



All Saints CE Primary School & Nursery

Nurturing, Resilience and Achievement for all!

Headteacher: Mr Philip Asher, BMus(Hons), PGCE, ARCO, NQPSL, MCCT

Thursday, 14 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had as positive a week as can be expected and have found time to do some lovely things together amongst the other tasks we have to do. I enjoyed helping my daughter to make a junk-model musical instrument as part of her learning activities – finally found a use for those left-over sweet tubs!

Earlier this week I wrote about getting into a routine and trying to keep to it. These days are challenging in many ways – not least being once again in close quarters with each other and very damp, soggy weather to boot! No day is the same and each brings it's own difficulties – routine helps.

Remember – getting to the end of each day still talking/smiling to each other and having achieved one or two things, is a win!

Although I'm not sure my wife agrees now our daughter has something to make a lot of noise with...

All Saints Cheer-up

If you'd like to share a joke, please do email me on jokes@allsaints.herts.sch.uk – I'll either use them in my newsletters or add them to my weekly video (if you fancy recording one!).

Joke of the week:

What did the wolf say to the pig?
Pleased to eat you!

Thanks to Henry in Y1 for this one!

Website Updates

We've updated the Remote Learning pages, where Ms Brooks has put a handy guide to Google Classroom for those still finding it a bit tricky. Do email us through the school office if you need more help – we'll do what we can!

PE Lessons

We've had some great feedback about our new PE lessons this week – I'll be sure to pass them on to our coach and the staff. Thank you for supporting them! We hope they'll become a highlight of the week. Sorry to anyone that had technical difficulties – particularly Y4. Thank you for your patience and perseverance! I'm confident that (all being well with the internet!) your session will be much smoother next week!!

Remote Learning – Responding to Pupil Work

The teachers are responding to work as soon as they can – just as you at home are balancing work/school/life, they too are trying to balance teaching in school and remotely, alongside all their other duties (which haven't stopped!) and family life. We will continue to do what we can.

It is most helpful if the children can try to upload something each day rather than 'bulk' submitting at the end of the week. This will mean your child is more likely to get a response to their hard work.

We are finding new ways to respond to pupil's work, and so over the next week or so some teachers may experiment with the different tools on Google Classroom. One of them is to use the 'Rubrics' function to create a bank of responses. Another is to record short messages (we like this one, it's quicker for us, and more personal!).

The children can leave comments too – either a 'Private' comment (which is just seen by the teacher), or a 'Class' comment (which can be seen by all the pupils as well). These are handy to let us know how they found the task or what was tricky.

Parsonage Lane, Bishops Stortford, CM23 5BE

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Daily Meet

We love seeing the children each day, and the response so far has been brilliant. Please do keep joining us for this key part of the day. Classes do different things each day, from playing a game together, or doing a dance, to practising counting or having fun with a sentence – as well as having chance to catch up and see each other.

It's also a really good opportunity to encourage your child to develop their independent technology skills, so do let them try to join the meeting themselves and find the mute/unmute button when they're asked to!

Online Safety

As we move online once more, it is even more important to ensure you are 'savvy' with your eSafety. Check your parental controls on your home internet services, and make sure your children know what to do if they come across something they shouldn't – can they recognise how to spot it? You can find some resources here to help:

www.childnet.com

Technology at Home – Help for Families

We are making use of the Government schemes, and have applied for support for those who've asked us to. It is challenging, and currently there is high demand for devices. If you have an old (up to 5 years old) laptop or tablet that still works, with power/charging plug and cable, and would like to donate it, we would love to hear from you. Please let us know through the school office – admin@allsaints.herts.sch.uk

Something a little bit different?

I recently came across this website: <https://www.littleinventors.org/mini-challenges/>

It's a great 'ideas' website, with lots of interesting activities to fill the time. If you need a bit of something extra, or maybe something to keep the children quiet for a (short) while, you could try this!

Free School Meal Parcels

In line with the guidance sent out by the Department for Education last week, Herts Catering Ltd. (our catering team) set up food parcels for families eligible for Free School Meals. Thank you to kitchen staff for doing this!

The Government have since said they will relaunch the voucher scheme in the coming week, so we will be in touch with parents to ask what they would prefer.



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From The Classrooms...

This week, Reception children have been designing a chair for Baby Bear, as part of their work on the traditional story. Here are some of their efforts!



Take care, keep safe, and remember to wash your hands!

Kind regards,

Philip Asher
Headteacher

A message from All Saints Parish Church, Hockerill

We are looking for someone who could be our church treasurer.
If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Paul Bennett (Churchwarden): pj.bennett@ntlworld.com



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Additional Help for Families

Below are a list of organisations and places you can find help and support if you need it:

- Aspects Family Support - <http://www.aspects.org.uk/> or telephone 01279 758134
- Citizens Advice Bureau - 03444 111 444 or: <https://citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk/>
- Children's Centre - <https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/family-centres.aspx>
- Bishops Stortford Food Bank – bsfoodbank.coordinator@gmail.com or on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pg/bsfoodbank/about/?ref=page_internal
- Hertfordshire Children's Services – <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/childrens-social-care/childrens-social-care.aspx> or 0300 123 4034
- Family Lives - <https://www.familylives.org.uk/> or telephone 0808 800 2222
- Action for Children - <https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do/parents-and-families/>
- NSPCC - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>
- Childline - <https://www.childline.org.uk/> or telephone 0800 1111
- School Nursing Team - <https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing/>

FREE WEEKLY WEBINARS TO HELP YOUR FAMILY BE HEALTHIER!

BeeZee Live Families

Useful healthy information

Live stream expert family nutritionists like Steph!

Take part in fun games & quizzes

Connect with other families!

SIGN UP NOW AT beezeebodies.com or 01707 248648

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