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Executive Headteacher: Mrs RM West

Head of Schools : Mrs V Brown

### Term 3 2020-2021 – Week 3

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to this week's newsletter. What a glorious day it is outside, as I write this to you. Like many of you, I am trying to collect 3 positives from each day to keep me going, amidst the challenges we are facing- the bright blue sky and frost covered countryside are definitely one for today.

Well done everyone on completing 3 weeks of remote learning! Can you believe we are halfway through term 3! We have had a really positive start to the term, with so many of our children joining the remote online learning session every day! We have included some great examples of learning in this newsletter to share with you. Well done to everyone for your hard work and resilience. It is lovely to see all the wonderful things you have been busy working on!

I would like to thank parents and carers again, this week, who have sent in positive and supportive emails and also those of you who have spoken to me and Mrs West, on the gate and thanked us for all our hard work. It makes such a big difference to us in school and raises morale more than you can imagine.

### HOME LEARNING HACKS

Here are some suggestions to support children learning from home:

- **Get into a routine.** Make a timetable for each day so everyone knows when it is school time (and when it is not). Set timers like the ringing of a bell at the end of the lesson! Remember to have a clear break between the school week and weekend so everyone can have a proper break.
- **Make space.** Designate an area for home learning so children are set up for 'school'. Thank you to those using a table space, where technology is ready. If you have limited space what about a work mat somewhere that can be put away once the learning is finished.
- **Make a home learning box of essentials together.** A box with a pen, paper, ruler, rubber, colours so everything is at hand.
- **Share healthy snacks for brain food and drink plenty.**
- **Turn off distractions like the TV, phones, I-pads**—unless they are part of the lesson.
- **Brain breaks-** plan in regular brain breaks that suit the age and stage of your child. Break down tasks into smaller accessible chunks.
- **Praise and reward.** Try to spend time with children whilst they are doing the work especially as they finish tasks and let them know how well they are doing. This can be check ins every 45mins to 1hr so children can share what they have been doing.

Staff are really impressed with the quality and quantity of home learning. All learning should be uploaded into children's files on the learning platform where staff can access it to review and mark. You can email teachers to let them know work has been uploaded rather than attaching each activity to a message. Teachers will acknowledge all



learning and will provide specific feedback and marking on 3 pieces of work per week. You can identify the 3 pieces of work you wish to have 'deep marked' using the message facility on e-schools.

## **ZOOM GUIDELINES**

Following feedback around our Zoom sessions, we would like to remind you of some remote learning guidelines. We want to ensure that the online learning is as effective as possible. It is new to all of us, so we appreciate your patience as we improve our ICT skills.

- Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately and is in a quiet room that is not their bedroom.
- Ensure you have the appropriate parental controls on your broadband.
- Please avoid giving children food or drink during the Zoom session.
- Allow the sessions to continue uninterrupted. Please avoid disruptions from siblings and pets.
- We continue to have high expectations of behaviour, adhering to the school's behaviour policy which includes the use of positive language
- Please be patient and supportive of the teachers- there will be technological issues and equipment challenges that will be unexpected.
- The sessions will be for children only; however, an adult may be present (especially for younger children). We ask that parents remain off camera and allow children to talk and interact, if they want to.
- Please ensure that other family members do not contribute to the session
- Please do not record the session on another device or take screenshots/ photos as this is a safeguarding and GDPR issue.

We hope that children are now in a routine of the daily online sessions. Our staff are working hard to provide some follow up sessions and interventions for some small groups of children throughout the week. These are planned around other staff commitments with face to face teaching, planning and marking. These focus on identified gaps, further challenge tasks and areas children have found tricky in-home learning. If you child is unable to attend the intervention sessions, please let staff know as early as possible, as they may need to adapt plans for the group or may be able to offer the space to another pupil.



## **ART COMPETITION**

Please find attached some information from Mrs Coakley. She has created an Art competition across the federation for everyone to take part in. Please get involved and get creative. We can't wait to see your entries.

## **LEARNING LINKS**

<https://www.sportengland.org/jointhemovement> - a website designated to supporting families with getting active at home during this time. It has lots of information, tips, advice and guidance on how to keep or get active in and around the home.

<https://www.activesussex.org/activeathome/children-and-young-people/> - lots of different ideas for primary aged children about staying active during the lockdown

<https://mindup.org/category/mindup-at-home/>

## **ONLINE SAFETY**

We understand that, once again, children are spending more and more time online due to remote learning, online teaching and connecting with friends.

Please use the link below to access information and support around keeping children safe online during these challenging times. We have attached a leaflet as well around what parents need to know about online challenges- just as a reminder to us all.

[Online safety | NSPCC](#)

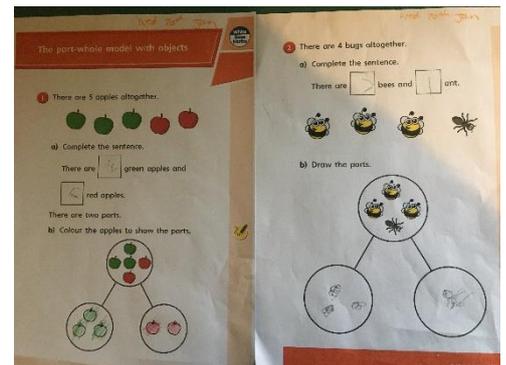
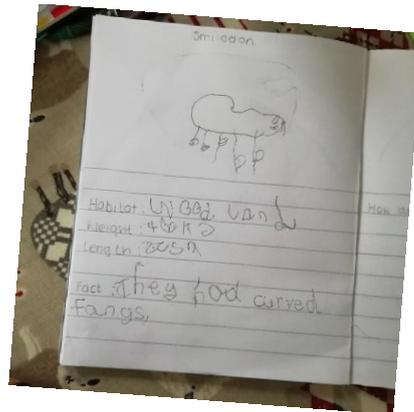
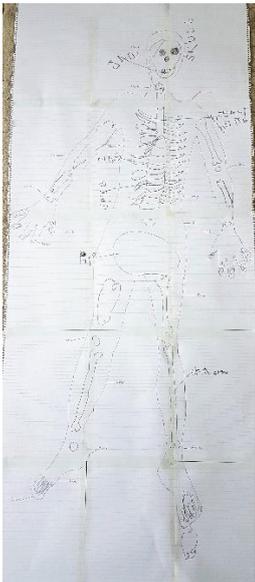
We are all very impressed with how well all of the children are managing both at home and at school. However, we are well aware that there are times when things have not gone so well and home learning has been a struggle and days have been difficult for many of our families. We want to end with a reminder to please be kind to yourselves. You and your family's well-being is of the greatest importance and if there is anything we can do to support you, please contact class teachers, Mrs Brown or Mrs West. We are all here to work together.

Take care, stay safe and we all look forward to seeing you back in school very soon!

With warm regards,

Mrs Rachel West and Mrs Vicki Brown

### Underwater Learning



### BUGS- Brilliant creativity

Millie



Teddy getting muddy



Nancy



# High Peaks getting creative!

