

Hello everyone, we hope you are all safe and well. The theme of this week's bulletin is 'Celebration'. There are lots of things worth celebrating even in times of lockdown! We would love to hear from you if you have been doing things in your community or at home that we can celebrate. Drop me an e-mail and include a photo.



Ramadan – this year 23rd April – 23rd May

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims take part in fasting, which means that they do not eat or drink between dawn and sunset. Ramadan is also a time for undertaking charity work, spending time with family and friends, spiritual reflection and prayer. Each night during Ramadan, the fast is broken with a meal named **Iftar**. This takes place at sunset. **Eid al-Fitr** takes place as the month of Ramadan draws to a close. It is an important holiday in the Islamic calendar which marks the first day of the month of Shawwal, with Eid celebrations sometimes lasting several days. Islamic reflections are a series of broadcasts available on the BBC sounds in which a number of Islamic speakers share their reflections on their faith, Ramadan and on the current crisis. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p088vmkn>

UK lockdown and Ramadan

Those who observe Ramadan are likely to have a very different experience this year as the coronavirus pandemic continues and the UK currently remains in lockdown. Muslims typically attend mosques to undertake prayers, but with social distancing measures in place, prayers, charity work and seeing friends and family during Ramadan will move online. Mosque leaders have launched a Ramadan foodbank drive to help those most in need in Worcester during the coronavirus pandemic. Click on the Worcester News link to read more about this and please let us know if you have been involved. <https://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/18417058.worcester-mosques-coronavirus-food-bank-drive/>



Celebrating our young carers – we have a number of students who are young carers and do such a brilliant job looking after members of their family. This is a particularly challenging time for them so please support them as you join in the 'Clap for Carers' each week. If you are a young carer or know someone who has become a young carer, get in touch with us so that we can support you.

VE day – 8th May 2020

VE Day (Victory in Europe Day) is the day on which Allied forces formally announced the surrender of Germany in Europe, which brought the Second World War to a close. The Government moved the annual May bank holiday to May 8th in order to hold the VE celebrations. With the current COVID-19 restrictions, there are still ways to celebrate this day such as bunting on your house and picnics/afternoon tea in the garden, on your doorstep or in your house. There will be a host of programmes on tv to mark the occasion and a 2 minute silence at 11 o'clock to mark the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Please tell us what you and your family are doing to mark the occasion and we'd love to see your photos.

www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/ve-day-75



We have heard some great stories from you of things you have been doing; podcasts/videos to support others and thanking our NHS workers donations to Worcester foodbank

run 5k and donate £5

lots of baking tips – we look forward to sampling these please!

One of our parents has set up the Welfare for Healthcare campaign. It is to raise funds for essential care packs, including food, for NHS staff working extended shifts with an initial target of £10,000 - this was met over the weekend. More information and ways to donate can be found here: <https://welfareforhealthcare.com/>

Keep the stories coming – we love to hear from you 😊