



OUR SCHOOL VALUES: RESPECT - UNDERSTANDING – PEACE – HONESTY – RESPONSIBILITY - TEAMWORK

5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents

### **Spring is on its way...**

I don't know about you but I am definitely beginning to spot the first signs of Spring – snowdrops out, more birdsong and light until 5pm! I even heard a woodpecker this morning and spotted a few primroses starting to bloom. An added bonus is that half term is only one week away. You are all working so hard and we continue to be in awe of the wonderful job you are all doing.

I hope you liked the poems I selected to read to you this week. I plan to choose a different poem every day (nature themed if I can) to share with you during February – the month I have christened 'Hawridge & Cholesbury Poetry Month'! Maybe you will find some recommendations for me or even write one yourself? I would love to read some you have found or written. Please send a message to your class teacher to forward to me or email the school office with your ideas.

At the beginning of January when we began this period of remote learning, we sent a survey to parents in order to help us ensure we were getting the balance of remote learning correct. We were very grateful for your responses and were able to make adjustments as a consequence. You can see a summary of the whole school responses on our school website under Parents and Parental Views. Thank you for all your support with this.

### **Next Term**

We know that remote learning will continue until at least the 8<sup>th</sup> March and that the government will give schools and families two weeks' notice of any return to school learning. Whilst we await the promised update we continue to plan for the current situation. Families who have borrowed English texts in Year 3 and 4 will need to return them to school between 2pm and 3pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February please. Please make sure we know whose book you are returning so that we can cross you off our list and not chase you for the missing book! (Y4 - BFG and Y3 - Charlotte's Web) Further information about texts needed for next term will follow.

**Well done to...** everyone for working so hard. It is wonderful to see all your pictures and hard work; to hear the teachers' nominations for both hard work and putting our School Values into practice during our weekly Celebration Assembly. Special mention goes to Eve in Year 5 for receiving her Blue Peter badge, which was awarded for her fab Harry Potter poster.

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

This week we have been focussing on helping our children to be aware of and look after their mental health. This was a rising concern before the pandemic which has understandably exacerbated the issues for many. The focus is 'express yourself' and I have loved seeing some of the creative ways people are finding to express themselves during this restricted time. May be you have created a piece of expressive art work or written the lyrics to your own song or poem. I would love to see what you have created, so please do share with your teachers on eSchools.

The following picture was painted by Elizabeth Greisman and came from an exhibition called 'After the Fact is Emotion'. I particularly like it because it reminds me of the Spring flowers which will be showing themselves in the coming months.



“I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.”  
**Psalm 139: 14-16**

Have a wonderful (maybe snowy?) weekend.

Kind regards  
Mrs R Phillips  
Headteacher