

A week in time feels like a very long time at the moment and with each week that passes, there seems to be an ever-growing list of announcements and changes that we all have to get used to. We are officially half way through this half term today with only 3 more weeks to go. As a school we do not know what the Government proposes to do after half term although we are obviously hoping and praying that it will mean a return to normal school life for everyone. Just like all of you at home we have to wait and see what the infection rates look like locally and nationally and what is then decided regarding the re-opening of schools to all pupils. The news picture has been quite stark this week and the infection rate is especially high in our local area. There's not much to smile about right now and I think this week's weather has added to the general all round miserable feeling. I don't think we have seen this much rain in a long time! But as the song goes... "Things can only get better". Let's just hope we don't have to wait too long!



Staying FIT and ACTIVE is crucial during this lockdown period.

Exercise gives us a 'physiological feel good' because it releases endorphins, a natural chemical that makes us feel good. Exercise also releases a chemical in our brain which helps us feel less stressed and mentally fatigued. Even though there are restrictions in place we are allowed to exercise with members of our own household and we can do this in lots of different ways. You do not even have to leave the house to have a go at the '60 second' challenges Mr Hinds has set



on SEESAW. We have loved seeing all the pictures and videos of children taking part. Keep up the good work and stay active because you really will feel better for it.

We are in a NATIONAL LOCKDOWN and it is required by LAW that we follow this guidance.

You must stay at home to protect the NHS and save lives.

You may only leave the home to shop for basic necessities

- go to work if you cannot reasonably do so from home
- exercise with your household once per day.
- You **cannot** meet socially with anyone you do not live with or are not in a [support bubble](#) with (if you are legally permitted to form one).

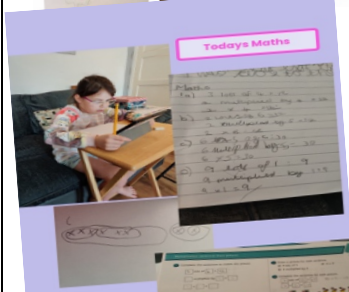




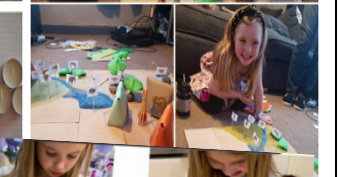
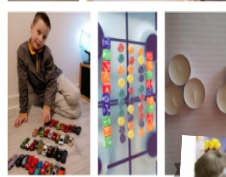
ASYMPTOMATIC COVID-19 SCREENING PROGRAMME

From next week, the **staff in school** are being invited to take part in a National roll out of asymptomatic testing in primary schools. This is really positive and hugely reassuring for staff who have their own families to protect. Unfortunately it will not solve the problem of Covid but this, combined with the ongoing roll out of the vaccine, we hope will gradually enable us to be able to return to some sense of normality.

Thank you for the incredible job that you have done to support home learning so far which includes coming to collect learning packs from school today! Though not an easy task, the work that has been submitted is truly brilliant. Teachers are extremely proud of the way that children have adapted, once again, to these testing times and have surpassed themselves with enthusiasm and creativity. You are doing a fabulous job! We recognise that some children working from home find it difficult. We are monitoring pupil access to learning in each class daily. If your child is not in school and not accessing remote learning from home, then they are missing learning. Teachers will do all they can to support you whilst also being in school teaching their bubbles. We want all our pupils to be accessing learning for the duration of the lockdown, so that we can minimise the negative impact on their educational progress. I have asked teachers to nominate a home learning superstar but they all found it difficult to name just one with most naming several. I have sent a little message via SEESAW to the children who their teachers have nominated. Well done everyone, keep up the FANTASTIC work.



Y6 river inspired art



If we could look into each other's hearts and understand the unique challenges each of us faces, I think we could treat each other much more gently, with more love, patience, tolerance, and care.

-Marvin J. Ashton -



This month's value is TOLERANCE. This value is about us recognising, appreciating and respecting that we are all different. Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs is also a fundamental British Value. Jesus demonstrated tolerance in the Gospel by welcoming all sorts of people that others in society at that time would have turned their backs on. This included welcoming poor people, blind, deaf and lame people and people who no one else liked. All these people were not just tolerated by Jesus - he didn't just put up with them - he loved them to bits and made them feel really special. Being tolerant of others can be challenging at times but we have the greatest of examples in Jesus. If we were all together in school we would be thinking about this together and how we can demonstrate tolerance in everything we do.

We will get through this challenging time together and show what an incredible community we are. Take care of yourselves and your wonderful children, we miss them greatly! Mrs Ralph