



Spring Newsletter 01
Friday 12th March 2021

Rooted in the community to grow and flourish

The Parable of the Mustard Seed, Matthew 13: 31-32

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have certainly had an interesting first week back! It was a joy to welcome the children back on Monday and see the school site full of smiles. Throughout the week it has been wonderful to see the children and staff spending time together in the classrooms rather than over a screen or telephone. As well as the children and staff needing to adjust to a new school routine, I am well aware that you will have also been getting used to a new 'normal'. This routine was of course completely interrupted when the school had to close yesterday afternoon. Thank you for coming to collect your child/ren so promptly and for your understanding. As you know, the water issues within the school have now been resolved so I can fully reassure you that the children will be able to continue with the appropriate hygiene routines. I really appreciate all you have done and continue to do as we work together to navigate our way through these tricky times.

I have previously mentioned in my communication to you that staff will not be setting additional home learning tasks for the rest of the spring term. This is because we want to encourage all families to focus on re-establishing a daily routine for reading. Giving every child an opportunity to read independently to an adult at home and have some time sharing a text together is vital in ensuring progress is made. Not only that, it can also become a special time that both parent/carer and child look forward to each day. In addition, we are asking every family to have regular opportunities to use our online maths subscriptions which will help your child build mental maths skills. If your child is in a younger age group and not quite able to access these platforms, please do speak to your child's teacher if you would like ideas about how to support them with their mental maths at home.

Thank you to those of you who have already completed the online survey regarding remote education. If you have not yet done this, you are able to submit answers until 4pm today. Please do [CLICK HERE](#) to ensure you are able to share your views.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs E Griffiths

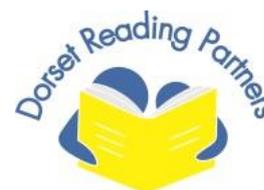
Thank You

There is a lot of reference to the need for children to 'catch up' academically in the media at the moment. We agree that children have been unable to do quite a few things during lockdowns, such as spending time with friends and relatives, days out to museums and the cinema, having play dates and attending clubs will have been missed. All these kinds of activities have a positive impact on children's wellbeing and sense of belonging which is just as important as their academic attainment.

This week we have therefore made it a priority to give the children time to catch up with friends and feel part of a class team again. Thank you to the Community Champion at Morrisons in Weymouth for donating some cake so that each class could end the week with a celebratory tea party. way to end the week and there were smiles all round!

Dorset Reading Partner

We are delighted to welcome a new virtual volunteer to our school through Dorset Reading Partners! Marion will be reading (virtually) each week with some pupils in KS1 to provide them with further opportunities to develop their skills in reading.



Sensory Garden

We have been working incredibly hard to make our outside space a colourful and inviting area for children to enjoy. We have also been supported by Holme for Gardens who very kindly donated plants and Bindon Abbey Scaffolding, Roy Osmond and Darrell Crabb who donated their time and materials to create a glockenspiel. Thank you, your support is truly appreciated.



Trackit Light Winners

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher has been replaced with a Treat from the Tray. Congratulations to all our winners this week.



Trackit Lights



Life Education Visit

We were very much looking forward to welcoming a member of the Coram Life Education team into school in January. Unfortunately, the visit has now been postponed again until the summer term due to the national lockdown.

Thank you to the 33 families who have donated towards this event already, if you haven't yet contributed but wish to, please do so via Sims Pay. If you are not registered to use Sims Pay, please contact the school office. We are suggesting a voluntary donation of £3.00 per child.

We are extremely grateful to the PTFA who have generously agreed to subsidise this visit.



Salisbury Diocese Thought for the Week



"My mom always said life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get."

Forrest Gump certainly got that right! Life is full of surprises and often does not pan out the way we would expect and with the ever-changing educational landscape in the last year with the pandemic, it has felt as though each week has brought a different chocolate out the box. Life rarely turns out as we might anticipate and maybe in a way God does not always 'turn out' or act as we would expect or hope for. 'God of Surprises' is the title of a wonderfully spiritual book by Gerard W. Hughes. There is almost a paradox in the title in that whilst we may feel disorientated in the midst of this pandemic and wonder what surprise God might next have for us, the true 'surprise' of God is actually the very opposite. God is entirely constant, eternal, and unchanging because the true surprise is that God is found in the messiness of our world. That is why I have found the words of Henry Francis Lyte's hymn 'Abide with me' so poignant, particularly in the last year, for in all the confusion we see around us, God is the God who never leaves us and whose constancy never changes.

In other words, whatever the chocolate is we draw out the box, at heart it will always have God, and that is the true surprise.

*'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. **Revelation 1:8 (NRSV)***

*'Change and decay in all around I see
O Thou who changest not, abide with me'*

Henry Francis Lyte

Roadworks/Road Closures

As you may already be aware, some major roadworks are due to take place at the Woolbridge Roundabout in April. Please visit:

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/travel/travel-dorset/roadworks-road-closures.aspx>

to find out further information and for alternative routes.



Reminders

Please remember that we are a Nut Free School, and make sure that your child does bring any items into school that may contain nuts. Also, if your child has a medical condition or takes medication, please inform the school office about this to ensure the safety and welfare of your child whilst they are in our care. We are aware that some children are not currently wearing full school uniform. Please ensure your child wears a school tie with a white school shirt (not polo). PE kits should also be plain blue/black trousers/shorts and hoody with a school logo PE t-shirt.

Finally, please keep your child/ren's contact details up to date.

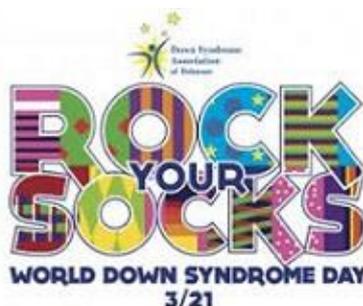


World Down Syndrome Day

Wool Primary School will be supporting World Down Syndrome Day again this year by asking children to wear socks that are going to get noticed; they could brightly coloured socks or odd socks. We will hold the event on Friday 19th March and there will be a prize for the wackiest socks. This is not a non-school uniform day.

One of our pupils, is doing a sponsored ride on her pony to raise money for a support group, she will be riding 21km on her pony before the 21st March. If you wish to sponsor Hunni, please donate via:

Shine 21 Dorset Buddy Club, sort code: 09-01-29, account number: 27728220



Attendance

Class attendance figures are:

Oak Class: 94.08%

Willow Class: 96.9%

Beech Class: 94.7%

Chestnut Class: 95.3%

Elm Class: 98.8%

Whole School Attendance: 95.7%

Notification of a child's absence must be reported to the school office on each day of absence. A phone call or email must be received by the school office prior to 09:00 giving the reason for absence.

Please use the pupil absence guide to help you make an informed decision about whether or not to send your child into school if they are feeling unwell.

Please allow 48 hours after your child's last occurrence of diarrhoea or vomiting before allowing them to return to school.



Diary Dates

Friday 19th March – Lots of Socks Day for World Down Syndrome Day

Sunday 28th March – Virtual Easter Messy Church – 16:00

Thursday 1st April – Last Day of Term – 13:15 finish

Friday 2nd April – Sunday 18th April – Easter Holidays

Monday 19th April – Return to School

Tuesday 20th April – Individual Photographs

Wednesday 5th May – Virtual Parent Council Meeting – 09:30



PTFA

We are so happy to see everyone back at school. Now we are back we can start thinking about getting back to fundraising for our children. Due to current restrictions, we are likely to hold an online raffle again this summer but if you have any ideas for new ways to raise money virtually, do get in touch.

The PTFA have been given a small amount of uniform which is available for a small donation to the PTFA. All items have been washed and stored for over 3 days in a covid free house. Please contact Imogen if you would like any of the items, we currently have:

- 3 cardigans 11-12 years (34")
- 2 light blue summer dresses 13-14 years (1 button up, 1 zip)
- 1 old style cardigan 4-5 years
- 1 clip on tie
- 1 pair of girls trousers age 4
- 2 skirts age 5
- 1 skirt age 3-4
- 1 skirt age 4-5
- 1 skirt age 5-6
- 1 skirt age 6-7



email: ptfa@woolprimary.dorset.sch.uk

or via Facebook: Official Wool Primary PTFA Group.

All updates go out on this group so please request to join if you have not done so already.