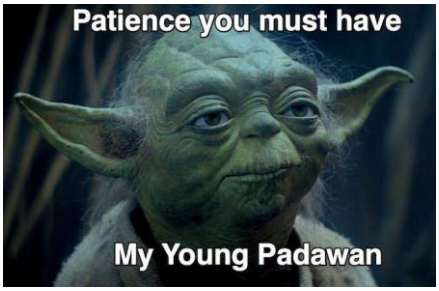
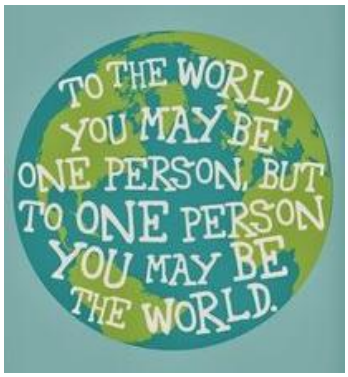


Home-Schooling Survival!

We are now well into our new normal and reality has set in that we have some way to go. You may love home schooling, you might be finding it incredibly challenging, or you might have some good days and some bad. Please remember that although school is not physically open for most children, the brilliant staff team are still available if you need any support or advice.



My key piece of advice to you would be **'Be a parent first'**.

Focus on your child's general wellbeing and then follow up with school work as and when you can. Aim to support your child through the Maths and English work that they are being set and then anything else is a bonus. Take this opportunity to encourage your child's individual interests. Remember that so much learning happens through play and general day to day activities. This learning isn't measured, but it's of huge value. Fun and enjoyment are equally important, so try and make this a focus!

As parents/carers your top two superpowers are being **flexible** and **adaptive**. It's great to have a rough schedule for your day, but don't be afraid to rewrite it or abandon it some days. You will be juggling various demands on your time, such as your own work, running the household and perhaps remotely supporting other family members. Respond to what is most important on each day and work around the needs of your particular family dynamic.

Key Points

- Do not compare yourself to others. Each family is unique with different dynamics to manage, including the number of children, single parent families, children with special educational needs, etc. Find what works for your family and keep expectations realistic.

- Find opportunities to relax with your child. Do things they enjoy, such as watching a film, playing a game, sharing stories or listening to music etc.

- Finally, be reassured that once we are able to get back to school, teachers will pick things up and work on moving children forward. This will be easier if children are calm and happy during the home-schooling phase.