

Dear parents/carers and children,

12th February 2021

No 21 Newsletter



Taking a break from the **DISCO**, I want to start with two messages of thanks. The first is to the whole school community for all the hard work everyone has put in during this lockdown. Parents and children alike, your commitment and dedication are the reason this half term has been so positive. Really well done everyone, you have all worked so hard and deserve a relaxing and enjoyable half term.

The second thank you is to all the active children and families running, walking, cycling and jogging past school each day. On Wednesday, I had my first remote learning day and worked from home to help support reducing the number of people in school. To start the day, instead of driving to work, I was determined to follow your lead and head out with Willow our dog, into the icy air. I was so pleased I did. My gentle 7 am jog allowed me to see and hear so many wildlife creatures and birds and I watched the sun getting higher in the sky before heading back for breakfast and working from home. Here is an egret I saw on my walk/run. Doesn't she look magnificent!



Picking up a pile of fruit and veg: It was lovely to see so many of you collect the fruit and veg from outside of school on Wednesday, we hope you enjoyed eating them all.

Look out in the Post: We have tried our best to get everything sent out to you by today, so look out for the postman over the holiday for badges and certificates 😊.

Children Survey

Thank you, children, for completing your on-line survey. We are really pleased you let us know how you are doing and feeling. It is comforting to know that you are enjoying remote learning with your pets by your side – I'm sure there are going to be some very clever animals by the time we come out of lockdown! I also know you are all missing your friends; let's all dance together this afternoon at the disco. The recording will stay up for 20 days so you can dance away as many times as you want 😊. Thank you to Mr Bowditch-Taylor for recording the disco for us.

Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.

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Informing school of positive COVID cases over the half term

Please can I remind all families that we need to know if there are any positive Covid-19 cases in school families during the first 48 hours of the half term (Saturday and Sunday). Please notify the school email account tatworth@educ.somerset.gov.uk and send a copy of the positive test result too. Many thanks.

We also need to know of any other test results taken during half term on Sunday 21st February so that we can ascertain the impact on school. Again, please submit these test results to the school email account. Thank you.

Parent Survey

I have attached a paper on the finding of our recent parent survey. Thank you all for your comments; we will endeavour to work together to make the remote learning experience as positive as possible and await the government guidance due on 22nd February regarding school opening from 8th March. Please continue to contact the school office if you need to borrow equipment or have any questions. We will be sending out a SEND survey after half term.

Free School Meals – amended guidance

The government has confirmed that the current arrangement for providing vouchers or food parcels to children eligible for free school meals and who are learning from home, will continue after the half-term holiday, until Friday 5 March. Support to families over half-term can be provided through the [Covid Winter Grant scheme](#). We will also continue to provide parents/carers with a £15 voucher for each child for half term to cover the cost of their lunches. The vouchers will be slightly delayed but will be with you soon.

The link to enquire about eligibility to benefit-related free school meals and pupil premium is below. It is a straight forward on-line form which takes a few moments to complete. I would recommend all families to try the link regularly: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/free-school-meals/#Apply>

Somerset Youth Choir

I have been asked to share information about the Somerset Youth Choir which is open to children aged 8 to 12. Please click on the link to find out more: [SomersetCountyYouthChoir](#)

The Great Big Art Exhibition

You will all remember the *Rainbows for the NHS* that were in windows across the country during the last lockdown. Well, excitingly, Sir Antony Gormley has just launched what is hoped to be the biggest art exhibition ever mounted, and we would like our school and community to get involved. Not only will this give families the opportunity to express themselves through art, but also to connect with the community by sharing their art in their windows. We hope that by the end of February, Tatworth and its surrounding area will be part of *The Great Big Art Exhibition* and you will all have the opportunity to visit for free! During half term, the focus is on animals so please feel free to create animal pictures and put these in your windows. We would love to see them in school too.

24hour Webcam

The hatching ducklings will be in school from 15th March – if anyone knows how we can set up a 24hour webcam please let me know. Our technical knowledge in school is improving, but I am not sure we are yet at the expert level to get this sorted 😊.



Celebrations:

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. Detailed information for each class is on the school website here:

<https://www.tatworth.somerset.sch.uk/curriculum/behaviour-for-learning/>

Behaviour for Learning Celebrations:

Gold Cards this week: Oak Class: Declan, Olivia B, Jake, Clayton, Daniel & Joel.

Acorn Class: Alan for his fantastic art and positive attitude towards his learning.

Oak Class: Freddie for his fantastic effort with his handwriting. **Harper** for the lovely work she has produced. **Darcey** for the lovely work she has produced.

Beech Class: Adley and Luca, both for all of their efforts and hard work at home and for producing some wonderful work.

Willow Class: Hannah for challenging and building on other people's ideas respectfully and supportively. **Harrison** for one hundred catches of a ball bounced off a wall in PE (more actually as he kept going!)

Hawthorn Class: Oscar F for very impressive engagement and motivation in his remote learning this half term. He always works hard and has joined all our live lessons. **Erin** for her contributions to class discussions and focussed engagement in her learning. She is always super helpful too!

Hazel Class: Lewis for aiming high in his home learning and producing great work both in Maths and English. **Matilda** for being a fantastic risk taker and really engaging with all the math challenges.

Yew Class: George for being a supportive and responsible classmate. **Harry F** for thinking carefully about how to include all the techniques we have been working on in his writing.

Platinum Bag:

Acorn Class: Cohen, Fergus, Sebastian, Dottie, Amelia, Belle, Thea, Ava, Clara, Rowan, Rosalie & Isabella

Oak Class: Harper & Ziggy

Beech Class: Joseph and Edward

Willow Class: Abi & Billy

Yew Class: Bruce

Badges:

Class	Badge	Green Person
Oak		Daniel, Olivia, Jake, Ava, Zephyr & Declan.
Beech		Rita & Benjamin.
Willow		Harriet, Erin, Eli, Benjamin, & Hannah.
Hawthorn	Loren	Kaici, Rowan, Charlie G, Iestyn, Jacob, Josh H, Josh T & Oscar F.
Hazel		Matilda & Skye.
Yew		Rebekah, Jasper, Theo, Izzy, George & Bruce.



Reminders:

Critical Worker School Places

In order to help us with planning our school provision for those pupils attending, we have requested that all parents whose children are attending school, to supply details of their work shifts/rota or hours of work. This evidence can be a simple email from your employer. Please email these to tatworth@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Many thanks.

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.

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.

Parents' Evening

We have planned again for parents' evening to be virtual via Schoolcloud for Thursday, 25th February and Tuesday, 2nd March 4- 6pm. Please visit <https://tatworth.schoolcloud.co.uk/> to book your appointments. Appointments can be made from now and bookings will close at 3.30pm on Tuesday 2nd March, before the final day of meetings. Please contact the school email if you need support to book.

Y6 Leavers Hoodies – the order letter went out last week, please order these directly with Cupine Embroidery by **Friday 19th February**.

Today we break for half term, and return on Monday 22nd February for critical and vulnerable children with everyone else continuing with their remote learning. I hope you all manage to get plenty of fresh air, stay safe and well and have restful, quality family time.

Kind regards



Tracey Hart
Headteacher

Attachments:

Pupil questionnaire survey

NOS – Keeping children safe from cyber crime

