

<p><u>Elizabeth Wilkins – Primary 6</u></p> 	<p>This lockdown has been interesting, compared to the previous, as we didn't have daily meetings, and now we do. I like it, because it is an excellent way for us to catch up with friends, go over certain things in different subjects and have online lessons. It's certainly a highlight of the day. We do our lives with Learning by Questions, a fun and interactive way to learn during these times. We do comprehension (my favourite) and sometimes maths tasks using this. Literacy has been much better in this lockdown too! Our topic is my favourite though, as we are learning about Ancient Egypt and their pharaohs, creating fantastic things along the way. Instead of PE, we do PE with Joe Wicks which brightens your day, bringing all the family together (even if we must bribe some of the family to take part)</p> <p>I must admit, I do like online learning and it is useful when you want to go at your own pace. What's more, if you are super speedy, you can get the afternoon off. Online learning is friendly, and yes, it is much better at school, being face to face with your friends rather than being on a screen with them. Although one thing is for sure, we all know that someday soon we'll be back in school together again and that will be amazing.</p>
<p><u>Liana Navin – Primary 6</u></p> 	<p>Lockdown – Where do we start? It has been crazy and although we are missing school, we are making the best of it by spending time with our families. At home, we can work at our own pace and enjoy the afternoon, which I very much enjoy. Many activities are set, but Literacy has been my favourite. We even talk it through in our daily meetings. I like these and quite a lot of other children in our class do too - If we are even slightly confused about anything, our teacher can always help us by staying behind to answer our questions or teach us parts of the lesson which we struggled on. Topic lessons have been exciting. We have been learning fun facts about Ancient Egypt and reading about Tutankhamen.</p> <p>Have you been following Joe Wicks' live sessions? It's good fun and brings the family together, especially when we get our parents to join in (a challenging job). What can I say? Lockdown can be tough, but it has been a good experience so far, but I cannot wait to be back in school, in our classroom, with all our friends</p>

Goodbye Mr Ross! Written by Harrison.

Mr Ross has been the janitor at Uryside and previously Market Place for many years. Mr Ross's last day of school was the 18th December 2020. On the day that Mr Ross left he walked around the entire school from area to area. He started off at the nursery area then made his way to the green area, orange area, yellow area then to the purple area where you could hear cheers to show him how grateful we were for all that he's done for the children, teachers and the school. We surprised Mr Ross with some lovely gift's, he was really pleased. The house captains gave a speech thanking Mr Ross for all that he's done over the years. Mr Ross was a very good janitor, always doing more than he should and happy to assist in any way. Thank you very much Mr Ross for all you've done for our school.

From Uryside School



Meet our new janitor!

By Angus

Welcome to Uryside School, Mr Chapman! What are you looking forward to about working at our school?

I am looking forward to working with the lovely staff and settling into this lovely school.

What are some of your hobbies?

I used to play golf but I don't anymore because I don't think I am very good at it! I do like walking my dog and I also like watching Celtic play on the TV.

Tell us a bit about yourself?

I live in Inverurie with my partner, my 15-year-old son Kyle and my cocker spaniel. I worked in the Paper Mill for 16 years and worked as a janitor in Inverurie Academy for 10 years before joining Uryside in January.

Thank you, Mr Chapman!



How to be Creative at Home! By Cassia

You could bake! Cupcakes are so fun to bake, and yummy; you can decorate them however you like!

You can make mini movies! Me and my sister love do silly acting scenes and filming them for our parents. We even found one we did years ago and

You can make room décor! One of my favourites is paint marbling, which you can do with a few different coloured paints, glue and a canvas.

You could draw! There are loads of videos online showing you how to draw different things. You could choose a theme too like Winter or Cartoons!

Outdoor Learning at Uryside

www.educateoutside.com

EDUCATE OUTSIDE

A MONTH OF FUN AND EASY OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES!

1. Collect leaves and make a leaf rubbing picture.
2. Make a picture of an animal using sticks.
3. Make a symmetrical pattern using stones or leaves.
4. Find and identify three different plants.
5. Can you spot any birds? Can you identify them?
6. Build a high tower of sticks.
7. How many different colours in nature can you find?
8. Make a picture using water.
9. Spot three insects and try to identify them.
10. Find as many things with the letter 's' in. Make a list of them.
11. Write a poem on the floor using chalk.
12. Find as many things with the letter 's' in. Make a list of them.
13. Build a house for a mouse using natural materials.
14. Create a stick character.
15. Make a painting using mud.
16. Find 5 interesting natural objects.
17. Sit outside and see how many different sounds you can hear.
18. Build a den you can fit in. Can you make it waterproof?
19. Can you find any animal tracks? Who made them?
20. Build a mini-beast hotel.
21. Crush some leaves and flowers to create a scent cube.
22. Find as many natural items as you can that float.
23. Create an obstacle / fitness trail.
24. Make a waterproof hat using natural materials and string.
25. Use natural items on a piece of paper. How many different colour mixings can you get?
26. Make as many shapes as possible using sticks.
27. Have a look into the sky and see what pictures you can spot in the clouds.
28. Find as many natural items as you can that sink.
29. Go on a shape hunt. How many different shapes can you spot?
30. Make a mud pie recipe.

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Mrs Johnston has given us lots of ideas on we can keep learning outside at home.

The RSPB held its annual Big Garden Birdwatch which took place from 29th-31st January. Lots of pupils, parents and teachers at Uryside School took part. What did you see?

The big birds watch is a something that happens every year in January to spot the different species of birds. You can identify different birds by their sounds their feathers and their size.

How to Look After Your Self During Lockdown! By Jack

I know we are in Lockdown and some of you don't know how to look after yourself. Well don't worry, I am here.

First, you might have kids and it might be hard for them and yourself, well you can change that. Say you're getting out of bed at random times in the morning and it might be too early or too late and you need to go to work (or go downstairs and work there), your kids need to set up for their home schooling and you have no time. Well that can be solved by setting a routine, for example getting up at 8:00am and getting ready, and having breaks in between work and school. Set a time when you're going to have lunch and last of all set a time for when your kids finish school, and you finish work.

Second, now you know how much screen time you and your kids are using for school and work because you are constantly on a device and it's not your fault, but you should try and cut it down a notch because it really bad for your eyes. For example you can have maybe a tech free day and you do work but then straight after you don't go on any technology, or you can put on a screen limit and maybe you have technology on some nights and read or draw on other nights. Lockdown is not just an excuse for going on technology and doing nothing, it is about keeping our eyes and our bodies heathy.

Thirdly, another way you can look after yourself is you can go outside and go in the sun and get plenty fresh air. You could go for a walk through the woods or just beside your house or go to a castle because you can get really good walks there, some even have lakes or you can go and play with your kids or your kids can play with each other. Or go up Bennachie for lots of fresh air because this will help your body and you.

Finally, I know that as lockdown has come and you can't do as much things as you could do, like go to the gym or go to the bar with your friends, coaching a football team or doing some hobbies that now you can't do, well all that can be solved! For example you can find a hobby, it can be baking or playing some musical instrument, all up to you. Maybe you used to do a hobby, it could have been baking or something, well you can try and do it again because anything can happen! Your hobby could have been going to the gym but you can still go exercising just not to the gym, you could go on a run, all up to you. So, don't think you can just sit around and do nothing - get up and find a hobby!

Thanks for reading how to look after yourself during lockdown and if we stay indoors and have a big smile on our face COVID-19 will be gone before you know it.



Tech Free Thursdays

By Abigail

Tech-free Thursdays will be every Thursday afternoon where all staff/pupils will be taking a break from technology. It's important to take time away from screens because it's beneficial for your health and wellbeing. There are lots of things you can do at home, such as spending time with family, playing board games, reading a book, going outside for some fresh air, baking, going on a walk. There are so many more fun activities to enjoy!

Tokyo Olympics 2021

The Olympic Games were due to be held in Tokyo in the summer of 2021 but unfortunately they were cancelled because of the Coronavirus pandemic. They have been rescheduled for this summer in 2021 and it is still to be decided if it will go ahead. Should the Olympics go ahead? Or should it not go ahead? Obviously it's going to be hard because of the pandemic! Here are two possible opinions.

Some people believe that the Olympics should go ahead. The athletes have been training for years to take part in the Olympics. It might be the last chance for some of them to try and win a medal and bring it home to Great Britain. Lots of Scottish athletes are due to take part. We have one of the best Curling teams in the world.

Most people love watching sport, it makes them feel involved and they want to get up and do exercise. We love supporting our country.

The pandemic has already caused the Olympics to be delayed for a year and this has had a big concern for the funding that the athletes get. If there is no funding this could have a big effect on the British sport of the future.

On the other hand, there are some cons to the Olympics going ahead this year. No one is allowed to travel, why should this change for a sporting event? Hundreds of athletes are going to compete at the Games, from all over the planet, which is very irresponsible considering the pandemic. Even though testing, vaccinating and extreme hygiene rules will take place there is still risk! Many people can't see their own relatives, let alone their sports mates! With all the rules saying essential travel, shopping, and so on, a competition just doesn't seem like an essential reason for thousands to travel, whilst we all need to stay home suffering the consequences.

In the end you will find that people living is more important than a sporting event, in the con section you can see that they have quoted, "why should people be travelling for sporting events" that's a very good point because that would be unfair to other people who might be not being able to do the stuff they like to do every day. We want this pandemic to be over! The only way we can keep that happening is to stay home and keep washing our hands, hopefully when the restrictions go down we can have an amazing Olympics!

Keeping Fit at Home

By Harris



Joe Wicks has been helping millions of people keep fit and healthy during Lockdown with his PE sessions on YouTube.

WHY IS EXERCISE GOOD FOR YOU?

Exercise makes you feel good physically and mentally.

Here are some of the reasons:

Exercise produces endorphins which make you feel more positive.

Exercise can help you lose weight and tone your muscles.

It can give you lots more energy to do more every day.

Exercise can improve your brain function, it increases your heart rate which helps the flow of blood and oxygen to your brain.

If you do exercise every other day it will make you feel more relaxed and make you sleep better.

It is fun to do exercise with your friends, like playing football. I miss playing football with my friends.