

The value we are looking at this term is Courage . Our HeartSmart focus is: Too Much Selfie isn't Healthy!

22nd January 2020  
Spring Term Newsletter 3

## Things to remember:

- Dress as your inner superhero day on Friday 5th February - everyone in the school community - at school and at home - is invited to join in and dress up in your brightest, boldest colours to express your inner superhero! We will ask everyone to share their photos with us so we can display them, so start planning now!
- Our Facebook page co-ordinator really wants to celebrate all the different learning that's taking place at home and at school. If your child has been creating, writing, solving, building, being active- share your photos and we can post them for everyone to see - send your photos to [headteacher@broadmayne.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@broadmayne.dorset.sch.uk)
- The STEM Holiday Club we were hoping to hold at school over the February half term which you received an email about today has unfortunately been postponed - we are hoping to hold it at Easter, and will keep you informed

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of our third week of blended home/school learning, I would like to take a moment to say thank you to all our parents and carers. Your support has been invaluable to the school throughout this time, and the sense of community has never been stronger. There are bound to be challenges ahead, but I feel that together we can manage to navigate any new bumps in the road! There are a few updates I'd like to share with you all

### **Staff Testing**

From Monday 25th January the DfE are introducing asymptomatic testing for all staff working in schools. These tests will be carried out twice weekly so that any members of staff who may be carrying the virus can be identified and asked to self-isolate in order to help control the spread of the virus. Staff at our school will be asked to test on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. Any staff who receive a positive result will be required to self-isolate and book a PCR test. This means that classes may be closed for up to a ten day period at short notice.

This obviously has implications for all our families. If your child is attending school you will need to have short-notice childcare options in place, which I know is not easy at the present time. If your child is learning at home, there may be implications for online work if staff are self isolating at home. We will endeavour to let you know by 8.30pm the previous evening if a class has to close.

I understand that this is yet another complication in an already difficult situation for us all, but I sincerely hope that this development will help to break the train of transmission more effectively - this will hopefully mean that the normal life we all crave is just that little bit closer to returning.



### **Guidance for Google Meet**

Attached to this email is the school's guidance for attending Google Meets. The Meets are a really important part of our online offer, both as an aid to teaching, but also as a way of keeping our connections with our children, but there are rules that need to be followed by us all to ensure they are as effective, and safe, as possible. I must add here that I have been really impressed by how brilliantly our children behave on the Meets - they have cameras on, microphones muted, they raise their hands and can mute and unmute sensibly - what a difference to our school staff meetings!

### **Parents' Meetings**

Thank you to everyone who attended the online parents' meetings yesterday. I tried to address as many questions and concerns as possible, and will put these into a sheet which we will place onto the website. It was lovely to see everyone who managed to make the meetings - I will hold another one soon!

### **Google Classroom - update**

We are constantly reviewing and updating our approach to Google Classroom. This week we have been welcoming our Reception children onto their very own online class, and are looking forward to being able to interact with them directly more often. You will notice that, where possible, we will be offering some live lessons across the week, bearing in mind we know these can be sometimes difficult to organise at home. The staff are currently looking at ways to use recorded lessons which you can access at a time that suits you - please bear with us as we investigate the different ways this can be done to find the approach that works best for our school!

We are also introducing a wider range of lessons to help keep our children engaged and motivated - there will soon be some online samba lessons (children can make their own instruments and join in! Earplugs not provided!) and we have some online cricket lessons and other PE ideas coming along soon.

### **Children's Mental Health Week**

The week beginning Monday 1st February is the start of Children's Mental Health Week, the theme of which this year is Express Yourself. Learning about mental health and how to look after our emotional well being is at the heart of what we offer as a school, and at the moment is more important than ever, and the week will look at how we can use creativity to express our thoughts, feelings and ideas. The week will finish on Friday 5th with 'Express your Inner Superhero' Day - a day where we are inviting everyone in our school community - at home and at school - to dig out their brightest clothes and dress as their own superhero for the day!

We are all part of the same community, and are here to help each other out. If you have any concerns and you're not sure who to speak to, we will do our best to help! A huge well done if you feel you've got a routine that is working for you, and things are going well (or as well as can be expected!) But equally, if you're finding things are becoming difficult, that's OK too! If you need some reassurance, I am always available at school for a chat, or can reply by email if you prefer.

In the meantime, keep safe and well,

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Collings

