



#### Dear Parents and Carers

As the end of this strangest of all terms approaches, the staff and governors of Bampton School have been very mindful of the uncertain position that we are all experiencing and the effect that it has had on our community locally and globally. I would encourage your children to keep connected with the school as much as possible whether its doing the home learning pack and/or letting the teachers know, via 'Class Dojo', of any successes your child may have had.

In the meantime, may I wish you a restful but also productive Easter break. It has **already** become a cliché to say that these are strange times indeed and we are all in uncharted waters, but I have been so impressed with the resilient and inventive way our community has met the challenges that we have been going through since school closures and the lockdown was announced. I know we will come through this stronger for the experience and please let the children know that they are at the centre of our thoughts.

Stay safe, stay sane, please look after each other and we'll see you on the other side.

*Julian Easterbrook*  
*Chair of Governors*

### An activity that you might be interested in?

This was sent to me by a colleague and I thought I would share it with you! A bit of amateur astronomy that might help you to contemplate your place in the universe at the moment. The skies have been particularly clear and, without the need for early starts, you can stay up and see a lot without any special equipment:

1. The Moon is waxing, which means the disc is getting fuller every day. If you've never looked at the Moon closely (even with a small pair of binoculars or digitally zoomed if you have an upmarket phone camera and a steady hand) then it's really worth it to see the craters and mountainous terrain. It's not as smooth as you think!
2. In the early morning, around dawn, Jupiter, Mars and Saturn are in diagonal line above the southern horizon. This is an excellent time for guaranteed social distancing outdoors.
4. On Friday there is a conjunction where Venus passes in front of the Pleiades star cluster. These are two particularly beautiful objects in the night sky and no surprise that their names were chosen from mythology to reflect this beauty. If it clouds over, tech saves the day again and you can watch here: <https://www.virtualtelescope.eu/webtv/> and find out where to look here <https://earthsky.org/?p=326661>
5. Look out for the International Space Station which is a very obvious sight in the night sky when it's passing over us. This site predicts and simulates its orbit and orbits of many other satellites too: <https://www.heavens-above.com/>
6. To find out what you are looking at then download Stellarium <https://stellarium.org/> for any device. Then you can even sit indoors, switch off the lights and pretend you are outside. Hot chocolate with a small treat also helps.

Please do contact Governors if you have any concerns or questions about the general direction of Bampton Primary School and our policies. Lots of you know who we are and you are welcome to approach us at the School gate or failing that please write to me (Julian Easterbrook) either via c/o the School office or by e-mail [jeas0509@bampton.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:jeas0509@bampton.oxon.sch.uk). We cannot deal with issues about your own children – these should be taken up with the class teacher.