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To all Parents/Carers,

Even though the sunshine has gone back behind the clouds for a few days the Markeaton community continues to shine a light over any challenge it faces. I mentioned it last week but it is certainly worth saying thank you again to all of you who dropped food off at the foodbank last Friday. We ended up with four full trollies and a postbox brimming with letters for the local care home. One of my favourite lines that was shared with me was:

...'even though you might feel like you're on your own, I hope this letter can be the friend that you need.'

The letters and the food will be delivered next week and we hope to do it again sometime in the near future. Thank you again.

Derby Covid Community Support Group

On a similar note, I would like to bring the Derby Covid Community Support Group to your attention. They are an organisation of volunteers who are helping to provide families in the community with food and signpost other groups who can support you. It is completely confidential so please call this number to see if they can help: 01332 640000.

Bridge the Gap:

Following the success of their most recent webinars for parents and staff, Bridge the Gap will be running a 'Well-being Webinar' for keyworkers next Friday morning. Please click on the link below to sign up:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/signin/?referrer=%2F%2Fwell-being-workshop-tickets-103910442932>

Starline:

Star Academies has recently launched StarLine, a free national helpline to provide parents with home education advice while schools are closed. StarLine offers parents tips and techniques from qualified teachers, education and parenting experts, and suggests online resources to help their children learn at home. It covers all areas of the curriculum and all stages of education, as well as family wellbeing, children's behaviour, and SEND. The helpline is open Sunday–Friday and all calls are confidential – further details and contact information can be found on the StarLine website:

<https://www.starline.org.uk>

Free book about Coronavirus:

Released the other day: a free information book explaining the coronavirus to children, illustrated by Gruffalo illustrator Axel Scheffler:

<https://nosycrow.com/blog/released-today-free-information-book-explaining-coronavirus-children-illustrated-gruffalo-illustrator-axel-scheffler/>

Home Learning

And finally, I would like to show you a few examples of Home Learning that have been taking place. Just remember, our message has always been – we'll provide the resources, just dip in and out as and when you can, there is enough there to suit all your needs. We know how difficult it is to juggle everything at home so try not to put too much pressure on yourselves. At the moment we are helping Henry to tell the time, even if it just helps him to stop asking 'how long till this and how long till that!?' Haha! **Here we have bikeriders, letterwriters, businessmakers, posterdesigners and art creators! Well done to you all!!** If you want to send me any more work my email is head@markeaton.derby.sch.uk and I will do my best to get back to you!

Have a nice weekend and speak to you next Friday, take care, Mr I. Johnson

