

# **Newsletter**

5th November 2020

**Welcome back** to the start of Term 2. We have enjoyed seeing the children again and hearing about their news.

Thank you to everyone who has responded so positively to the guidance we shared at the start of the week. In this newsletter, we will confirm our arrangements as we start Lockdown 2, amid rising cases of COVID-19 in our area.

## We want to help – HVA COVID-19 Response Team

You and your household will have to isolate in your house if you or a member of your household has tested positive for COVID-19. This means you will not be able to leave the house and if you are unwell, we are ready to support you. You may not have anyone to ask to help you to get essential supplies. Please get in touch with us and we can help.

Are you prepared to help others and be in the HVA COVID-19 Response Team? Please complete the survey below if you want to be on our register of parents who we could contact to support others: https://tinyurl.com/y3leapzd

## Drop-off and collections:

- 8:35 am (this is 5 minutes later): Children can arrive with parents and use the playground space. There can be no 'drop-offs' earlier than 8:40 am as we do not have the staff supervision in the playground and classrooms are not open.
- 8:40 am: Classrooms are ready to receive children.
- 8:40 am: Year 4 and 5 children, whose parents have notified the school that their child can walk to and from school, can begin to arrive and go straight to classrooms.
- There is a 20 minute 'window' for arriving and registering (8:40 am 9:00 am).
- One parent only per family for school drop and end of day collections.
- An encouragement and our recommendation for all adults/parents to wear masks as soon as they enter the school gates.
- Parents to encourage children from Year 1 onwards to walk to their classrooms from the school gates from 8:40 am (not the car park gates).
- For reception parents, use the one-way system with the extra gate.
- Please try to allow people to pass when walking through all school gates; single file is very helpful.
- Thank you in advance for trying your very best to provide all equipment at the start of the day and avoid going to the office to drop off items in the day.

## Face-coverings being worn by staff / children

Please be ready to notice or hear children share that



staff in school may wear face coverings from time to time. For several reasons, some staff may choose to wear a mask or visor. Thank you in advance for supporting our dedicated school staff with this.

The government has shared that there is no expectation for primary age children to wear a face covering. If children do wish to wear a face covering on their way to and from school, we ask that either the face covering is taken home by the adult during the day, or that an appropriate sealable storage container (e.g. sealable plastic bag, zip bag/pencil case, Tupperware container) is provided so that the face covering can be stored safely. If children feel they need or want to wear face coverings, they can wear masks/face coverings in communal areas (playgrounds, toilets, walking through the school). This does not include classrooms. Please note, we reserve the right to support appropriate use of face coverings in the interests of health and safety.

### **Parents Evenings**

Many of you have signed up to Parents Evenings. These will be taking place by telephone. Please expect this phone call to be made from either the school landline or a withheld number. Withheld numbers will be used as the school has limited phones in school and our teachers will be calling from their personal mobile phones.

## Has your child started doodling yet?

We believe the children are doing great if they complete regular reading, practise spellings and access the homework menu of opportunities.

The school has invested in access to Doodle Tables, Maths, English and Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG) for Year 1-5. You can download each app and your passwords provided last term will work for all of them.

We have seen rapid progress in those children who have improved their basic knowledge through using these apps regularly.

Our advice to get the most from these fun gamesbased apps is to follow a timetable similar to below. It is not compulsory.

10 minutes a day accessing one app, once a week.

- Monday: Doodle Tables
- Tuesday: Doodle Spellings
- Wednesday: Doodle English
- Thursday: Doodle SPAG



#### **Snacks for school**



Over the half term on social media, we shared the help for supporting children in school who do not bring in a healthy snack, as children in Year 3-5 do not receive the free fruit and vegetables provided by the government. Whilst we always distribute extras, some children,

through no fault of their own, do not come to school with a snack. We have an Amazon Public Wishlist: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/y2aesskz">https://tinyurl.com/y2aesskz</a> that any parent can access and purchase snacks we have identified as nut-free that can be stored and shared. Thank you in advance if you choose to support.

#### **Foodbank**

Please continue to support our Weston-super-Mare Foodbank collection for this term. We welcome:

- Personal hygiene items including nappies, toothpaste, toothbrushes, sanitary towels, soaps, deodorants and shampoo.
- Tinned food
- Dried food pasta, rice, cereals

We are targeting a delivery every two weeks as we run into Christmas. All items can be brought into school with your child.

## **Children in Need**

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November is the televised appeal day. During the week and on the day, we will help the children to understand the causes the appeal supports.



Next week, on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, your child can accessorise their school uniform with spotty clothes or Children in Need items. Children could also:

- wear Children in Need clothes.
- accessorise their hair or even change the colour.
- wear some face paint spots on their face.

We will welcome 20p, 50p, £1 or £2 change donations. We will collect in a bucket and clean before counting.

## Royal British Legion (RBL) - Poppies

We will have a sale of items throughout next week for RBL items (pencils, poppies, wristbands). Prices vary from 20p – 50p. Children can bring money with them from Monday.



## A great start back

The children in many classes have been undertaking assessments this week, but they have also enjoyed other learning opportunities:



As Historians, Year 5 had an Egyptologist from Weston College supporting the 'ignition' of their Ancient Egyptian theme of enquiry.

As Artists, Pre-school have explored colour. There are Firework pictures on twitter or children's Tapestry accounts.



As Historians, or rather 'bakers', Year 2 enjoyed baking bread as they began to explore the reasons for the Great Fire of London in 1666.



As Artists, Reception children painted clay Autumn leaves which are on display in school for everyone to see.



As Writers, Year 1 were recreating stories as animal characters.

## Final quick news:

- ✓ Mrs Giles had a baby boy Vincent!
- ✓ Have a watch of our 21/22 Virtual Tour for 21/22 Reception parents:

### https://youtu.be/7Ma1J8g7YhY

✓ Last term we said goodbye to Mrs Weeks as she moved to a new job and we welcome Mrs Simms into our school office team.

Mr Jones

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