

Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Respectful

The value we are looking at this half term is forgiveness . Our HeartSmart focus is: Don't rub it in, rub it out!

Wednesday 3rd March 2021
Spring Term Newsletter 7

Things to remember:

- Have you completed the parent/carer consultation form - you can use this to let us know how things went over lockdown and to book a meeting with your child's teacher if you wish:
<https://forms.gle/eyLBSF9ULnFnqik38>

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move towards full reopening next week, it really does feel as if there is a promise of better things in the air! The weather is starting to improve, with some beautiful sunny days, and the bluebells are just starting to appear in our woods. I think we are all looking forward to spring!

Full Return to School

As you all know, we will return to school in full next Monday. I hope you all received my previous letter setting out what will be happening then - if not, please let the office know and they will forward a copy to you. We look forward to seeing everyone on Monday at the usual time of 8.45 am - please remember pick up is between 3pm and 3.15pm for the time being.

Please ensure you adhere to all social distancing rules when dropping children off or picking them up from school. If you need to speak to the school please continue to use email or the telephone as the main means of communication.

Book Week

We have been having lots of fun this week, celebrating books and reading in lots of different ways. Don't forget tomorrow is pyjama day, when we spend the day celebrating the joys of relaxing and reading, and we all wear pyjamas - whether at home or at school! The Books at Bedtime links went out on Monday afternoon, so please make sure you have a look at those if you haven't already!

Emergency Medical Couriers - help needed!

Mrs Pugh has asked the school to collect clean milk bottle tops (the plastic coloured ones) in order to help a local charity. Blood Bikes are a local charity that support our hospitals, couriating essential supplies such as blood between hospitals in their own time. We even have one of these amazing people living in West Knighton! They now need our help to keep going. If you could collect the plastic bottle tops from old milk containers and bring them into the school, Mrs Pugh will arrange for them to be delivered to the charity. There will be a box outside the school office where you can drop them off - many thanks to everyone who can help!

Scavenger Hunt

Well done to everyone who took part in our half term scavenger hunt - I can't tell you how much fun I had looking at all your photos you sent in (although the adding up of the scores was quite a challenge!) All participants have now been contacted and invited to collect their prizes from the school office.

Lateral Flow home testing for families

You may have heard that the government has introduced a twice weekly lateral flow testing system that can be accessed by families of staff and children attending school. The website launched on Monday, but quickly crashed I believe, although I think it is now back up and running.

The plan is that all families, household bubbles, and childcare bubbles of children attending school can now access lateral flow tests to enable them to test themselves at home, in a similar way to how staff at school currently test themselves. If you already access tests from your place of work, you should continue doing so, but otherwise tests can be accessed in one of two ways:

- You can attend one of the Dorset sites that are currently giving out home testing kits - the site at the Swannery in Weymouth is offering this, and there are other sites in Ringwood and Poole.
- You can order tests to be delivered to your home

These tests are not designed for the children to take, but are for other members within the family/household/childcare bubble. To order tests, or to check where to collect from (and, it is advised, to check how busy a site is before arriving to collect tests) you can go to the following site:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff#how-to-get-a-rapid-lateral-flow-test>

The tests are designed to be used twice weekly (if you want to follow the same routine as the school, we test on Sunday and Wednesday evenings, but there is no expectation or need for you to do this). The school is not responsible for giving out tests or for any part of this scheme and it is in no way compulsory to take part, but should you wish to please use the above site to guide you.

Website

The school website has undergone a revamp! It looks a little different on the front page, and Mrs Pullen and I are in the process of tidying a few things up and making it as straightforward to use as possible. If you haven't had a look in a while please do go along and see - we welcome any positive feedback!

Science Poster - British Science Week

The week beginning the 8th March is British Science Week. As this is the first week back for the whole school, we have decided to postpone celebrating this until the summer term. Mrs Stoker, however, is determined not to let the event pass unnoticed, particularly as the school is very close to being awarded the Primary Quality Mark in Science to recognise our excellent provision in science teaching - more of this in a later newsletter! Mrs Stoker is inviting all our pupils to design a poster along the theme of the week which is **Innovating for the Future**. Perhaps you have a good idea for something we might need in the future - a robot that can tidy your bedroom? A mask that keeps you safe from Covid but is see-through? I'm sure there are lots of great ideas out there! We will use these posters to advertise our science week nearer the time, so the brighter and more eye catching the better! Posters can be drawn on paper or on computer, and sent in to class teachers.

Relax Kids Back to School session

Sian Parsons is offering a Back to School Relax Kids workshop via zoom this Saturday, 6th March @10am. The session will focus on some techniques that can be used when returning to the classroom to help children stay calm and relaxed, and to help reduce anxiety. This could be beneficial to those children that are returning

to school, as well as those already attending and will now face another change in their day to day school life. The focus will be on using breath to lower the heart rate, walking with confidence, and using some gentle pressure points to practice our mindfulness skills. The session price is £5 per household, and Zoom codes will be sent once payment has been received. Parents can book their space by sending a message to the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/relaxkidswithsian>
 There is a Facebook page for the event which can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/464970774531678>

I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday morning - I will be on the gate to welcome you all back, and to see how much some of the children have grown over the past few weeks! Until then, keep safe and well everyone, and if you have any worries or concerns please don't hesitate to get in touch,

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Collings

Calendar Dates- Spring Term Term 2021

Date	Time	Event
MARCH		
Monday 8th		Return to school for all children
Monday 15th		DASP Music lessons resume again from this week
Wednesday 17th		Census Day (we will be looking at the National census - not taking one!) Year R - Vision Screening
Friday 19th		Red Nose Day for Comic Relief
Week beg. 22nd		Parent and carer consultations week
APRIL		
Thursday 1st		Break up for Easter