

Dear parents/carers and children,

22nd January 2021

No 18 Newsletter

This week, I wanted to share with you my reflections from the last couple of weeks at school. I have had many conversations with families at home and as you come to the gate to drop or collect children and equipment. It has been lovely to have the time to catch-up with you and find out how things are going. I want to acknowledge in this letter, the determination you are all showing to support your children to continue with their education in this unprecedented time. I fully appreciate that remote learning is asking you to have a different relationship with your children and that this can add strain or upset at times. I want to say again, that the remote learning offer is in line with government requirements, but please work through it in a way that best fits your children and family life.

I have heard of some inventive ideas such as keeping to a timetable with set break and lunch times and even getting dressed in school uniform at home 😊. I have heard of the whole family working towards a treat at the end of the day, such as all going for a walk together or watching a film. Whatever works for you, however flexible you need your daily timetable to be to keep your family safe and happy and well, is how you need to work.

We will continue to make phone calls and send email responses, so please let us know if we can help in any other way. Continue to be kind to yourselves and give yourselves a pat on the back – learning at home is not the easiest, but you are all doing your best and that is all we can ask.

Whole school focus:

Next week, 29th -31st January, the RSPB have their annual Big Garden Birdwatch. We intend to take part at school and thought you may like to at home. Everyone can take part for free, whether you're a novice birdwatcher, or a seasoned pro. It's also a good way to get outside for an hour in the fresh air! For more information visit their website: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>

Celebrations:

Again, it was lovely to spend time with so many of you this morning during our remote whole-school assembly. Here is the glass frog with its transparent body: well done to Clara from Reception who I believe gave us the official name in the comments bar.

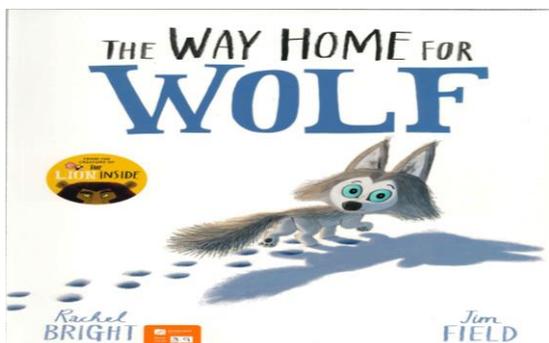


Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.

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Here also, is Mr Johnston sharing his live science lesson. Please may I remind all those at home that our remote learning policy asks that there are no screen shots or photos taken off the screen during. Thank you for supporting us with this.

Learning behaviour stickers will be added to assignments only and these will be awarded by teachers and school staff. We are encouraging all the children in Years 1 to 6 to continue to work towards their learning behaviour badges and we will record these in school. Notification of who has achieved their badge or coloured section, will be celebrated in our virtual assemblies each week.

Gold Cards

Yew Class: Sienna, Bruce.

Hazel Class: Austin.

Hawthorn Class: Olivia.

Behaviour for Learning Celebrations:

Acorn Class: **Amelia** for the way she has been expressing and recording her ideas in Maths. **Isabella** for her fantastic progress with her writing.

Oak Class: **Jake** for keeping going, working really hard. **Arthur** for being motivated and engaged, working really hard.

Beech Class: **Luca** for such great English work this week at home. **Verity** for excellent effort and progress in phonics.

Willow Class: **Oscar B** for always being patient, responding politely and saying thank you at the end of live sessions. **Dylan** for completing all work, in all subjects, to a high standard.

Hawthorn Class: **Ava** for keeping going and having some super ideas in her story writing this week. **Kaici** for playing hopscotch outside and being creative with new ideas at playtime.

Hazel Class: **Laila** for being motivated and engaged in her learning. Well done Laila! **Ollie** for keeping going and producing from very good written work. Well done!

Yew Class: **Rebekah** for consistently trying her best in all tasks. **Bruce** for thoughtful description and use of similes in his English work.

Platinum Bag:

Willow Class: Oliver J & Benjamin.

Hawthorn Class: Archie & Lillie.

Hazel Class: Ollie, Gracie, Jessica, Julia, Ben & Leyland.

Yew Class: Sienna, Theo & Ellie.



Badges:

Class	Badge	Green
Willow		Sophia
Hawthorn	Ava & Oscar F	
Hazel		Brooke, Leyland, Imogen, Julia, Florence & Kyle

Below, I have listed some services and support which may be of help; please let me know if there is more we can do to support:

Heating costs for home-schooling:

Many families may see dramatic increases in their utility bills over the next few weeks, particularly for heating costs. There is some support for those on lower incomes via local authorities <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-winter-grant-scheme> and there may be extra help from directly from the suppliers, families can also contact their supplier to arrange to pay over a longer period. The Moneysaving Expert website <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/> also has lots of advice for families.

Equipment and internet support:

We have requested more laptops from DfE and are awaiting a delivery. We are able, I believe, to ask for support regarding improving internet strengths for families at home and again please let me know if you would like me to apply for this on your behalf.

These companies include: Three, Smarty, Virgin Mobile, EE, Tesco Mobile and Sky Mobile. The government address is: <https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/about-increasing-mobile-data>

Going forward, our numbers in school are continuing to rise and we ask again, in the spirit of the guidance, that all parents who have requested places, or are considering requesting places, under the umbrella of critical worker status, do so only on those days when their child cannot be at home.

Kind regards



Tracey Hart
Headteacher

All children who attend school on a Friday should bring wellies. Also, please bring trainers to school on the day your child is due to do PE. In school we are following the same timetable as the children at home. All PE lessons for children at school will be outside, weather permitting. Please wear appropriate uniform to allow this to take place. Children will not be changing clothes for these activities.

School Meals – for those children in school we are still offering hot dinner, please order as usual via parentpay.

