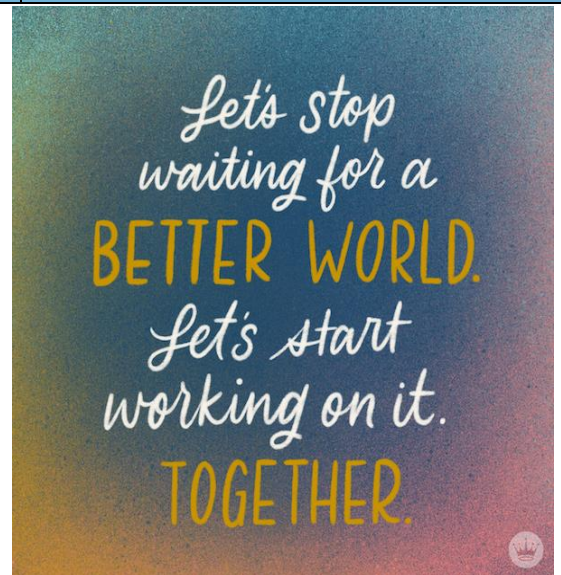


Well I am sure you will all agree that 2020 is a year none of us will forget and not for many happy reasons! We are now in another National Lockdown but unlike the last one thankfully schools have remained open and we are continuing to operate as 'safely' but as 'normally' as we can for the sake of the children. We urge you to ensure your children are in school unless they need to self-isolate because someone within your household is displaying Covid-19 symptoms or because they themselves are displaying symptoms. This term in school has been about catching up on learning time lost when school was closed from March to the end of the academic year, so no child can afford to miss any more school time unless they really need to.

The children have returned after half term re-energised and ready to learn again which has been lovely to see. If for any reason you are anxious or concerned about your child being in school, please talk to staff. Although this half term will be slightly different we are still planning lots of nice things for the children to look forward to and hope to make the build up to Christmas as exciting as it always is in school.



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NEW NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS – The country is now in a month long period of National Restrictions and 'Lockdown'. This means that –

- People from different households cannot meet in other houses or indoor places unless in a support bubble.
- You cannot meet with more than 1 other person outdoors and must follow social distancing. This means children should not be playing with other children outdoors, having parties, playdates or sleepovers or meeting with others in parks etc.
- Places of worship, essential shops, restaurants and pubs have been closed.

All of the above and many more National Restrictions that have been put in place have been done so that we can keep schools open and NOT interrupt the education of our children. By closing other things, the Government hope to limit the spread of the virus and enable children to still attend school safely.

On **Wednesday night** the Police made school aware of the illegal bonfire that took place on the estate.

Incidents like this cause a lot of upset for families (and the staff) who are complying relentlessly with the rules in order to keep others safe. We trust that all of our families adhere to the rules and national restrictions and think of others. If people act irresponsibly and go against the restrictions, everyone in our community is put in danger – other children and their families and the staff and their own families. Please think of everyone.



Across the school we have been thinking about how November is a month of REMEMBRANCE. In November we remember especially all those who have died at war and in service for their country. On Wednesday 11th November we will be marking 'Remembrance Day' in class bubbles.

We are selling items from the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in individual class bubbles. The items include wrist bands (£1), zip pull (50p), reflectors (50p), snap bands (£1.50) and sticker poppies (a donation). We do not have a huge amount of items and so if children wish to purchase any items they can bring their money into school as soon as possible.



The annual 'Children in Need' fundraising event takes place next Friday 13th November. Children are invited to wear their own 'bright and spotty' clothes to mark the day. We will also be selling Pudsey Bear wrist bands for £1 throughout the week next week to raise money.

It's wonderful to see the learning going on in all classes and across the whole curriculum in school. Some of the exciting things include...

Year 6 have been creating and painting ceramic poppies. I cannot wait to see the finished results! Year Five are really enjoying their new Science topic 'Materials'. They have explored dissolving and investigated how they could make the sugar dissolve more quickly!

Year 4 have thought about November being the month of remembrance in their collective worship this week.



Year 2 have been exploring clues linked to their new text. They were very excited to find out who all the items belonged to!

Our new school value for November is EMPATHY & UNDERSTANDING

Empathy is:

- Thinking about how people are feeling.
- Considering the feelings of others before you act/react.
- Putting yourself in someone else's shoes and consider how they are feeling and thinking.
- Being aware of how we might impact the feelings of others.

Understanding means seeing things from all angles and forming a balanced view.



An understanding person is usually someone who listens carefully and appreciates all dimensions of a situation.

Year 5 have been thinking about our new value and what it means. I love the 'empathy' umbrellas that they have created.



EMPATHY IS SIMPLY LISTENING, HOLDING SPACE, WITHHOLDING JUDGMENT, EMOTIONALLY CONNECTING, AND COMMUNICATING THAT INCREDIBLY HEALING MESSAGE OF "YOU'RE NOT ALONE."



Yesterday we said goodbye to Miss Clark who has left us for a 'short time' (we hope!) to go on her Maternity Leave. We are going to miss her lots but cannot wait to hear her happy news which will make us all smile during a time where there is too much horrible news. Hopefully by the time I write to you again next week, I will have nice news to share!

Attendance – Well done to Year 2 who have had the best attendance this week! Keep it up!

Foundation 1 – 97.0%

Foundation 2 – 97.9%

Year 1 – 98.0%

Year 2 – 98.8%

Year 3 – 94.8%

Year 4 – 97.9%

Year 5 – 92.8%

Year 6 – 91.6%

Thank you again for your patience and understanding at this time.

The staff are all so appreciative of your support.

Mrs Ralph