



Derwentwater Primary School | Friday 26th March 2021

Message from Mrs Gardner

Children have been working hard on their assessments this week. Assessing children is an important part of the teaching and learning cycle. We are planning to report progress during Parents' Evening after the Easter break. The format and date of Parents' Evening will be shared in further emails.

School is pleased to have remained open for most children since returning. Unfortunately, we had a positive Covid case on Monday which led to twelve children being sent home to self-isolate. For any child self-isolating, there is work available on Google Classroom. It is crucial that we all continue to follow the guidance so we can minimise the spread of Covid as much as possible. We must remember that although schools are open, other restrictions are still in place.

A reminder to the families who drop off close to the barrier at the main gate, please be mindful of children's safety. I have witnessed some dangerous driving and parking over the last couple of weeks and request that families who drive to school park further away and avoid dropping off at the barrier and corners of the roads.

Year 1

Our book of the week, this week was The Enormous Turnip. One of the activities we had was to look at the sequence of the story. We had a look at the repetition within the story and identified all the characters and tried to remember when they appeared. We had a go at retelling the story in pairs to the rest of the class. All this work supports the development of children's organisation in writing and helps children recall the key events within a story.



someone how they could make their unhealthy plant healthy again.



Year 2

In science, the children have continued to watch their bean plants grow and have recorded their observations. They noticed that the bean split first followed by the growth of the main root. Since last week, the small shoot has grown large, green leaves and the stem is longer. They also compared a healthy plant with an unhealthy plant and advised



Year 3

This week Year 3 have been learning how to draw with charcoal with inspiration from Van Gogh. They have also been learning about how to plant and what they need to survive. They have each planted their own basil seeds and will be taking them home next week. Please make sure to bring a container for them to transfer their basil seeds into on Monday. This can be anything from a large yoghurt pot, cardboard coffee mug or plastic soup container.



Year 4

In Geography this week we have been learning about the world around us. We have learnt lots



Website: www.derwentwaterschool.com 020 8992 9196



Contact: @Dwaterw3



twitter: @Dwaterw3



Email: parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk

parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk

of new vocabulary including equator, longitude and latitude. With the clocks changing this week we compared daylight hours in the Arctic with London. We found out some fascinating facts about June and December!!! We are all looking forward to a virtual experience next week.

Please continue to use our online learning facilities including Oxford Reading Buddy & Times Table Rockstars. They really are a great way to consolidate your child's learning journey.

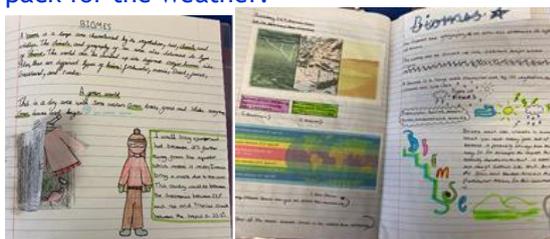
Year 5

In Science this week, we have been learning about our Solar System and how the Earth moves. To investigate these topics, we have created our own planets and sundials. Following on from our virtual Parliament workshop, we have been practising our debating skills and persuasive writing techniques in English. We have written a letter to convince someone to change their mind on an important matter!



Year 6

Year 6 have been working really hard this week in Topic where we have been exploring the Amazing Americas. From learning about the lines of latitude and longitude to the physical and human geography of the area to the range of different climate zones and biomes. Most recently we chose a place in the Americas that we'd like to go and visit and planned our trip there - down to the clothes that we'd need to pack for the weather!



Reading Books



Most children will have their Oxford Reading Books to read at home now that we have returned to

school. Please use these books to read with your child and refer to the points inside the book covers to discuss the reading. These books are linked to Reading Buddy and we encourage children to complete the comprehension quiz when they finish reading their book.

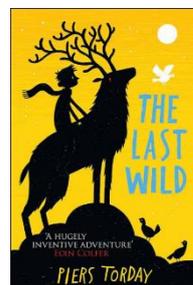
Please return any Oxford Reading Books that your child may still have at home.

Reading

Research has shown that reading to your child every night increases a child's Literacy and Numeracy skills. Reading at bedtime is a little like putting money in a piggy bank and watching it grow. Reading before bed is great one-on-one time as it also strengthens the bond with your child. It is proven to expand a child's vocabulary, a great way to introduce morals - think the hare and the tortoise, fertilizes their imagination and it's lots of fun! One of the most important jobs of a parent is to provide their children with the tools necessary to grow into a responsible adult. Reading offers valuable educational, social and emotional learning tools. 20 minutes reading time will give your child all this and more!

Library and Reading recommendations:

Our school library is set up for class visits and children are very excited to visit the library. Children can tick off the books they read on their tube map, which is on the inside cover of their reading logs, and read across a range of genres. We encourage children to share their reading recommendations and display them in their classroom, the library and share with their peers. Look out for a range of book recommendations in our school foyer and library!



PiXL Primary has launched a series of author podcasts. This week's author is Piers Torday, author of The Last Wild. In the podcast, Piers discusses his motivations for writing 'The Last Wild', which is all about the race to save biodiversity

<https://vimeo.com/524312078>



www.derwentwaterschool.com 020 8992 9196



@Dwaterw3



parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk

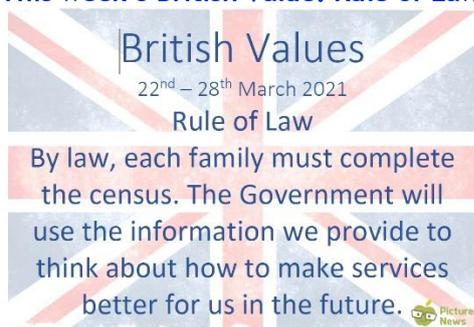
Assembly

Story: Sunday 21st March 2021 was census day when we answer questions that give a snapshot of daily life in UK every ten years (Scotland's will take place next year).

Question: Why do we need a census?



This week's British Value: Rule of Law



Easter Assembly

This week, the teachers have shared a special Easter virtual assembly by Rev Nick Jones.



Did you know that over 100 years ago, before the school was built, Acton was a meadow covered with spring flowers such as bluebells? He explained that Easter is a Christian festival of life where Christians reflect on a sorrow filled day on Good Friday. He went on to compare empty Easter eggs with the empty tomb when Jesus resurrected from the dead. He looked forward to better days ahead where hopefully, this will be his last virtual assembly! Our school foyer also has a wonderful Easter display which was decorated by Romily and Hannah from 2 Emerald. Finally, a reminder that the Reception and KS1 Easter hat/bonnet decorating competition ends on Monday 29th March. Could the children please bring



their hats to their class teacher. Thank you.

Counselling support The Space



Sometimes we could all do with someone to talk to. If you would like to meet with Helen for a confidential and non-judgemental chat about you, your child, or any other worries, she is available on Tuesdays 9 - 10am.

All meetings with adults will currently take place online or over the phone due to COVID19. Call, text or email Helen on 07429 654584 or email hthorp4.307@lgflmail.org.

Inclusion



NHS
Ealing Community
Partners

Ealing Children's Speech and Language Therapy Advice Line for Parents and Professionals

Are you looking for advice about how to support your child (0-18) with their communication at home?

Do you have a general question about speech and language?

Monday to Friday, 1 - 4pm

020 8825 8818 (We can call you with an interpreter if needed)

Email: ealing.sltadvice@nhs.net
Facebook: [facebook.com/SLTEaling](https://www.facebook.com/SLTEaling)

We are happy
to help!

SAFEGUARDING DURING SCHOOL CLOSURE:

If you need to get hold of the Designated Safeguarding Officer, please contact Mrs Karen Hankin via email Parentcomms. If you are concerned about a child, please call Social Care on 0208 825 8000

Childline

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

Childline are there for you all day and all night. You can talk to them about anything. No problem is too big or too small.



Website:



www.derwentwaterschool.com

Contact:



twitter



@Dwaterw3

Email:



parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk

Covid Test Site

Michael Flanders
Church Lane
Acton, W3 8PP
7 days a week
8am-8pm
Call 119 to book a test if you have symptoms.

Clubs for after Easter

Ballet School - new registration is open
The Brit Youth Theatre (Drama club)
A flyer about the clubs and how to book will be shared with parents separately.

Free School Meals

An email was sent this week about claiming vouchers for the Easter break. Please refer to email or link for further details.

[Children's and Adults' Services Dear Parent or Carer, Supermarket vouchers for Easter school holiday to support families !](#)

Date for your diary

Break up on
Wednesday 31st March at 2pm
Back to school on **Monday 19th April**
Half term: **31st May-4th June**
Last day of term **Friday 23rd July at 2pm**



Absence

A reminder to please ring the school office first thing in the morning if your child is absent that day. The office staff are spending a lot of time calling parents who have not called. It is our legal duty to follow up on any absence.

Breakfast Club



Breakfast club will start again after the Easter holiday. This is a great way for children to start the day. At the breakfast club, breakfast is provided as well as opportunities for children to relax, play and socialise. Please get in touch with the office to find out more and express your interest.

Healthy School Reminder



We are committed, as a school, to healthy lunches and always encourage children to make healthy

lifestyle choices. A healthy packed lunch can help children to:

- Have enough energy to concentrate and learn in the afternoon
- Keep calm and be prepared to do their best
- Get important nutrients to keep their bodies healthy

Lunch boxes

It is important that your child's packed lunch contains healthy options - there are a wide variety of choices available. We recommend that there are at least two healthy options and no more than 5 different items i.e., sandwich, yoghurt, veggie sticks, rice cakes, piece of fruit. **Please do not include chocolate bars or biscuits.**

Break time snacks

Children can bring in their own snack, providing it is not chocolate based and is a healthier option.

Nut Free

Please remember we are a nut free school, do not send your child with nuts or nut based products e.g. Nutella.
Thank you for your continued support with this

Google Classroom continues for children self-isolating

A reminder that Google Classroom has 2 weeks of work uploaded for children to access if they are self-isolating. As teachers are now in school teaching, they will not be able to meet remotely and give feedback in the same way as during the last lockdown. Please let school know if you need further support.

Communication to Families

All letters are sent to families as an attachment in an email. Please let us know any changes to email addresses. We will no longer be sending a text message reminder to say that the newsletter has been sent as this is an additional cost to the school. However, school will continue to use text messages for urgent or additional messages to the newsletters. All letters will be published on the website as well. We know that communication is crucial in keeping families informed. Please let us know any feedback or if you have any problems accessing the school communication.

Website:



Contact:



twitter



Email:



Playground Equipment



Exciting news for the children at playtimes. School has invested in a range of playground equipment to encourage more activity and positive play at break and lunchtimes. The Year 6 prefects will manage and monitor the use of the equipment which will be shared for the first-time next week.

Website:



www.derwentwaterschool.com

Contact:



twitter



[@Dwaterw3](https://twitter.com/Dwaterw3)

Email:



parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk