



## Newsletter - 24<sup>th</sup> April

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Welcome

I would like to wish you all a very warm welcome back to the new school term, and express the huge thanks of the staff at the school for all you are doing to support your children in their learning during this very difficult period.

Teachers have resumed setting lessons via our website online platform. Well done to all of those who have accessed and either messaged or submitted work.

### Reception Parents

If your child is in Reception class there is some activities set in the homework section of your child's page. Please do take the opportunity to take a look and access if you wish. Also, I know many of you were asking about show and tell as I understand that you have been shared on your class Whatsapp group. We know that not all of you are part of the parent group and would love to be able to see and hear what the children have been up to and, would like to be able to share your child's Show and Tell with the rest of the class via tapestry - which we can do as individual videos shared through the new Memo function.

If you would like to share your Show and Tell Whatsapp clip the whole class then please add it as a personal observation on Tapestry and we will upload it for their friends to enjoy. Alternatively, if you wish to add a video clip directly to Tapestry we can, then share it with the group. By sharing your Show and Tell clips with us, we will assume you are happy for them to be shared with the rest of the class.

### Facebook

In light of the current situation I decided to create a closed facebook page which provides a live feed helping us all to keep in touch. The page was launched just before Easter and we now have many of you who are members. We will share on here articles, activities and news items that we think will be of interest to you. You can search for us on facebook.

### Design a Class Icon Image - Online Learning Platform

Each class has an icon badge that is displayed by the class teacher name(s). We would like the children to design a picture that we can use on the website for their class page icon. You just need to include the title of your class, for example, YR, Y1 or Y2. The rest is up to the children's creativity. The teaching staff will choose one to use as their class icon. Please upload your image to your class teacher via the online messaging platform. We look forward to seeing your ideas! Thank you.



**Covid-19 Coronavirus Updates**

Over the last few weeks we have sent out a lot of information to you regarding resources available to support you and your children at this time. We have pooled this together into one dedicated area on our website which we hope will provide you with an easy way to access this information. Our newsletters and updates will be posted here at the present time. [Covid-19 - Coronavirus Update](#)

**Happy Earth Day!**

Thank you to you all for celebrating Earth Day on Wednesday. Miss Lewis invited the children to send in their eco-art creations to celebrate. She was blown away by the number of creations that were sent in. They were all amazing and can be seen on our website and facebook page. [Earth Day](#)

**Star of the Week**

Well done to all of the children for their hard work this week. Our stars of the week are:

Reception	Yr1	Yr2
Isaac	Pippa	Ella
Bradley	Hazel	Dominic
Freddie	Grace	Gabriel
Safia	Tomas	Rory
Teddy	Martha	Finley M
Griffin	Maggie	Angus
Oliver C	Elliot	Ella
Huxley	Kiran	Niamh
	Harry W	Poppy
	Alice	Gabe
	Olivia B	Corah
	Charlie	Merry
	Ellie	Toby
	Bradley	Alice
	Sophie	Finley G
	Kyle	Tilly
	Gabriella	Lucy
	Oscar	
	Orhan	
	Leo	
	Lexi	



## Home Learning

I appreciate there is an awful lot of resources out there on the web at present and although helpful is also incredibly overwhelming.

The Government announced a new on-line learning centre called “Oak National Academy”, which has lots of on-line lessons. In addition, BBC Bitesize has been enhanced to include more lesson-based resources for a range of subjects. I've included the links here if you would like to have a look at what is available.

[Oak National Academy](#)

[BBC Bitesize Daily Lessons](#)

At the end of last week, the department for Education produced some new information for Parents and Carers regarding school closures, and it can be found here.

## [Guidance for Parents and Carers](#)

As I mentioned in my previous email some children may find it easier to be in a school type routine and doing lots of activities however this is not for all children for every day as they may find they are struggling with Mum or Dad as a parent as well as being their teacher at home. Please take each day as it comes and do your best.

As you can see from the timetable I sent out this week, we would not expect children to be sitting at home learning for 6 hours (the time they would normally be in school). We suggest around 2 and a half hours of home learning split across the whole day. Concentration spans and wriggly little people cannot sustain long periods of sitting still. However, I would like to also say the main priority for all children and their parents is emotional needs and health needs are met and not to feel you have to tackle every single activity as it is set.

I appreciate that not all parents may have access to the same technologies at home and we tried to make everything as accessible as possible.

The attached sheets to each activity are there for those who wish to print off and use but likewise are also there as a model for what is expected of the children in school and if you like a frame to help them. You are more than welcome to use them as a model to work from and then your child to work in their home learning book or records their thoughts in a different way, whether by drawing their responses, doing a practical activity that can then be photographed or just a chat with you about what he has learned from the powerpoints.

All of these methods are extremely useful for your child’s learning and for them to be able to share when they return to their classrooms.

The uploading aspect of the platform is for the activities directly related to the learning tasks. However, we would still love to see the other things that your child has



been doing. Please send them to the office email as we love to see what everyone has been learning and doing.

There is no necessity to print, this is purely optional. We recommend you adapt the activity to a way that works best for you at home. We suggestion you can either record it in the home learning book, a separate sheet of paper or exercise book.

You can even complete the activity practically, take a photo of if and upload it as evidence. All of these ideas are perfectly acceptable to help your child with their home learning.

We will share some of these with their friends so they can keep in touch and also see what each other has been doing.

In addition, we have received a request from Thames Valley Police to send you the attached letter about on-line safety during the school closure. It contains some very specific information about the sorts of risks that could be present on-line and some very useful resources that you can access.

Thank you once again for all you are doing.

### **Coronavirus Book**

A free information book has been produced explaining the Coronavirus to children, illustrated by Gruffalo illustrator Axel Scheffler. The book answers key questions in simple language appropriate for 5 to 9 year olds. The book is attached to our newsletter and can be downloaded from our website. [Helping Children Understand Covid-19](#)

### **Buckinghamshire Libraries**

Library buildings may be closed but the library service is still very active and they have been promoting their digital services to deliver the best possible service to their customers at this time. There is still have access to a wide range of reading, listening, education support and information materials.

Since the beginning of March they have welcomed 444 new online. If you are not already member, join now at the link below (and no need to collect your membership card until libraries reopen).

[Join Buckinghamshire Digital Library](#)

They have increased their stock of eBooks and eAudiobooks, so there is even more choice, and they are also exploring ways of making even more of our eReference resources available from home.



### Aylesbury Food Bank

As you will all know, COVID-19 has caused a great deal of disruption, not just in our area, but nationally and globally. Aylesbury Food Bank is, as ever, in need of donations. Over the past few weeks, they have had many generous contributions, both in the form of food and monetary donations, but there are a few things they are running low on (list below), as well as an increase in demand.

They are in need of:

- Powdered milk
- Tea
- Coffee
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned fruit
- Table Sauces, e.g. Ketchup
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes (singles if possible)

If you would like to help you can donate these items at Waitrose or Tesco Broadfields, just speak to a security guard as the collection crates have been moved to a secure area. You can also donate directly to the unit at 44 Rabans Close, Monday to Thursday, between 11am and 3pm

If you would like to donate, but would rather do so in a different way, please feel free to visit our Golden Giving page at <https://www.goldengiving.com/wall/aylesbury-foodbank> Thank you for your support.

### School Nursing Information

The Schools Nursing team have sent a letter to all parents advising of the support they can provide at this time and how to contact them. This can be downloaded from our website. [School Nursing Team](#)

### Save the Food Poetry Competition

Here is a fun and optional poetry competition that your child may like to enter via this link. [Poetry Competition](#)

Climate experts say that tackling food waste is one of the most important things we can do to help the planet. They want to get children engaged with the food waste movement. Their poem has to be about food waste. Entrants could submit a rhyming set of instructions relaying the best tip for using up stale bread, a haiku that describes



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their favourite way to fight food waste, or a couplet that simply emphasises how silly the food waste problem is. The best poems will be those that balance a good knowledge of the food waste issue with clever creativity. Good luck!