



"Learning that lasts a lifetime"

HEAD'S BLOG...

What a week! It has been the BEST thing having everyone back to school. Despite a few wobbles on Monday morning, everyone has settled back into school amazingly well and are getting stuck into in-school learning with ease. This is very much down to your support of the remote education provided as this has meant we can continue on the planned learning journeys without too much trouble. Thank you!

So now we concentrate on making the most of being in school, learning together. We have some new initiatives underway to help children progress in reading and maths as well as some enhancements to our outdoor play areas. More will be revealed over the coming weeks.

In the meantime, children have had a blast observing, experimenting and investigating during Science Week (photos to follow in next week's newsletter) – thanks to Mrs Lowe for inspiring our young scientists!

Next Friday is Red Nose Day when we will encourage children to 'dress funny for money' (suggested £1 donation for comical dress-up). On this occasion, please DO NOT wear red noses as we feel this would not be in line with our Covid-19 risk assessment. More details of Red Nose Day fun are shared on the last page.

Finally, I had to share this beautiful photo of our school, sent in by a parent this week. If this doesn't encourage hope after a time of darkness, I don't know what will!

Have a lovely weekend, everyone!

Ms Carmichael



Coronavirus reminders If your child develop any symptoms of Coronavirus (persistent cough, high temperature or loss of taste / smell), s/he MUST NOT come to school and school must be informed. Call 119 or get a test online at:

<https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>

High temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).

A new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If you believe that your child is well enough to attend school and they have only symptoms of a 'common cold' such as: runny nose, sore throat or a mild cough they are permitted to attend.

The Department of Health and Social Care announced that from Monday, 1st March, households with primary school, secondary school and college age children, including childcare and support bubbles, can test themselves twice every week at home as schools return from Monday 8 March. Households, childcare and support bubbles of primary, secondary and college staff can also be tested. The twice-weekly test kits can be accessed:

via employers if they offer testing to employees, at a local test site, by collecting a home test kit from a test site, by ordering a home test kit online on this link: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Schools should not give test kits to parents, carers or household members. A letter containing advice on where to access testing will be made available for schools to share shortly.

NB: All absences must be reported to our school office by calling 01726 64322. You can leave a message if outside of office hours. Please DO NOT report absences via Class Dojo. Thank you.

Dates for your diary

2020/21 Spring Term Diary Dates:

Thurs 1st April 2021—Last day of term, no after school club

Fri 2nd Apr 2021-Fri 16th April 2021—Easter holidays

Mon 3rd May 2021—Bank Holiday

Mon 31st May 2021-Fri 4th June 2021—Half term

Fri 11th June 2021—Inset day

Fri 23rd July 2021—Last day of term

Important information

Parent Arrangements for Drop Off and Collection

Parents and carers are requested to wear face coverings when on and around the school site and follow national guidance for the wearing and storage of masks. Primary pupils are not required to wear face coverings.

Drop-off times and locations

	EYFS	KS1	Main car park
8.30	Nursery	Doves	Pelicans
8.45	Rainbows / Stars	Fish	Hope
9.00		Lambs & Angels	Phoenix
9.15		Peacocks	Faith
12.15	Nursery		

Collection times and locations

	EYFS	KS1	Main car park
11.30	Nursery		
2.45		Doves	Pelicans
3.00	Rainbows / Stars	Fish	Hope
3.15	Nursery	Lambs & Angels	Phoenix
3.30		Peacocks	Faith

Please note revised drop-off and collection times for EYFS classes.

We have noticed that some pupils are being dropped off earlier than their designated drop-off time and would like to politely remind you to ensure these timings are followed to avoid the crossing of bubbles. Class teachers are aware of which pupils they should be expecting from 8:30am and this only applies to those with siblings in Doves and Pelicans.

This week's Achievers

BBeebies

Ashli

For settling into nursery so well; for being super-confident and making new friends.

Rainbows

Alex

For his perseverance and resilience in his learning, trying his best even when he find's things tricky! Well done Alex!

Stars

Charlee-Anne

For working really hard to write her name independently.

Little Doves

William

For demonstrating his excellent reading progress this week.

Little Fish

William

For coming back to school with a super-positive attitude!

Little Lambs

Max

For excellent work in his science investigation this week.

Peacocks

Lexi-Mai

For coming back to school with an amazing attitude to your learning.

Pelicans

Gabby and Molly

For starting school with a positive attitude and lots of effort.

Phoenix

Hayden

For super multiplication of 2 and 3 digit numbers and all round great attitude to learning.

Angels

Joshua

For settling into the class so well and contributing to class discussions to share his knowledge during Science.

Faith

Noah

For amazing us with his ideas during our literacy lessons this week.

Hope

Noah

For great contributions and working collaboratively to create a fantastic mode of transport for moving around space.

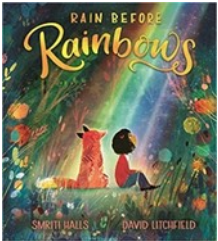
READING

Reading Recommendations

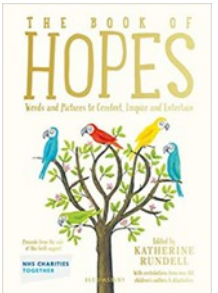
It was lovely to see so many photos and videos children reading and enjoying the reading challenges while we were away from each other. Fortunately, we are back together now and we continue our focus on reading. This week's reading recommendations are to help support children with returning to school and having hope for the future.



Ruby is very happy little girl, until she discovers she has a 'worry' that just will not leave her alone. She tries to ignore it, hoping it will go away, but Ruby realises it only goes away when she starts to talk to others about the 'worry'. This is a brilliant book to share with any young child, who might be feeling anxious about our current circumstances.



This exquisitely illustrated rhyming book is all about a girl and her fox friend who travel from a place of darkness and fear to one of colour, light and hope. Along the way they meet friends to guide and support them lead them from fear to hope which is represented by the colours and light of the beautiful illustrations. The children in Year 3 and 4 have been studying this book in English this week.






This book, which is more suited to the older children in school, is a compilation of short stories and poems by lots of popular children's authors and poems with a common theme of 'hope.' It was specifically compiled by Katherine Rundell (one of my favourite authors) to help young people be positive and look forward to the future. Whilst you can purchase this book, it is available as a download for free from the National Literacy Trust website at <https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/> - so you can have a little dip in to some of the stories and poems. Below is one of the poems from the book; it makes me smile when I read it!

Say Something Nice

Every now and then say something nice.
Say it to a friend.
Say it to a teacher.
Say it to your sister or brother, your father
or mother.
Say something nice like:
You remind me of flowers.
Or
Your hair is like fresh bread.
Or
I like sausages.
Or
You're better than asparagus.

Or
I like you more than Simon.
Just say something nice to make them feel
good.
The world is sometimes grey and things go
wrong.
But a kind word, and a smile, can turn it
back around.
Say something nice like:
That wasn't a very good poem,
But a like it when it stopped.


By A.F. Harrold

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ONLINE SAFETY

Back to school is an important moment for families. The multi-award-winning **BBC Own It** keyboard and app is a useful tool to have on your child's phone as they re-enter the world of classroom learning.

What is the BBC Own It app?

The Own It app will provide a helping hand to your child, supporting their digital wellbeing, showing them how to make smarter and better-informed choices and helping them grow into confident, positive and happy digital citizens.

Using a combination of self-reporting and 'machine learning', the app builds up a picture of your child's digital wellbeing and serves relevant information designed to help your child understand the impact that their online behaviours can have on themselves, and on others, helping them to develop healthy online habits and behaviours, and also encouraging your child to have conversations with you when they are feeling sad or worried.

How does it work?

There are two parts to the app. The first is a custom keyboard. When the child uses the keyboard, the information they type is analysed in real-time and the Own It app uses it to build up a picture of your child's activity.

Based on this picture, the app will recommend content to the child that might be helpful, or it might intervene as the child is typing something to check that they are happy to share the information with others.

For example, if your child is typing some personal information such as a mobile number or email address, the app will intervene and tell the child to 'think safe' before sharing. Or if a child types something that might be an unkind message, the app will intervene and ask them if they really want to say that. If a child types something that indicates they might be sad or worried, the app will intervene and suggest some content that might help them to feel better.

The child is also encouraged to 'self-report' how they are feeling within the app itself by selecting an emoji that best reflects their mood. They can also choose to leave a note, just as they might in a diary. The app will also be able to track some device usage information, such as how many times a child picks up their phone to check for messages/notifications, or if the phone is used at night-time. This information can be used to help the child understand how to develop healthy digital habits.

What happens to the information my child types using the keyboard?

Everything your child types into the keyboard is processed within the app on your child's phone by the machine learning and then discarded – this happens instantaneously. None of this information is ever passed back to the BBC.

Where can I get the app?

The BBC Own It app is available in the Google Play and Apple app stores and it's free to download. If you're under 13, make sure your parent or guardian has given you permission first.



RED NOSE DAY 2021



It's almost here again!

The day that we've all come to love.....not just because we enjoy it's total silliness, but for the amazing causes that it supports.

What will Red Nose Day look like in school this year?

Due to the current restrictions, unfortunately it just won't be feasible to have red noses in school BUT we won't let that stop the fun, games and laughter. We CAN still come to school dressed in the wackiest way possible and of course with crazy hair!! Please pay a donation (we suggest £1) to come dressed '**funny for money**'!



In addition, each class will put on an '**LOL show**' - we need your funny jokes, dances, songs etc. Please also pay £1 to enter your class show! It'll be lots of fun, to make sure this year's event is enjoyed just as much as in previous years!

As we are a cashless school, please make any donations via ParentPay-
The payment item is called 'Red nose day donations'
(sorry we are unable to accept cash).

OTHER NOTICES



Bug-busting plea!

Surprisingly, there seem to be a few cases of nits around. Can we ask that you check your child's hair regularly and treat any cases as soon as possible to prevent a spread of these annoying critters?

Many thanks.