

Wool CE VA Primary School Magazine



Rooted in the community to grow and flourish

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

A message from Mrs Griffiths

Dear Parents/Carers,

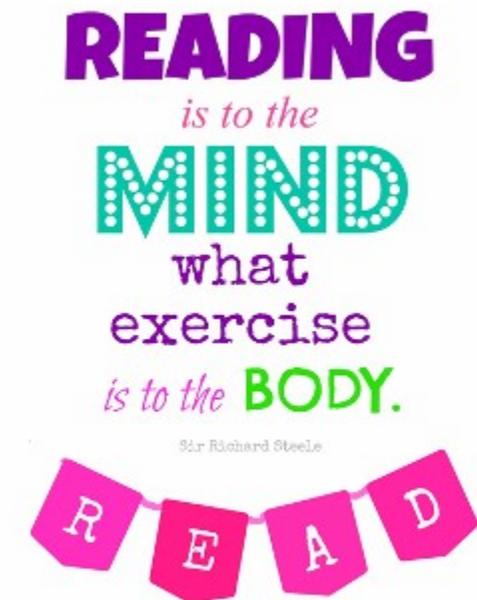
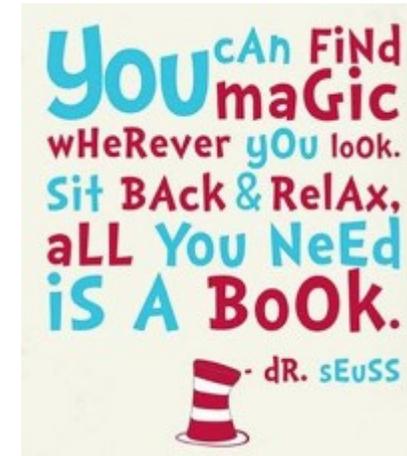
This morning saw another virtual gathering to celebrate a huge array of achievements even though we have only been back at school for one week! It never ceases to amaze me how the members of our school community are continuing to work together to grow and flourish. Sharing certificates and joining together to clap and cheer is a wonderful way to end the week!

Next week we will be celebrating World Book Day on March 4th 2021 and I am looking forward to seeing children dressing up as a book character or cosying up with a book in their PJs. Miss Knowles will send out more details next week about this day but we have already emailed you a digital voucher via Parentmail. The voucher provides £1 off the cost of a book and will even pay for the specific World Book Day texts that have been published this year. The voucher can be used in supermarkets among other places so do please make use of this opportunity.

Over the last half term, some parents/carers and children have asked whether or not pupils should still be reading everyday or not. The answer is: yes please! Reading is often described as the gateway to the curriculum as it is a fundamental skill that enables children to go on to access other subject areas. There is a vast amount of research that shows that children who read for a short amount of time each day are more likely to achieve well as they journey through school. Added to all of that, however, is the important opportunity reading provides us with to relax and escape! An adult reading aloud to a child can also help build comprehension skills so is definitely worth making time for, no matter what age or ability your child is. It is also a great way to model how much you value reading to your child. Thank you as always for your ongoing support with this.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Griffiths



As a charity, World Book Day is here to change lives through a love of books and shared reading and bring books to the children who need them most. World Book Day is a brilliant opportunity for everyone to celebrate the joy of reading.

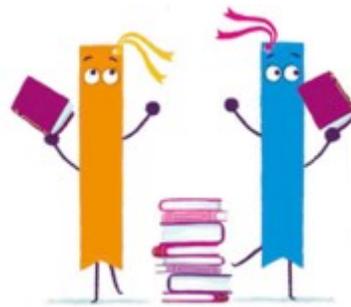
The lockdown means doing things differently, so we have some **amazing resources to help schools and families whether children are celebrating at home or at school**. Reading and sharing stories is the perfect lockdown activity for everyone to enjoy!

We want to develop a culture of reading for pleasure and encourage the next generation of readers; let's make books and sharing stories fun for children everywhere, every day. Just 10 minutes' daily shared reading benefits every child's future.

It's vital we use World Book Day to encourage even more children to be readers, book owners and book borrowers – because no child should be without a book or miss out on shared reading.

Thank you – you make World Book Day happen!

The World Book Day Team



Did you know?

Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success, more than family circumstances, parents' educational backgrounds or income.

- Organisation for Economic Co-Operation & Development

Did you know?

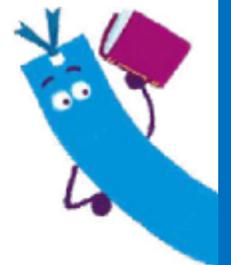
1 in 7 children, and 3 in 10 children receiving free school meals, said that the book they 'bought' with their World Book Day book token had been their first book of their own.

- NLT Annual Literacy Survey, 2019



World Book Day

4 March 2021



Acer Base



A message from Miss Hardy

Hello to all of our wonderful Wool families!

We are now just over 1 week away from the whole school returning to the school site on the 8th March – how brilliant is that?! It's been lovely to speak to some parents and find out how you have been managing with the home learning during lockdown. I also appreciate however that lockdown is tiring and you will have welcomed the very gradual relaxation of the lockdown. Some of you may be feeling anxious about schools reopening and we truly do understand this as well. It is normal to go through a number of emotions, particularly as we also enter this phase of transitional co-educators. Interestingly, Oxford University have been carrying out some research on the impact of the lockdown on children. For primary school aged children parents/carers reported "an increase in emotional, behavioural and...attentional difficulties", so if you can relate, be assured you're not alone! I would encourage you to keep the routine going as best you can next week as structure and expectation is good for children, they really need boundaries and measurable parameters of achievement.

As always with our open door policy (now virtually) please do not hesitate to contact myself through the school office if you have any new concerns about your child since they have been at home through this pandemic.

I look forward to seeing you all very soon.



Return to School

The transition back to school after the lockdown is likely to be difficult and draining for the children. As a school we will of course have wellbeing on our minds as the returns take place. In the meantime, here are some things that you can do at home to help:

- Have an open dialogue about returning, try to make it a positive and even an exciting thing.
- Let your children know that they are allowed to be worried about it, take time to address the worries together, reminding them that it will be ok.
- Remind your child that there are always adults at school that they can talk to about any worries they may have.

Use the information on the school website on the SEND Page to support your child's return. There is a link to the Covid -19 transition pack in which you will find a range of resources and documents including social stories.

Acer Base



SEND



Help and advice

WHAT IS ANXIETY?

Anxiety is a feeling of unease, such as a worry or fear, that can be mild or severe. Everyone has feelings of anxiety some time in their life. For example, you may feel worried about moving to the next school year, having to have an injection, sitting a test, going somewhere new or different. The list can go on.

The pandemic and lockdown may impact on a child's mental health in many different ways. Children may be experiencing increased anxiety and struggling to understand how they are feeling.



YoungMinds - children and young people's mental health charity

We're the UK's leading charity fighting for children and young people's mental health. We will make sure all young people get the best possible mental health support and have the resilience to overcome life's challenges.

Every Mind Matters | One You - The NHS website - NHS Feeling stressed, anxious, low or struggling to sleep?

Every Mind Matters and One You can help with expert advice and practical tips. Start the fightback to a healthier you today.



What is anxiety?



1. Why do we get anxious?

Our bodies have a built-in survival system. There were 100,000 years ago, when our might have been living in the jungle. Let's go back to those days. Imagine you are walking through the jungle and a tiger jumps out in front of you. Your life is in danger, so you need to run.

2. What happens when we get anxious?

When we are something scary, our body starts something happening to protect us. Our brain then gives our body instructions so that it is ready to run fast.

3. These changes are useful when you're in danger

These changes can help you. They release extra energy so you can run, or they make us feel really quickly in danger.

4. When do you feel anxious?

You may be feeling scared when they are not real. For example, you may get those nervous feelings at the start of a new school year or when you go to the playground, attending a birthday party or getting lost.

5. Do you feel anxious at night?

You may get those feelings at night, and you can't sleep.

6. It is important to let someone know

If you feel anxious, it is important to talk to your parents, guardians or teachers. Let them know how you feel so that they know how they can support you.

Don't worry - they will be able to help so that you don't have to deal with these feelings all the time.

Support during lockdown

For schools/teachers and parent/carer resources available on NSPCC websites

Parent/carer resources	Website location/link
<p>Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice and support for parents and carers</p> <p>Whether you're working from home with your kids or supporting children with anxiety due to coronavirus, we've got tips and advice for you.</p>	<p>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/coronavirus-advice-support-children-families-parents/</p>
<p>Coronavirus (COVID-19) and parents working from home</p> <p>Tips and advice to help you find balance and create structure if you're new to working from home with your family.</p>	<p>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/coronavirus-parents-working-from-home/</p>
<p>Our Speak out Stay safe assembly – suitable for home-learning</p> <p>Activities for kids at home - Keep busy while learning about staying safe and speaking out with our at-home activities for primary school children.</p> <p>Fun Ideas and activities on Twinkl New books/fun crafts available from the NSPCC shop</p>	<p>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/safety/</p> <p>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/safety/activities-safety-kids/</p> <p>https://www.twinkl.co.uk/new-books-and-fun-crafts</p>
<p>Supporting your child at home</p> <p>Tips for talking to a child worried about coronavirus (COVID-19)</p>	<p>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/depression-anxiety-mental-health/</p>
<p>Supporting children with special educational needs and disabilities</p> <p>Advice for parents and carers on supporting SEND children during coronavirus (COVID-19).</p>	<p>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/coronavirus-supporting-children-special-educational-needs-disabilities/</p>
<p>O2 and NSPCC</p> <p>Bringing together O2's tech know-how and the NSPCC's expertise in protecting children, we've developed Net Aware, your guide to the latest apps, games and social media sites used by young people.</p> <p>Visit our online safety in lockdown hub Right now, kids will be spending more time online, so we've got advice to help you keep your kids safe during lockdown and beyond.</p> <p>Online safety resources We've created colouring in sheets, a family agreement, quizzes and a word search to help kick start your online safety conversations.</p>	<p>https://www.o2.co.uk/help/online-safety</p> <p>https://www.net-aware.org.uk/</p> <p>https://www.net-aware.org.uk/online-safety-lockdown/</p> <p>https://www.net-aware.org.uk/resources/</p>

You can also find a variety of [NSPCC videos](#) on YouTube, including the selection below which you may find helpful.

NSPCC Videos for parents	Website location/link
<p>The Baby Show:</p> <p>Infant Mental Health with NSPCC</p>  <p>The Baby Show 52 subscribers Subscribe</p> <p>We're joined by the lovely ladies Julia & Bea, Clinical Psychologists for NSPCC who work with children aged 0-5 and their families. Here they are talking through Infant Mental Health, what it is and offering tools and advice to not only support your babies & toddlers, but also yourself and your own mental health. They have also answered some of your questions around the effects of lockdown on your baby and your mental health and how to stay positive during these times.</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrgROexMLgQ</p>
<p>Look Say Sing Play</p> <p>Right from birth, every time you talk, sing or play with your baby, you're not just bonding, you're building their brain.</p>	<p>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/look-say-sing-play/</p> <p>Sign up for brain-building tips</p>
<p>Singing Day Look Say Sing Play NSPCC</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KySkRRv7xNw</p>
<p>Our Brain's Air Traffic Control (Executive Function) NSPCC</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SSuo_GbHBA</p>
<p>Building Strong Brain Architecture NSPCC</p>	<p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VoN-Ghmn7ws</p>

Please click the picture to access all the different fantastic links.



Oak Class



Reception and Year 1

Welcome to Oak Class
Class Teacher: Mr Charman
Teaching Assistant: Mrs Harris, Mrs Dando and Miss Wells

A message from Mr Charman

Hello Oaks !

I hope you enjoyed your Spring Scavenger Hunt this week. At school we have found a range of spring flowers adding some welcome colour including primroses, snowdrops and daffodils. I hope you all had a great half-term and are looking forward to coming back to school. We had a lot of giggling with a cartoon we watched this week but from this we have some great descriptive writing. Next week we have visitors related to the cartoon....I wonder who is coming ?

Mr Charman



Willow Class



Year 2

Welcome to Willow Class
Class Teacher: Miss Snooks
Teaching Assistant: Mrs Plewka

A message from Miss Snooks

Hello Willow class!

It has been lovely to see you all on our live lessons this week. I really enjoyed reading about what you did during the half term! These are some of the activities Willow class got up to: making tie dye T-shirts, learning to ride their bike, making hats, making bath bombs, going on long walks and baking! I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

Miss Snooks



Beech Class



Year 3/4

Welcome to Beech Class
Class Teacher: Mrs Johnson
Teaching Assistants: Mr McKaigg, Miss Brown and Mrs Slowther

A message from Mrs Johnson

Hello Beech Class

It was lovely to see some of you during our live sessions this week, and thank you for sharing your great ideas about our new class text. We will continue to do the live sessions for our final week and then we will all be back in the classroom together again.

Next Thursday is World Book Day so the activities we will do that day will be centred around books and our favourite books.

I was trying to think of what my favourite book was and found it really hard! I love so many books for so many different reasons that it was impossible to narrow it down to just 1!

Do you have a favourite book? If so, what would it be? If you don't have a favourite book, maybe you have a favourite author?

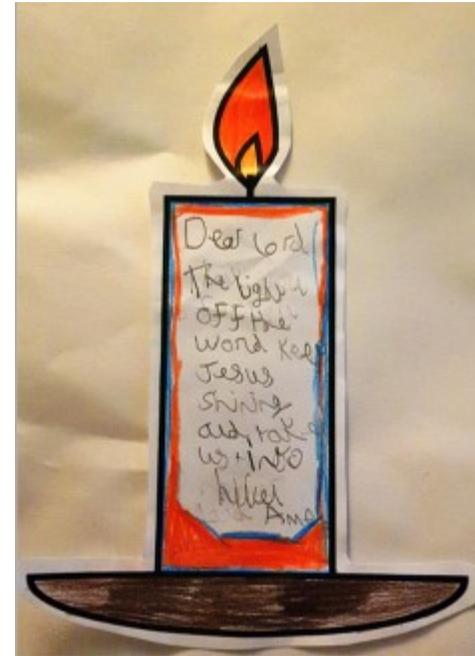
I don't think I will be dressing up in a costume for World Book Day, but I think that wearing pyjamas all day and snuggling up with a good book for a quiet reading session, will be my way of marking the day...what will you do?

Have a great weekend and see you next week.

Take care Beech Class,

Mrs Johnson

Children's thoughts and prayers





Chestnut Class



Year 5

Class Teacher: Miss Warner
Teaching Assistant: Mrs Vaughan and Miss Brown

A message from Miss Warner

Hello Chestnut Class and welcome back. I hope you all had a well-deserved, relaxing half-term.

This term our topic is the Romans and earlier this week we had a live lesson where Mr Charman delivered a brilliant introduction to the topic by dressing as a Roman soldier. He spoke about weapons, fighting techniques, their civilisation, language, pottery and coins and lots more. He also answered some your questions. If you have any more questions you would like to ask, Mr Charman and I are happy to answer them through Teams or email. There are only 1 more week of home learning and then we will all see each other again back in the classroom.

I am really looking forward to seeing you all and learning in the classroom once more!

Miss Warner



Elm Class



Year 6

Welcome to Elm Class
Class Teacher: Miss Knowles
Teaching Assistants: Mr McKaigg

A message from Miss Knowles

Hi Elm class!

I hope you had a good half term break and took the time to do some things that make you happy! Once again, you have worked hard this week, both those of you in school and at home. Well done for showing perseverance when working on algebra in maths. I know some of the concepts were a bit tricky, but don't worry if you struggled, we will go over this when we're all back together again in school. I hope you're still enjoying the Nowhere Emporium! You are showing your understanding brilliantly through your VIPERS work. In English, I really enjoyed reading your writing inspired by Pandora - well done! Only one more week of home learning left - I'm really looking forward to seeing everyone back at school! However, before then, it is World Book Day on Thursday. Our theme this year is to 'get cosy with a book' so please don't go out and buy a costume. You can just wear something comfy, like PJs, on the day if you want! This year the book token have been sent to you digitally so you can print it off and take it to a supermarket to get your £1 book. Happy reading!

Miss Knowles

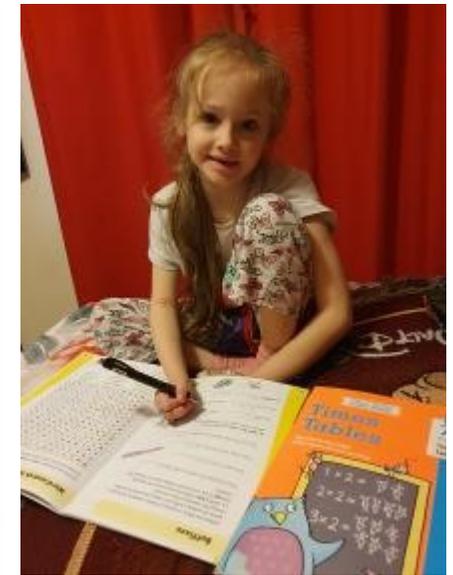


After that the little birds look
worried and surprised to
see the big bird.

Some great
writing work from
Oak class



Eboney has made
a very tasty
looking pizza.
Yum!



Matilda and her family made
a supersized den during half
term. WOW!

Jess pushed herself and has
been working on her
timetables. Well done!



Theo has made a brilliant weather plate. Well done!

Ethan had great fun flipping pancakes on pancake day.
Did you catch it?





A message from Emma

Welcome back everyone!

What a great time of year it is.
Everything is starting to wake up after its
long sleep of winter as spring is just
round the corner

I would like you to step outside and listen
out for all the sounds of the animals
scurrying about. What can you hear?

If your lucky you may start seeing the
Daffodils popping up out the ground.

Have a great week
Emma

A message from Reverend Sandra



Hello, I hope you all had a restful and fun filled half term. Did you manage to get outside for some walks? I thought for the next few weeks in this time of Lent we would focus on different things in creation and this week it's trees. Here's a verse from the prophet Isaiah in the Old Testament: 'You will live in joy and peace. The mountains and hills will burst into song, and the trees of the field will clap their hands!' Isaiah 55:12.

Could you imagine the tree in this picture clapping all those lovely branches? I think a tree always points us towards God.

When you're outside or even indoors and looking at a tree try being quiet for a moment or two to reflect on what trees mean to you, and what the world would be like if we didn't have them. You could say this prayer;

Creator God, thank you for trees. Thank you for the beauty that they bring to our world, for the life that they support, and for the part they play in your creation.

We are sorry for those times and places around the world when people have destroyed trees because they are greedy for something else.

Help us to value trees as part of your creation not just for what they can give us, but because you made them, and you love them. Amen.

Many blessings Rev Sandra



Who are our top doodlers??

Oak Class	Edward	Willow Class	Jessica
Beech Class	Molly	Chestnut Class	Michael
Elm Class	Ethan		



The top doodler in the School
Noah Year 3

Class Doodle Scores

Oak EYFS	24%
Oak Year 1	23%
Willow Class	17%
Beech Year 3	35%
Beech Year 4	35%
Chestnut Class	10%
Elm Class	10%



Well done everyone!!
Keep ROCKING ON !!!



Caiden
Jacob
Michael
Dennis
Issac

Ashton
Jaxon
Tristan
Kye



Poppy
Toby
Mrs Vaughan
Mr McKaigg
Robyn

Daisy
Flo
Dennis
Lauren

Sam
Mark
Lewis
Noah

Kai
Eve
Ana
Mrs Griffiths



Matthew
Theo
Ella
Joseph

Matilda
Eve
Elliot
Cai

Noah
Mark
Oliver

Melody
Tilly
Coral
Jimmy



Noah
Imogen



Daisy
Tyler - Jay
Alex
Oscar
Phoebe



I have added some links to some brilliant websites that provide online maths manipulatives. These can really help working out a tricky calculation or to understand a task

Keep on working it out! Mr McKaigg

MathsBot.com

