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Newsletter

Friday 5th March 2021

Dear parents/carers,

We have been busy sorting and organising the school in preparation for the full school opening on Monday to all children. Staff are really looking forward to having all the children return and providing them with the opportunity to share time with their friends (as some of them haven't seen each other from before the Christmas break). School will be opening at 8:50am as normal with class 1 entering through the front door and class 2 children entering the building through the class 2 door at the end of the lane.

The children will need to come to school...

- Wearing full school uniform
- Bring a drink
- Bring with them the workbooks that they have been recording their remote learning in.

Staff will be referring to their workbooks to best support the children with their learning when they return.

Windows and doors will be opened around the school to allow a flow of air within each room, so it is best if the children come to school with layers on as it can be a little chilly at times. Each Friday afternoon both classes will continue with their PE lessons, so children will need to come to school in their PE kits wearing school jumpers and trainers. Once again, I would advise that they either wear tracksuit bottoms/leggings as it has been cold over the last few weeks, and if we can, PE lessons will take place outside.

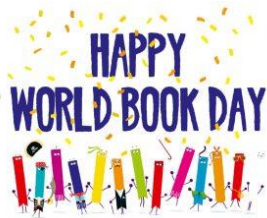
All children will need their wellies each Thursday for our forest school sessions. Mr Thomas will have his own slot in our weekly newsletter to keep you up to date with what has been going on in our forest school sessions, as well as sharing updates with the developments of our outdoor space.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our children, parents and communities for all the support and encouragement they have shown our children through these very challenging and strange times. We hope that we can now continue to build on the fantastic learning the children have been engaging whether in school or remotely and enable all our children to flourish and 'Let their Lights Shine Brightly'. Looking forward to seeing everyone again on Monday.

Take care and have a great weekend,
Mrs Cook

Dinners

Just to remind all parents that our School Gateway system is open to order your child/ren's school dinners. All dinners must be ordered by 9am each morning. Please double check that you have placed an order for your child's school lunch as all dinners are prepacked, so we don't have any spares delivered to school. Can we ask that dinner bills are settled at the end of each week, this will prevent parents having to pay a larger bill towards the end of term. Any questions about ordering dinners or payments please contact the school office.



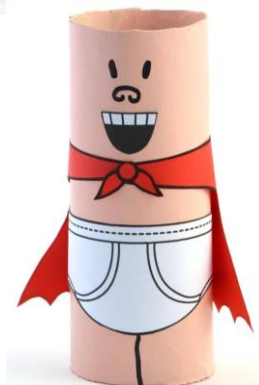
Reading and 'World Book Day'

Yesterday, Thursday 4th March was World Book Day. We are keen that this was something we did when all the children had returned to school so plan to have our own postponed World Book Day next Friday 12th March, to enable all the children to participate. We are not asking the children to dress up, but instead to bring in their favourite book that they would like to read a section of to the rest of the class. We will also be looking at a range of activities throughout the week to promote the love of reading, including a reading treasure hunt for both classes!

Toilet Roll Competition

We are running a toilet Roll competition with small prizes for the winners. The children need to use a toilet Roll to produce a character from a book. All entries will need to be in school by next Thursday afternoon (11th March) and winners will be announced the following day.

Here's some ideas for inspiration...



Learning in the classroom

We are aware that the children have all had different experiences of learning from the beginning of the Spring term in January and want to make sure that we carefully plan our curriculum to best meet the needs of all our learners. We have decided to continue with our pre-recorded sessions which will enable all staff to work closely with smaller groups of children using the same lesson content. We believe that this will allow staff to work at the children's pace, allowing them to facilitate the learning to best suit the children's needs, whilst building confidence within our children by working in smaller groups. All lessons will be uploaded on to our Class Dojo sites and we will be encouraging the children to use the Dojo site to engage in home learning activities. Over the next few weeks staff will be assessing all the children to find out more about gaps in their knowledge and understanding. This will enable us to organise pre-teach and keep up sessions for all children. Mrs Lee and I will be organising a **10-minute parent consultation** (through teams or telephone call) to share targets we have set for your child/ren on the following dates:

- **Tuesday 30th March – Mrs Lee and class 2 parents**
- **Wednesday 31st March – Mrs Cook and class 1 parents**

We hope to have sign-up sheets available for time slots by the beginning of next week. Please pop into the lobby area at the front of the school to sign up for a 10-minute slot with your child's class teacher and indicate whether you would like a telephone call or teams meeting. Parents will receive their child/ren's targets on **Friday 26th March**.



Mrs Lee and Mrs Quick alongside the children, have been working on developing the outside school spiritual area. This area will allow children to have a place where they can reflect, sit quietly or share some thoughts with others in small groups.

They plan to have wind chimes, fresh smelling herbs and flowers to attract wildlife planted in the area. Due to budget restraints, Mrs Lee has been on local Facebook pages making pleas for any donations of seeds, planters, pots, soil and wood paint (to give our benches a new lease of life). The children in school have written letters to local garden centres and we are hoping for some positive responses. If you have anything that you think would be useful or know anyone who may be able to help; donations are warmly received and we would greatly appreciate it. Please speak to Mrs Lee or Mrs Quick if you have anything to enhance our developing spiritual area.

School Residential and Sport Day Events

I am pleased to confirm that a residential for year 5 and 6 will take place in the summer term, more details to follow over the next few weeks. We hope to give the children the same experiences of a residential whilst ensuring that it is Covid safe.

Our Sports Day will also take place this year. As well as competing against each other in a wide range of events, the children at Northlew will be competing against other children across our MAT primaries, with scores of different events shared across all the schools involved. We are extremely excited about both events and once details have been finalised, look forward to sharing these with our children and parents.

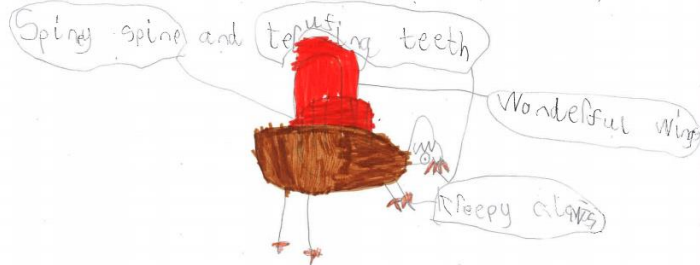
Forest School News

We are all really thrilled with our new Forest School shelter! This will mean that we are able to continue our outdoor learning in all weathers without worrying about blowing away in the wind and rain! We still have big plans for our outdoor area including some changes to our mud kitchen and some more willow planting. As usual, if you have any resources you think we may be able to use then please pass them on - and remember to bring your wellies to school every Thursday! Our first Forest School session when everyone returns to school (11/3) will be based on Stickman by Julia Donaldson, so please come to school on Thursday with a suitable stick to decorate - more details on Class Dojo!



Class 1's Learning This Week

Eng-8 Wednesday 3rd March 2021.
I can create my own dinosaur and label its features.



Hannah

This week, class 1 have created beautiful new species of dinosaur and labelled their special features using amazing alliteration. They also wrote questions to ask their dinosaur and used super punctuation. Well done everyone, excellent learning!

Thursday 4th March 2021

Ellie

Questions to ask the dinosaur

Why have you got
SPOTs?
What do you eat?
How many legs
have you got?
Where do you live?

Eng-8 Wednesday 3rd March 2021.
I can create my own dinosaur and label its features.



Ollie

To continue to practice his phonics sounds, Zac created his own 'phonics music game' in the garden to help him remember each sound. What a great idea Zac, well done!

In his maths learning, Zac has been using coins to make different amounts of money. Great learning Zac!



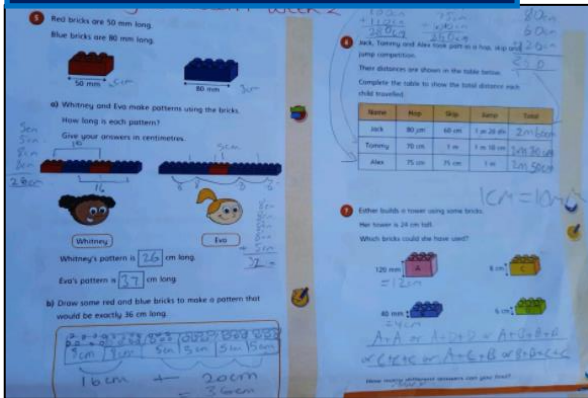
In our English learning Laila has been busy creating her own dinosaur and writing about its unique 'special features'. Great learning Laila.

Laila got creative to produce her own character toilet roll for world book day which looks fantastic!



Class 2's Learning This Week

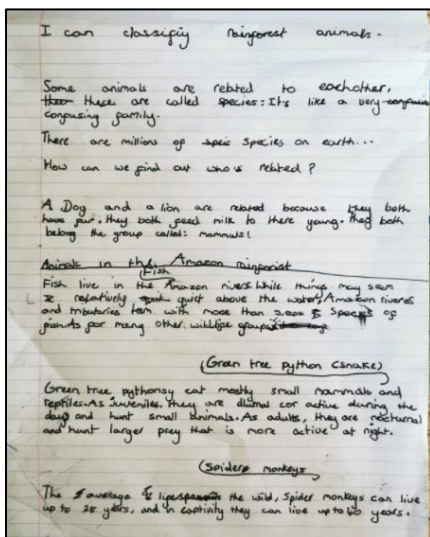
Darcie has been discussing and carefully looking at the units of measure that we have been using. She has used her knowledge to complete subtraction of measurements through a variety of questions. Well done, Darcie.



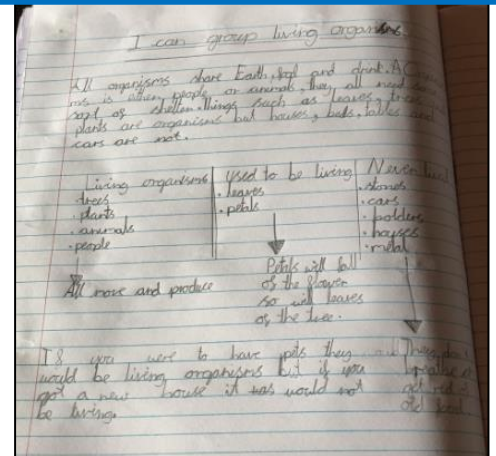
Suzi has been looking after the wildlife in her area this week as she relocated some tadpoles and is observing their life cycle. She has also been bird watching and identifying different birds. Keep enjoying the nature, Suzi!



Marjorie has done some fantastic learning on categorising living organisms into living, used to be living or have never lived. It is great to see your clear understanding. Super, Marjorie.



Winnie has done some super research on rainforest animals and has presented her research beautifully, using sub-headings. Lovely learning, Winnie. Keep it up!



Rose has been inspired to create a design for the spiritual area. She has been putting lots of effort into clearing out the area and planting to help create the space. I really like how she has thought of all senses when creating this.



Jake has begun to create a lovely, funny letter in English. He has thought to use an address, sub-heading and detail throughout his writing. Well done Jake.

