



## February 2021

# N e w s l e t t e r

### READING

Learning to read is a key goal for children. There are two skills to reading:

1. Phonics- sounding out words
2. Comprehension- understanding what is read.

Any quality time you can spend hearing your child read is a bonus. It is important that your child reads a variety of books and is read to, even when they can read independently.

Please help your child get the most from reading books by asking lots of questions:

- What does that word mean?
- Can you find any interesting words/ adjectives/adverbs?
- What could happen next?
- Why did the character do or say that?
- Where is he/ she going?
- How does the character feel about what has happened?
- What do you like about this book?

'Reading books' are not the only reading material that your child can read. Children may also enjoy reading comics, recipes, information books, instructions or jokes.

### WORLD BOOK DAY

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> March

We are celebrating this with ***Humorous stories***. These books are a great source of enjoyment and we could all do with a giggle these days! Children at home or at school will get the opportunity to dress up as a book character.

*Look out for the letter more information.*

You can share the fun at school or upload photos to ClassDojo or Google Classroom.

### HOME LEARNING

This period of lockdown has presented a serious challenge for families and schools. We are working hard to support families through this national and global crisis.

We know many parents are juggling work and caring responsibilities, alongside home-schooling. But these are not normal times and you should not feel under pressure. Be kind to your children and to yourselves because home is not school!

Teachers understand the pressures you are all facing and also know that children respond in different ways to set work.

Please just do what you can and reassure your child that we are here to help and are all looking forward to classroom days when government policy allows. The plan for schools opening depends on the virus and NHS data for the safety of everyone.

### PARENT VIEWS

Thank you for completing the Remote Learning Survey.

My child has access to a computer/ tablet	95%
My child is willing to engage in the learning	77%
I found the learning platforms easy to access	75%
My child has the right amount of work	78%
The level of work is about right	85%
My child struggles with the amount of work	36%
Activities are set in most subjects	75%
Online platforms are working well	78%

How can we improve home learning?

More virtual face-to-face contact with teachers.	77%
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**So....we will be holding 'Google Meet' sessions and videos for each class. Look out for the teachers' messages!**

## Children's Mental Health Week 1-7 Feb

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is **Express Yourself**. Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts or ideas, through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make you feel good. The Duchess of Cambridge has recorded a message too!

### **Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb is 'Inside Out Day'!**

Pupils, parents and teachers will be asked to wear an item of clothing inside out to remind us to be *kind* to others. How we look on the outside is not always how we are feeling on the inside. Take time to think about how other people may be feeling on the inside.



## Safer Internet Day Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Feb

We teach children about e-safety but we cannot control the access they have to the Internet outside school. This is so important these days!

The theme this year is '**An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world. Together for a better internet**'

Children need to learn about safe use of the internet. The online world is a great source of information for young people and they have opportunities to learn new facts or skills. The internet is also an important way for young people to build positive friendships - to play, interact and share their lives with their peers. As they navigate these social spaces, they are constantly making decisions about who and what to trust online in the context of playing games together and socialising online. **Safer Internet Day** gives young people the chance to build the skills they need to be able to make the best decisions as they navigate an online world where everything is not always as it seems.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>

## CONGRATULATIONS!

**Well done to all the super Home Learners and their families. You are doing a great job and we really do appreciate all your efforts.**



### Stars of the Week:

Mia R, Evelyn, Mabel, Sylvie, Sebastian, Will D, Jacob H, Kaitlin F, James C and Ozzy.

### Citizens of the Week:

Logan, India, Rudi, Noah B-S, Josh B-S, Charlie L, Megan, Jennifer, Amelie, Samuel J, Mia F and Tia-Mae.

### Sportasaurus Award:

*Term 2a Hazel Class*

Harvey, Ava, Charlie L, Lilly-Mai and Lucas Wo.

## DIARY DATES

<u>FEBRUARY</u>	
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> -Fri 5 <sup>th</sup>	Good Mental Health
Weds 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Inside Out Day
Tues 9 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	HALF TERM
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> Shrove	Pancake day
<u>MARCH</u>	
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> Dress up as a	World Book Day Funny Character!
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Mothering Sunday
15 -25 March	Parent <i>Telephone</i> Appointments
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day – 'Funny is Power'
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> 3.15pm	End of Term
<u>APRIL</u> Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Term
<u>MAY</u>	
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bank Holiday
31 <sup>st</sup> May- 4 <sup>th</sup> June	HALF TERM
<u>JUNE</u> Mon 7 <sup>th</sup>	
School begins	
<u>JULY</u>	
Weds 21 <sup>st</sup> 3.15pm	End of Year
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2021	<b>New School Year</b>

*We will plan events when we know the situation!*