friday is Fancy Dress, it's great fun! Miss you all, see you soon.

Mrs Maslen

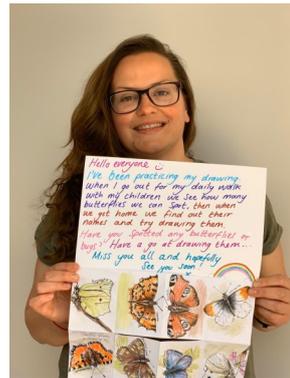


Hi everyone,  
I have been busy making scones today, perhaps you could have a go at baking something at home! Miss you all and hope to see you soon!  
Mrs Bird xx



Hi everyone,  
I hope you are all keeping safe and well. I have been having lots of lovely cuddles and playtime with my two cats and two rabbits. I have also done a lot of baking and have watched many films with my family. Miss everyone and hope to see you soon

Mrs Waters xxx



Hi everyone,  
I've been practising my drawing. When I go out for a walk with my children, we see how many butterflies we can spot, then when we get home we find out their names and try drawing them. Have you spotted any butterflies or bugs? Have a go at drawing them...  
Miss you all and hopefully see you soon.  
Mrs Wiseman

Hi everyone,  
Hope you are all having lots of fun in the sun. Today I've been playing garden games with my children—volleyball is my favourite.  
Miss you all. Mrs Bull xxx



Hello!  
I hope you are all happy and having lots of fun at home. I have enjoyed going for lots of walks and counting all the lovely rainbows up in peoples windows. I have also been doing lots of painting and making things with my girls. Miss you all lots and hope to see you all soon.  
Keep smiling and stay safe.  
Mrs Felton



Hi Everyone,  
Hope you have been enjoying your time at home with your family and doing lots of fun activities. I have been busy learning to knit, going on walks, lots of cooking and baking with my family. Missing you all and hope to see you soon at Greenwood Pre-school. Stay safe.

Mrs Persaud x



Hi everyone,  
I have been very busy in the garden, enjoying the sunshine and baking lots of yummy treats! I am missing all of your smiley, cheeky faces and can't wait to see you all very soon.

Mrs Harte xx



Hi everyone,  
I've been busy spending time with my family. Together we have made a vegetable patch in our garden and hope we will have lots of yummy things to eat. We have also been enjoying lots of bike rides in the beautiful sunshine. Hope you are all having lots of fun at home. I look forward to seeing you all soon.  
Mrs Rodgers x

## **Keeping Busy!**

Below, we have come up with a theme for each week. You will find suggested activities for Rainbow Fish at the end of the newsletter. These are only suggestions, please do not feel that you have to do them!

We will email you the activities for the following week on the Friday before.

W/C 20/4/2020	Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJXj4Ucz1xA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJXj4Ucz1xA</a>
W/C 27/4/2020	Row, Row Row Your Boat <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svdvQ9aiGbY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svdvQ9aiGbY</a>
W/C 4/5/2020	Two Little Dicky Birds <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aplwz06C5DY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aplwz06C5DY</a>

### **Wish list!**

**We are still looking to restock** some of the garden areas and are looking for the following, we would be grateful for any donations. All the of resources will be kept outside so will need to be hard-wearing.

#### **Mud Kitchen:**

- Spoons (small metal or large plastic)
- Metal/camping cups and teapots
- Old, small saucepans
- Baking tins and trays
- Cake tins
- Sieves / colanders
- Measuring spoons
- Jugs
- Hand Whisks



#### **Planting corner:**

- Plant pots (especially large ones)
- Plant troughs / planters
- Compost
- Pea shingle
- Established plants such as herbs, lavender
- Tyres
- Crates (e.g. milk or bread)



#### **Internet Safety**

For support and practical advice on how to keep your children safe online, please visit [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)

From age-specific online safety checklists to guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, you'll find a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world.

#### **Safeguarding**

Greenwood is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff, volunteers, visitors and external agencies to share this commitment. Should you have any concerns please speak to Mrs K Bull, Designated Safeguarding Lead or myself.

### **Dough Disco**

**Dough Disco'** is a fun activity which combines the use of play **dough** with a series of hand and finger exercises designed to improve fine muscle control. The movements develop children's fine and gross motor dexterity, hand-eye coordination and self-esteem. We introduced the activity a couple of weeks before lockdown and would love it if you could carry on doing it at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJQ2CaA7E50>

### **Communications**

#### **Greenwood Website**

Please visit the Greenwood Pre-school Website: [www.thegreenwoodpreschool.co.uk](http://www.thegreenwoodpreschool.co.uk) which gives up to date information on the pre-school.

If you do have any queries then please ask a member of staff.

#### **Facebook**



All parents are invited to join the Greenwood Facebook group :

"Greenwood Pre-school, Winnersh (Parents)".

This is a parent run closed group for information and question/answer purposes. Please do not post pictures of yours or other Greenwood children.

We have been adding updates weekly so you can see what we have been up to. **Emails**

Thank you to all those parents who have signed up to receive correspondence through email. If you have received a paper copy of this and would like to receive email in the future, please let me know.

# Rainbow Fish By Marcus Pfister

## Materials Needed

- Aluminum Foil
- Paint
- Q-Tips
- Paint Brushes
- Scissors

To begin, trace the fish shape out onto your aluminium foil.

Next, start painting. Why not use the colours that go with the book or get creative and use any you'd like.

Finally, BEFORE the paint dries, take some Q-tips and use them to draw designs onto your fish so that the shiny foil shines through. You'll need a few Q-tips for this step because once the tips are covered in too much paint they don't wipe the paint off as well.

You can complete the craft by gluing it to a piece of card stock paper so that they're easier to display.



## Maths Activity

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-t-22326-the-rainbow-fish-colourful-counting-resource-pack>

(Free to download)



<http://www.earlylearningactivities.com/PDF/rfmath.pdf>



The Rainbow Fish Play Dough Activity was inspired by the book The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister. This book is certainly one of our most favourite stories as it teaches children about friendship and the concept of giving and sharing. It is also a wonderful way to introduce children the letter 'F' for fish.

The Rainbow Fish Play Dough Activity is a great follow on activity to extend the learning and understanding of the story. It creates an opportunity to develop conversations, a story re-tell and develop fine motor skills.

- Create patterns with colour, for example, one row of red scales followed by 1 row yellow scales, red scales, and yellow scales and so on.
- Create a fish stack by placing the play dough fish on top of each other. See how high you can make the fish stack?
- Place the sequins (scales) flat on the play dough fish or stand them up on their side.
- Place all the play dough fish in a row and count them out loud.
- Set a challenge: how many sequins can you fit on your play dough fish. Count them! Count all the red sequin scales, now count all the blue?
- Hide the sequins inside the play dough and see how many you can find?

If you don't have sequins, you could use anything small and colourful e.g. buttons, Easter egg foil cut up—anything you can get your hand on!



# The Rainbow Fish: Pencil Control

By: \_\_\_\_\_

