

APRIL 2020 ISSUE NO. 14

IN THE LOOP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CRAWFORD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR	1
GOING BLUE FOR ALL CHILDREN	5
MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT CHILD ABUSE	11
PREPARING FOR REMOTE LEARNING	13
POETRY COMPETITION POSTER	18
TAKE A BREAK: PRINTABLE COLOURING PAGES	20



MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

By Jenny Coetzee

Dear Parents and Guardians

COVID 19 UPDATE: ADVTECH SCHOOLS AND THE PRESERVATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

I trust that you and your families are safe and well during these trying and uncertain times?

As communicated in the last newsletter on 31 March 2020, we promised to inform you of the situation with regards teaching and learning during the holidays. Last week areas of containment, which include Kiambu and Nairobi counties, were enforced. According to the Chief Administrative Secretary, Zack Kinuthia, in a media announcement on 15 April 2020, schools will only be reopened after medical experts give an assurance that Covid-19 is no longer a threat.

Crawford International School will, however, reopen on 21 April 2020 – with lessons being held in virtual classrooms. We are committed to a quality academic offering and completion of our syllabus. The 10 days of schooling that was missed by the forced closure from 15-27 March 2020 will be caught up and we will communicate a new school calendar in due course. The sports and clubs which students may miss during this coming term will also be reworked into the revised school program once school can resume on site. This may be in the form of holiday camps.

It is fortunate that Crawford International School has the support of Advtech, a company which provides strong educational leadership in South Africa and other African countries. Advtech has been investing in IT infrastructures at their educational sites for many years and as a result our teachers and students will benefit from the training and academic guidance provided via our online platforms and teaching.

... cont'd message from the Managing Director

We are confident that our students will be delighted to be back, collaborating and communicating in their virtual classrooms next week. In preparation, please will you ensure that over the remainder of the holidays, your Year 4 to 11 child logs on daily into each of their class teams.

Although our teachers remained at school during the two prior to the holidays ensuring that all students had access to MS Teams, we want to ensure that our students can comfortably access their virtual classroom before school starts. Before school re-opens, teachers will be posting information and guidelines pertaining to learning and syllabus coverage.

We are in the process of setting up MSTEams working groups for the parents of KG 1 – Year 3 and you will be sent your login details via email. Curriculum coverage will begin on 21 April 2020 with syllabus material being made available on these Teams to keep up with numeracy and literacy. Teachers will engage with you as parents on these Teams to assist you in promoting the development of the habits your children will need later.

Once you receive your login details, you may use the stasysupport@iie.ac.za helpdesk if you are experiencing access problems with the MSTEams platform.

Cambridge Examinations:

As previously communicated, the Year 6 and 9 checkpoint exams for the May/June session have been cancelled. However, these students will be entered into the October/November exam session later this year. Although they will be in their next academic year, they will be prepared for these exams prior to the sitting. We applied this method with our first cohort of Checkpoint exam entrées and the students fared exceptionally well.

... cont'd message from the Managing Director

Cambridge Assessment International Authority has also sent us information on the compilation of the Year 11 IGCSE results. A separate detailed communication on how these results will be calculated will be sent to the Year 11 parents later this week. Please be assured that every effort is being made to ensure that our students achieve results that are fair, equitable and reflective of each individual students' performance over the last year.

Boarding School:

The boarding school will only open once normal school resumes.

Fees:

Statements were sent out automatically a few days ago which included transport, boarding, meals and music fees. New statements are being generated which will only reflect the tuition fees. Advtech will continue to deliver quality education during the online teaching sessions whilst school is closed. Kindly contact the Financial Manager or Managing Director should you have any financial queries.

Actions Required from Our Parents and Communities

- Please keep your contact details up to date with the school and on STASY.
- Please monitor the school's website and Facebook page, as well as your SMS and emails.
- Please keep an eye out for messages and instructions on the MSTEams testing this week and the resources we will post in the next few days.
- As we increase our use of technology, please keep an eye on your child's online presence and behavior and contact us immediately in any case of cyber bullying. There is more than enough stress in this situation without us allowing any children to also endure being bullied. An online behaviour policy is [linked here](#). Please read this through with your child.

... cont'd message from the Managing Director

- Please only use authorised sites such as WHO or the Ministry of Health website for information on the Covid-19 virus – there is much misinformation and fake news spreading and it causes harm and distress. Please do not circulate unverified information.
- Please follow all the recommendations from the above bodies in this period to slow the spread of this virus.
- Please keep us posted if you or a family member or your child are directly impacted during this period.

We join the President in confirming our confidence that the country will prevail as the community stands together. As Advtech, we ask that you stay safe and take care.

Yours sincerely

Jenny Coetzee
Managing Director



Going Blue for All Children

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month; the blue pinwheel is its symbol. To raise awareness, CIS staff share messages from home dressed in blue.



Treasure and nurture the relationship you have with your children not your possessions...that will be the best investment you make in your life.

Ms Jenny & Mr Marcel



Children are a treasure and our hope for tomorrow. We must care about them and love them unreservedly.

Ms Lucy

**“Childhood should be carefree, playing in the sun;
not living a nightmare in the darkness of the soul.
Dave Pelzer, 'Author of A Child Called "It"'. ”**



Children are our special gifts to nurture and protect. If it hurts them emotionally, psychologically or physically, it's abusive; DON'T do it!
Ms Evah



Children are the most precious gifts from God.
#stopchildabuse
Ms Joy



Children will listen to you after they feel listened to. You can learn many things from children, like how much patience you have for instance.
Ms Monica



Let's stand for what is right and just.
Mr Arthur



Abuse destroys a child's natural sense of love and trust. You cannot raise a masterpiece with this behavior.
Ms Alice



Cool men don't abuse and neglect their children. Be Cool... Be Real!
Mr Malik



You have to pass through me
to reach the children!

Mr Newton



Hey, that's a masterpiece,
give him or her a chance!

Mr Anthony



Stand up to child abuse!

Mr Maxwell



Yelling silences your
message. Speak quietly so
your children can hear your
words instead of just your
voice. It shouldn't hurt to be
a child.

Ms Melvine



Let's protect the precious
children of this world. Be a
voice! Stand up against child
abuse!

Ms Shelly



A torn jacket is soon mended;
but hard words bruise the
heart of a child.

#Eradicate child abuse once
and for all.

Ms Jeridah



Abuse changes your life...
Fight Back and change the
life of your abusers by
Breaking Your Silence on
Abuse!- Patty Rase Hopson
Mr George



Love children, do not abuse
them.
Mr Sammy



The true character of a
society is revealed in how it
treats its children.
Mr Tobias



Children are a heritage that
we must strive to protect.
Mr Anthony



Pain scars for life; Love
develops confidence and
confident children make a
great world....STOP CHILD
ABUSE!
Ms Miriam



Every child is gifted, they just
unwrap their packages at
different times.
Ms Anjli



Say NO to child abuse!
Mr Kizito



There is no greater sin than knowing children
are abused everyday, and we did nothing to
stop it.
Ms Kanupriya



Unfortunately, child abuse is often done by people the
child knows and they can access the child in a place
that is meant to be safe for them. It is important to
empower our children on boundaries and create a safe
place for them to open up and share their fears.
Ms Joyce



The most honest, kind, truthful hearts and smiles
you will ever encounter on earth are those from
children. Reciprocate.
Ms Elizabeth



Every child is a special kind of flower
and together they make this world a
beautiful garden!☺
Ms Beatrice

Tips for Parents

How Can I Reduce the Risk of My Child Being Abused?

By Ms Lucy Simiyu



You and your child:

1. Talk to your child about appropriate and inappropriate behaviors, and safe and unsafe situations.
2. Role play what to do if ever someone behaves inappropriately and how to get help.
3. Encourage open communication with your child. This will help you know when something is amiss.
4. Ensure your home or house is safe.
5. Always remember to NEVER leave your young children alone.
6. Always know where your child is when they are out.
7. Listen to your child's verbal and nonverbal messages.
8. Respond to any concerns your child raises in a gentle and loving manner, giving them assurance that it is not their fault in case any abuse has occurred.



You and others in your child's life:

1. Build solid relationships with the people who look after your children, including teachers, babysitters, and parents of your child's friends.
2. Establish guidelines for safety and appropriate behavior in your child's interactions with these individuals.
3. Build a community around your child that can provide additional support and vigilance.

Importantly, listen to that gut feeling, the instinct within, and **DON'T MAKE EXCUSES** for any individual who abuses your child or any child.

CHILD ABUSE

IDENTIFYING THE MOST COMMON MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT CHILD ABUSE

MYTH: Abuse is only abuse when it is physical and violent.

FACT: Physical abuse is just one type of child abuse. Child neglect, sexual and emotional abuse can inflict just as much damage, and since they are not always as obvious, intervention may delay.

MYTH: Sometimes children are to blame for their abuse.

FACT: A child is never to blame for abuse. Adults are responsible for their own behavior and no matter how a child behaves, adults have no right to harm a child.

MYTH: Only bad people abuse their children.

FACT: Not all abusive parents or guardians are bad people who intentionally harm their children. Many have been victims of abuse themselves and do not know any other way to parent. Others may be struggling with mental health issues or substance abuse problems.

MYTH: Children make up stories about abuse.

FACT: A child rarely lies about abuse. A child may change what they have said if there is pressure and threats to have them deny what happened to them. They may also be afraid of being separated from family as a result of sharing their abuse story or experience.

MYTH: Only young children are abused.

FACT: Child abuse can happen to babies, children or teenagers. It may seem that teenagers should be able to fight back, but it is difficult to stand up to an adult who is causing the abuse, especially a parent. Child abuse is often an abuse of power and trust. Cruel words or sexual or physical abuse hurts teenagers as much as it hurts a child.

MYTH: Most child abusers are strangers.

FACT: While abuse by strangers does happen, statistics indicate that most abusers are family members or others close to the family. Most often, it is people who can easily win over the trust of the children while at the same time using their authority to intimidate the child into silence e.g. a parent, a teacher, a coach, a religious leader, a babysitter, a sibling, an uncle, an aunt, a grandparent, etc.

MYTH: Children are not affected by domestic violence if they do not see it happen.

FACT: A child does not need to see domestic violence to know it is happening and be affected by it. A child sees how violence affects the person close to them.

MYTH: Abused children always grow up to be abusers.

FACT: While it is true that abused children are more likely to repeat the cycle as adults, unconsciously repeating what they experienced as children, many adult survivors of child abuse have a strong motivation to protect their children (and other children) against what they went through and become excellent parents.

MYTH: Abuse and neglect do not happen in "good" families. Abuse and neglect only happen in "poor" families..

FACT: Abuse and neglect do not only happen in good or poor families, or bad neighborhoods. They happen in all kinds of environments i.e. economic, socio-cultural, political, religious, etc. Sometimes, families who seem to have it all from the outside are hiding a different story behind closed doors.

PREPARING FOR REMOTE LEARNING

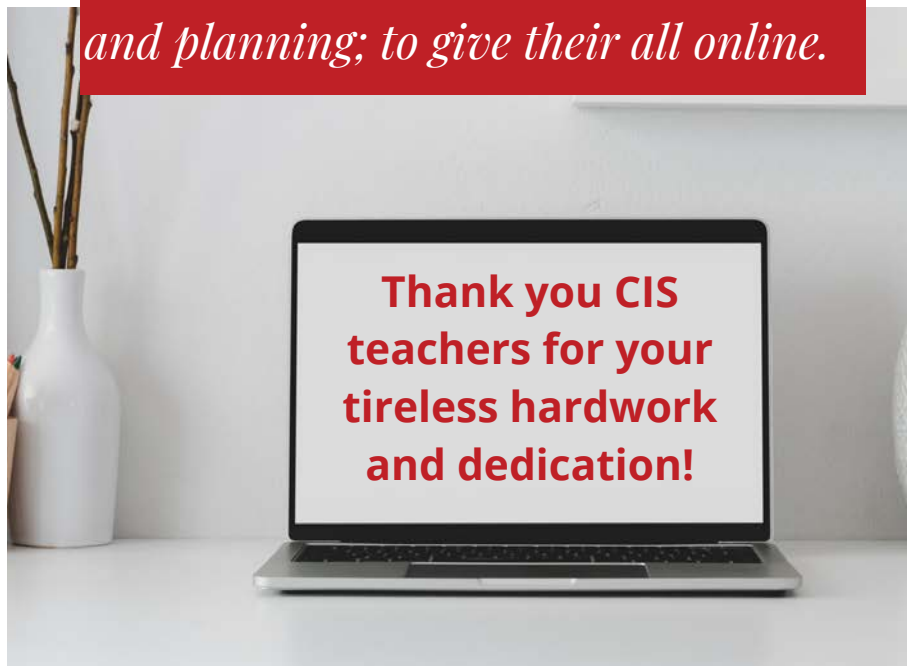
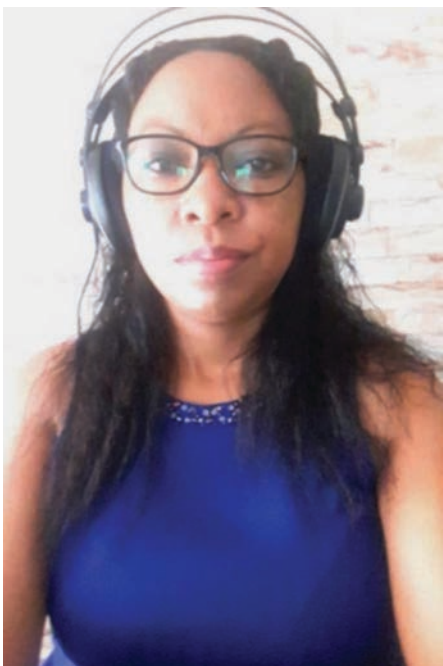




While the students have been resting this holiday.



Our teachers have been training and planning; to give their all online.



PARENT/GUARDIAN ADVICE

Tips for supporting your kids' learning at home

Plan the day with your child

Even if you're following a lesson plan, it's good to brainstorm with your child about their day ahead.

Give them options. Ask them what they feel about doing tasks in certain ways. Give them time to adjust to the schedule.

Involve the family

Homeschooling involves integrating your child's educational schedule with your family's regular routine.

Have a chat with your family and know what their expectations are with the home school setup—and what is expected of them.

Keep in touch with teachers

Ask the teacher if you have to strictly follow the curriculum given, or if you have the freedom to adjust the schedule.

Teachers can also give you tips on how to effectively facilitate your kids' learning. You may download every lesson to refer back to later or if your child happens to miss it for any reason.

Use free resources

The school will provide the lessons, but you can also make use of other resources like worksheets available online to support or expand it.

Take breaks

It's a simple advice - and you can't underestimate the power of breaks.

Add it to your schedule and make it fun—or be spontaneous and flexible and take it when you can.

Be flexible

Learning from home can be difficult, new, and frustrating.

Facilitate your child's study schedule closely, but be flexible to change it up based on your child's learning tendencies and emotional state at the time.

Student Tips for Learning from Home



MAKE A PLAN

The school and your teacher will prepare your lessons, but it'll be good if you'll plan how you'll be studying at home.



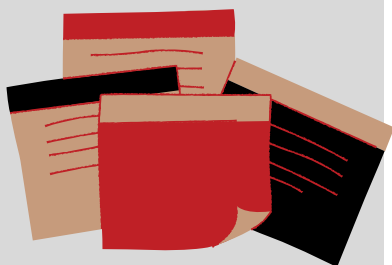
BE PROUD OF YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Studying at home isn't easy. Reward yourself for each small success.



TAKE NOTES

Notes will help you remember lessons as you watch them. It'll also be useful for reviewing later.



DO ONE THING AT A TIME

Finish one lesson before moving to the next. Do one assignment before another. Lessen multitasking.



TAKE A BREAK

Do your work in blocks to lessen the strain. After finishing one lesson, take a five minute break before moving on.



KEEP YOUR ROUTINE

Treat your day as if you're going to school. Get up, take a shower, have breakfast.





CRAWFORD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

HOW TO BE A GOOD ONLINE STUDENT

**IT'S A LOT EASIER THAN IT LOOKS! JUST
FOLLOW THESE TIPS EVERY DAY**

—

- Come to class on time
- Fill the attendance registration form
- Remember your ABC - Always Be Courteous
- Study and do your homework

YOU CAN TALK TO YOUR TEACHER ANY TIME ABOUT THESE!
READ THE COMPLETE OFFICIAL GUIDELINE BY [CLICKING HERE](#)





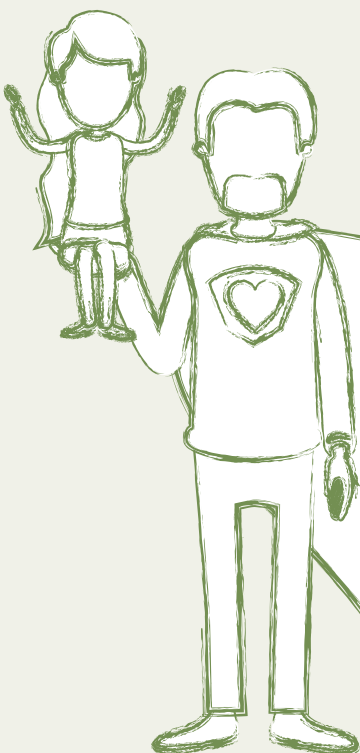
CRAWFORD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Poetry Competition

Celebrating our Mums,nDads and Guardians through prose.

- Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10
- Father's Day is Sunday June 21

Show your appreciation for your mum/dad/guardian by writing him/her a poem.



**Submission Deadline is
Friday, May 1!**

The top 3 submissions in each key stage will be published in the school newsletter and on our social media pages!

Details on next page.

signs of the island being brought back to life anyway, I had



Poetry Competition Guidelines

1. Celebrate your mom/dad/guardian by writing him or her a special poem.
2. Submit your poetry masterpiece to your English subject teacher or class teacher by Friday, May 1. Kindergarten students submit a drawing.
3. Only one submission per student.
4. Winners will be announced in the newsletter and during assembly.
5. Winning submissions are the top 3 poems in the following groups: KG and Key Stages 1 to 4.
6. Winning entries will be published on and around their respective holidays - Mother's Day or Father's Day.

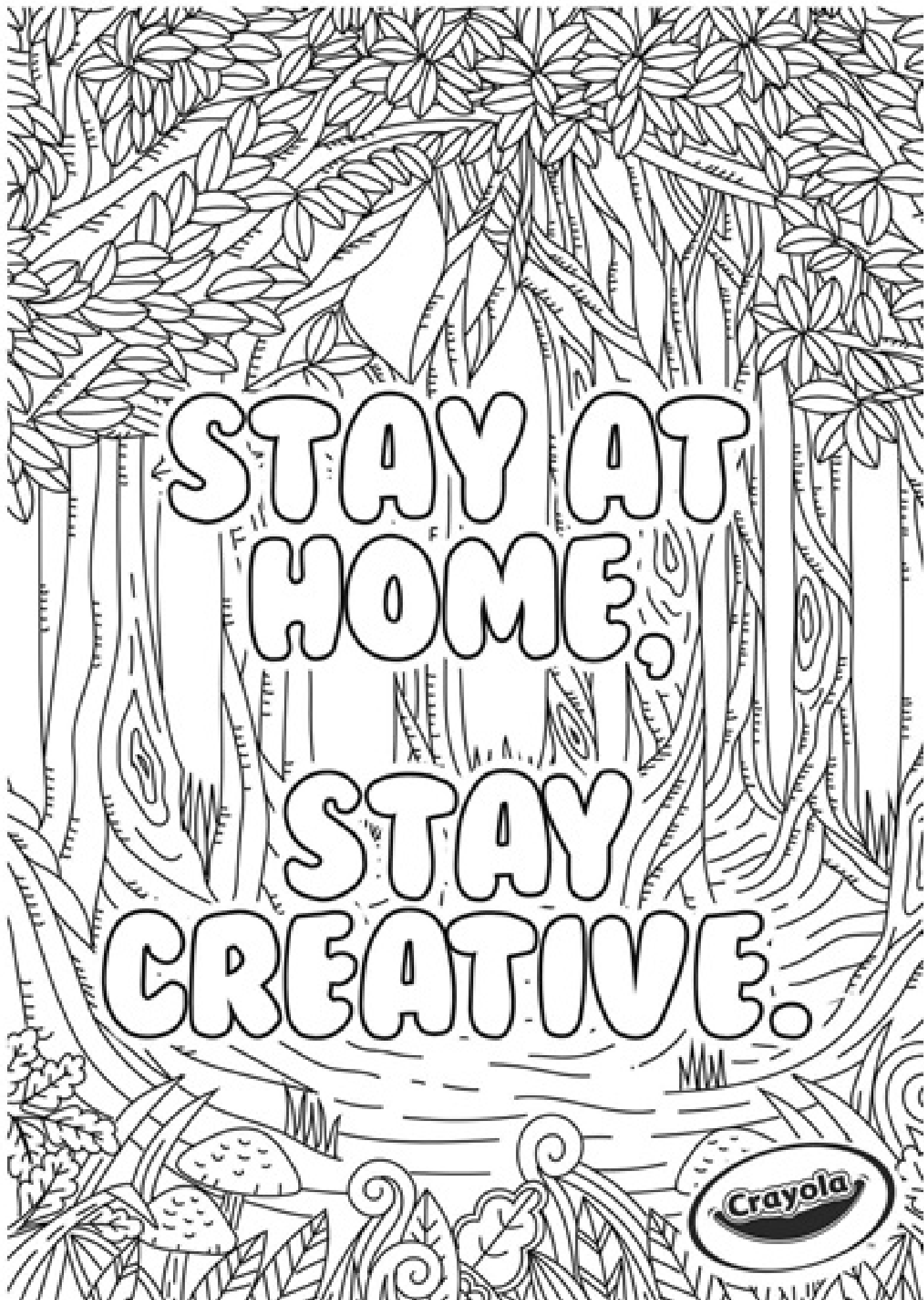
Crawford International School Celebrates all Families

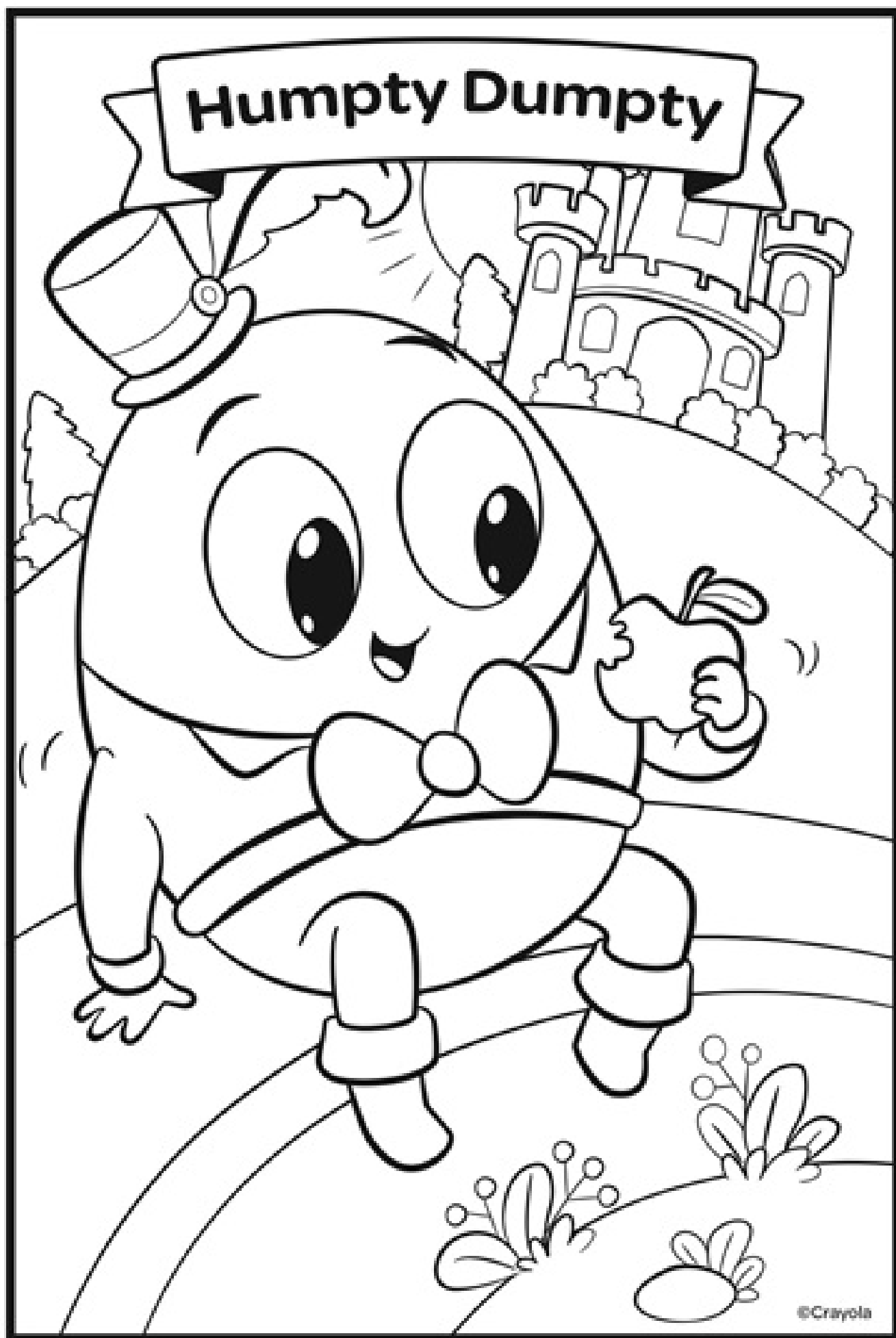


TAKE A BREAK...

**COLOR YOUR WORLD WITH THESE
FUN PAGES COURTESY OF CRAYOLA**



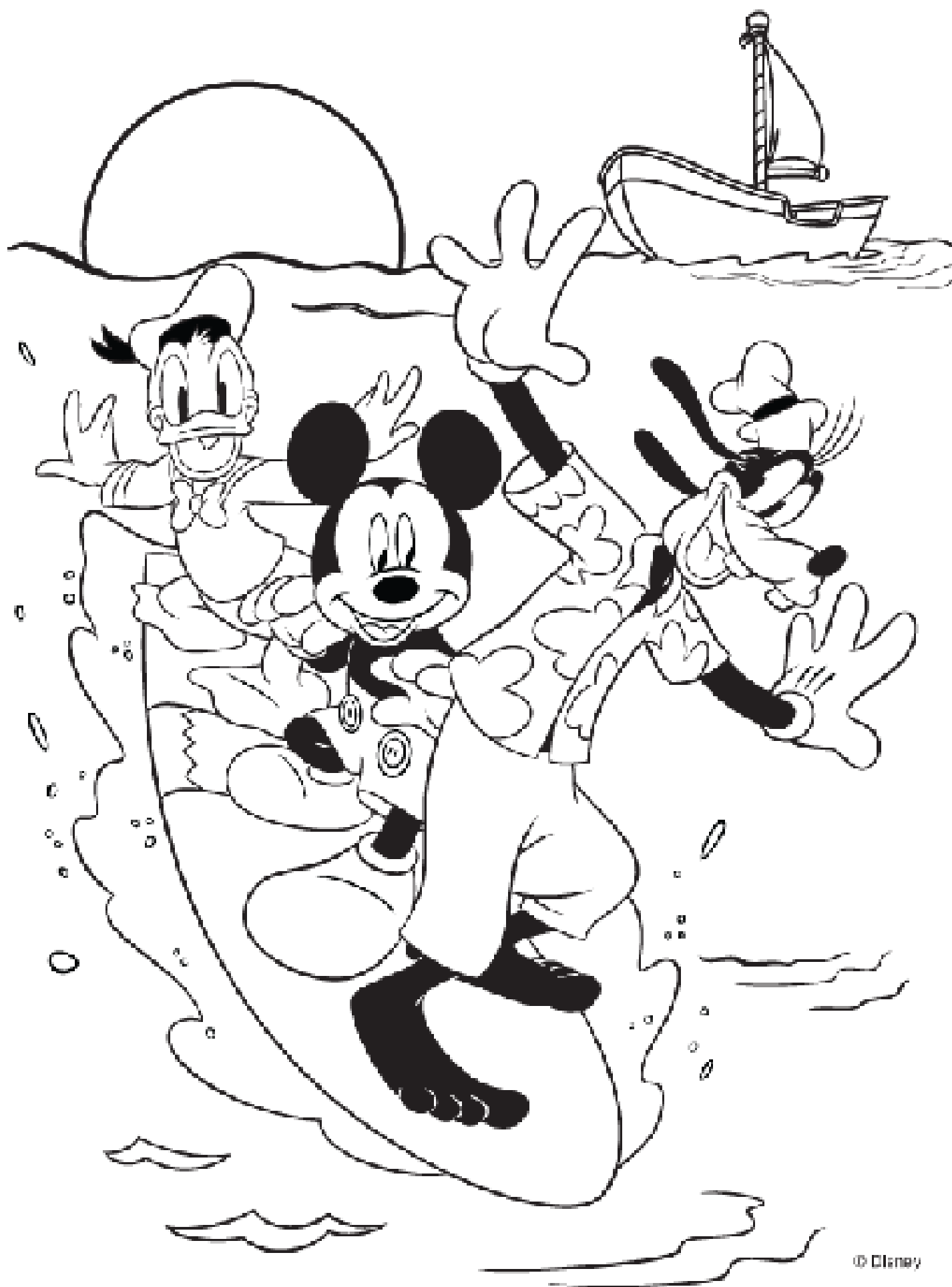








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