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School of Play

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Keep Positive! Keep Learning! Keep Playing!

We are saddened by this recent lockdown as we will not be able to see everyone's lovely faces as soon as we'd hoped this year. However, despite the current situation, we will still continue to spread lots of positivity and focus on the materials and methods of learning and play we can work with for the meantime. Optimism is always massively important to us as a company and we want to keep the energy as high as we possibly can in these next few weeks!

Here are some things we should keep doing during this lockdown:

Keep Creating!



Bubble Painting: This arts and crafts idea always goes down a treat with the children. It's a creative outlet that is colourful, artistic, fun and well... a little messy! But what's fun without a little mess.

All you will need is:

- Food Colouring

Keep Focused!



Schoolwork is certainly going to be a great challenge for the children this lockdown and we understand the struggles of not

- Washing Up Liquid
- Straws
- Card or Paper

Method:

1. To create these wonderful bubble masterpieces all you need to do is mix the washing up liquid and food colouring together in a bowl or cup.
2. Once mixed the children can blow into the mix with a straw and create a big bubble mountain.
3. Place the card/paper carefully over the top of the bubbles and press down for three seconds.
4. Repeat multiple times using different colours and bubble patterns.

Hey Presto! A colourful, abstract piece of art that is interactive, fun and easy to create!

having their teachers around to assist as much as they would in school.

But we know that each child is capable of anything they put their minds to and we believe that they will achieve so much during and after this lockdown!

For a break from their work given from school, here are some online activities that promote learning in fun and alternative ways.

Orchard Toys are now offering free online activities to help with home schooling! They have printable worksheets for numeracy and literacy learning as well as arts and crafts ideas, recipes and colouring sheets.

Click the 'Keep Focused' header to take you to their website.

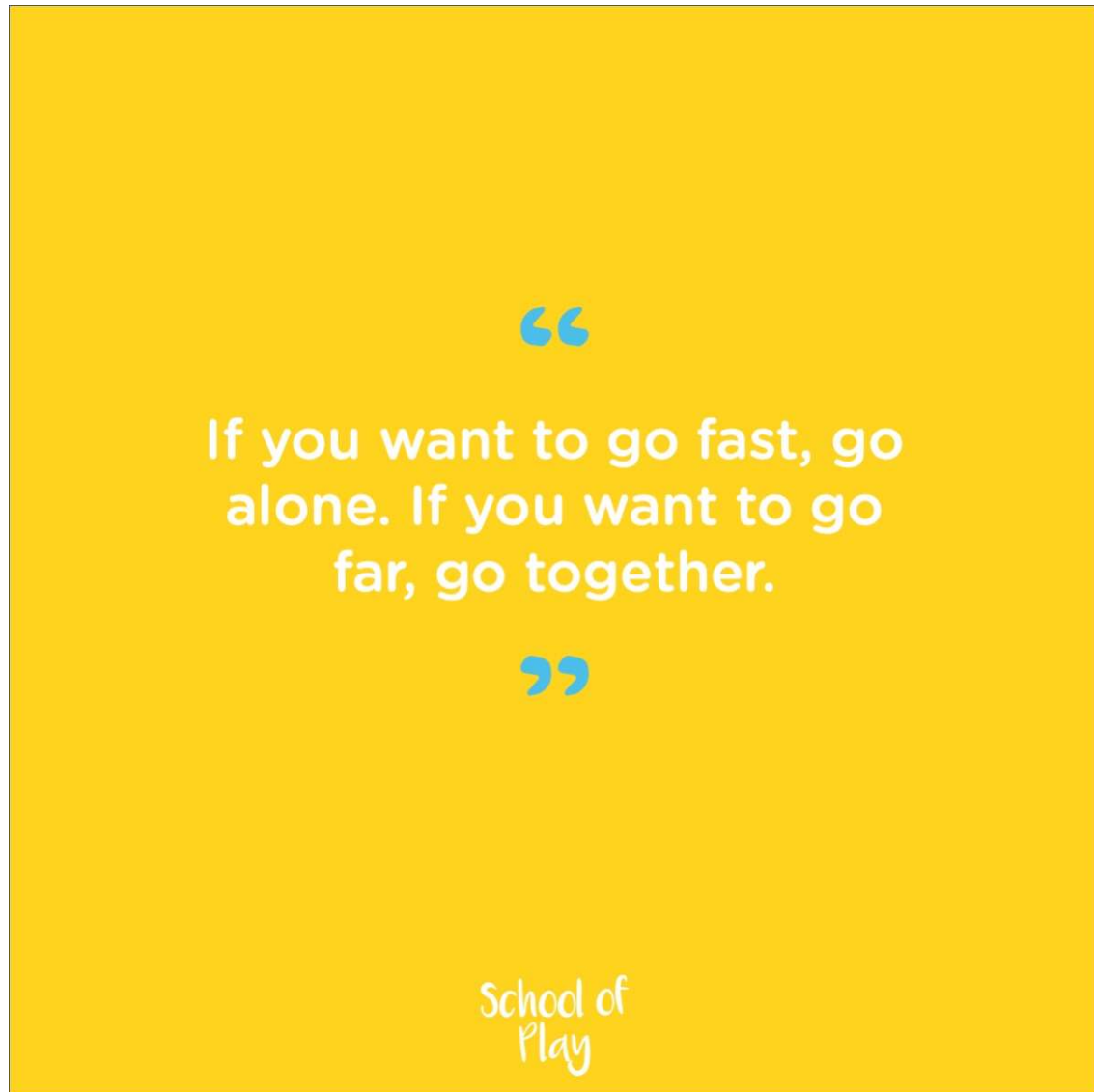
Keep up the Teamwork!



Now, more than ever, teamwork is a must at School of Play. In these uncertain times, we need to stick together and keep the communication flowing between our team, the children and parents alike. Collectively using all of our resources, we can ensure the children are getting the most out of this situation and we believe teamwork plays a key role in this.

One of our company core values is *To Go Far, We Go Together (teamwork)* and without this value, our company would not be as it is today. At School of Play, we pride ourselves on working together as a team, to deliver the best possible service to all the children within our care.

Our dedicated staff have a great understanding of where their strengths lie and they are always working to ensure a collaborative mindset is embraced to achieve successful results. We want the children to understand the benefits of teamwork and hope they begin to implement this important life skill into their schoolwork and social interactions.



Keep Smiling and Keeping Laughing!



No matter the situation, no matter the time of day and no matter who we're with, we need to smile, laugh and spread happiness wherever we go!

“A warm smile is the universal language of kindness”

We believe that a simple smile can impact so many lives each day. No matter who, where or why, a smile can bring joy to a certain someone and perhaps you wouldn't even notice!

Smiling is infectious and spreading a smile will certainly create a positive atmosphere in any environment and that's why, at our clubs, we encourage our staff and the children to smile and keep up the positive energy so that we can all be surrounded by a happy and friendly family.

Keep Healthy!

Now that we may have some spare time, we can create recipes that not only taste amazing but look fabulous as well! Colour is intriguing and exciting, and so, a rainbow of treats will be a hit with the kids.

Here is a great Rainbow Salad Recipe that is so easy to make!

Recipe

LAYERED RAINBOW SALAD





Ingredients

- 350g pasta shapes (De Cecco is a good brand that stays nice and firm)
- 200g green beans, trimmed and chopped into short lengths
- 160g can tuna in olive oil, drained
- 4 tbsp mayonnaise
- 4 tbsp natural yogurt
- 1/2 small pack chives, snipped (optional)
- 200g cherry tomatoes, quartered
- 1 orange pepper, cut into little cubes 195g can sweetcorn, drained





Method

Step 1

Cook the pasta until it is still a little al dente (2 mins less than the pack instructions) and drain well. Cook the green beans in simmering water for 2 mins, then rinse in cold water and drain well. Mix the tuna with the mayonnaise and yogurt. Add the chives, if using.





Method

Step 2

Tip the pasta into a large glass bowl or four small ones, or four wide-necked jars (useful for taking on picnics). Spoon the tuna dressing over the top of the pasta. Add a layer of green beans, followed by a layer of cherry tomatoes, then the pepper and sweetcorn. Cover and chill until you're ready to eat.



(Source: bbcgoodfood.com)



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