



### Pupils of the Week

Please watch the post on Class Dojo School Story to see why the children are getting awards this week

	Betty Bee Award	Wilbur Woodpecker Award	Olive Owl Award	Samuel Squirrel Award
Kingfishers	Bronwyn	Hollie D	Jaxon	Lily
Jackdaws	Amelie Charlie	Georgie	Sidney Ava	Max Juilana
Ospreys	Durwin	Olly	Finley	Matilda Charlie
<b>Head of School Award</b>				

Dear Parents

I hope that you are all well and are managing everything going on at the moment. Not that I want to sound like a politician, but these are unprecedented times and everyone is having to deal with situations that would never have dreamed of.

#### WELL-BEING

Now that we have settled into the routine of remote learning (a little) and some of the novelty is wearing off we will all be feeling a bit despondent with things. Personally I am feeling like every day is blending into every other day and I am going round in circles, not really getting anywhere. I am sure that you will be feeling this too, along with your children and I know that the staff are also struggling. We all became teachers to interact with children and that pleasure has been taken away. Children want to be around their friends and that has been taken away. Parents want their children to be taught by professionals and we are not able to do our best teaching for them. This is HARD for everyone. Please remember that this week and remember to build in some relaxation time every day.

#### REMOTE LEARNING:

##### WORKLOAD

While making the home visits and telephone calls this week there have been many of you, particularly with younger children, who have shared that you are finding the delivery of the remote learning rather challenging. We have considered your comments and have a suggestion. We are told that we must provide three hours of education each day but we would like to offer some of you the Wednesday to do the less formal activities. We are proposing that children in Jackdaws and Kingfishers classes do English and maths on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Wednesday can be used to do the other, less formal activities that are on the planning. If we are going to implement this adaptation we will expect that the English and maths is definitely completed for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

We have noticed that some children are racing on ahead with some activities and for example, not watching the maths videos before completing the worksheet, or doing the next piece of work before it has been explained by the teacher. Please follow the order of the teaching and if you are at home some days and at school other days, please complete the right work on the right days!

Ospreys class should be more independent with their learning and have greater expectations as a whole, so please continue to access and complete maths and English tasks on a daily basis. Miss Rousseau will ensure that she timetables in some 'catch-up' sessions every now and again to enable you to finish off anything that needs it.

### **ENGAGEMENT**

Class Dojo is working really well and the teachers are very pleased with the levels of engagement from many of the families with the learning that they have set. That said, there are still some who are not engaging as fully as we would like. We do not know how long this will go on for and are concerned that some children may fall behind and will find the re-integration back into school much more difficult if they have not been engaging in learning for an extended period of time. The biggest challenge that we, as professionals, noticed after the last lockdown was the change in the children's stamina for learning. They found it very hard to go back to maintaining the levels of concentration that they had before, purely because they had got out of the habit.

### **FEEDBACK**

Just a little reminder that all staff are in school teaching all day, so may not be able to reply to messages straight away. A message that takes two minutes to write for each child, multiplied by 25 children, is nearly an hour of replying, and that is just for one piece of work.

The Department for Education have informed us that we should be providing feedback to the remote learning, so messages attached to the children's work will have some praise, but will also have comments on how to improve further. This does not mean that the work is not good enough, it is just what we have to do. The children are used to this as we do it in class all the time so please remind them of this – that is how we learn after all!

### **NATIONAL GUIDANCE**

Reminder that we must observe social distancing measures. If you are dropping or collecting children, please ensure that you follow the guidelines – do not mix with other households. If you need to be near someone from another household, you should be wearing a mask.

Lee White

Head of School

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