



Derwentwater Primary School | Friday 6th November 2020

Message from Mrs Gardner

Welcoming the children back after the holidays is always a great pleasure. We are looking forward to the term ahead so children can make crucial progress in their learning.

School is very pleased at how the Edible Playground is developing. This exciting project will be finished this week so we can start to use the space for outdoor learning opportunities, mental health and play. Teachers are receiving training on how to support children with growing food and maintaining plants. Further updates will be shared on the school website.

We would like to share our gratitude at the generosity of our community in raising funds for our free school meal families to cover the half term break. £1250 was raised for the eligible families. This money will be converted into vouchers and will be shared in the coming week. We hope that this will be of some help at this difficult time. If any family needs further support with food, please access the Felix Project at school each Tuesday or contact school to request a food bag. School is also looking at other ways that we can support one another in the lead up to Christmas so if you have any suggestions then please let us know.

A Governor vacancy letter and nomination form was emailed out this week. If you are interested or want to know more about being a governor then please complete the form or message school to find out more and someone will get back to you. We welcome all parents to consider this role. There are 2 parent vacancies.

Year 1

In anticipation of the Edible Playground, we have been reading the book *Oliver's Vegetables*. We talked about all the vegetables that Oliver's grandpa grew and what we would like to grow, but more importantly eat!



We also went outside to look at how the work in the Edible Garden was progressing. Whilst we were there we managed to find a tool shed, a compost bin, a wormery and a green house.

Year 2

Welcome back Year 2! It was good to see all the children looking healthy, happy and excited to be back at school. In Science this term, the children will be learning about animals and their habitats. We are excited about the new Edible Garden and we're all looking forward to going on a minibeast safari in the coming weeks to search for minibeasts

in their microhabitats! Looking ahead, the children will be creating a microhabitat for their minibeasts so could children start to bring in a large, clean plastic bottle in order to create their habitat?

Year 3

It has been wonderful to welcome back Year 3 after the half term! This week, the children have started learning about the Stone Age. They have made their own cave paintings based on Stone Age animals as well as building their own stone age houses using sticks, straw and daub.

Year 4

Wow, what a productive half term our children had! We have seen amazing needlework skills from Bethan and design skills from Jawad building a pyramid using lego. Ghadeer created a detailed diagram about plants. Rayan gave a brilliant presentation about the environment and how it is changing rapidly. Oliver completed the long awaited sequel to his debut novel. Dawid gained a grey belt in Jiu jitsu, Nathaniel produced an amazing portrait of Sonic and Frances is helping us build up our Spanish conversational skills. We have also encouraged small acts of kindness.

Website:



www.derwentwaterschool.com

Contact:



020 8992 9196

twitter



@Dwaterw3

Email:



parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.uk

Remember even a smile can be so important in these strange times for all of us.

Year 5

This week, Year 5 travelled back in time to attend school in the Victorian era. They had



to bow and curtsey when completing the register, practised writing in copperplate and completed the daily drill.



We have also enjoyed watching our new Edible Playground develop into an outdoor learning space. The children went to have a look and thank the gardeners.



Year 6

Welcome back to all the children in Year 6. We would like to thank all the children for their applications and interest in taking on various roles and responsibilities. Due to the huge interest, we have assigned more prefect and librarian roles, monitor roles and buddy roles.

Well done to everyone and we look forward to sharing pictures of our new teams with you next week. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we will have to continue social distancing and so some responsibilities will not be in place this term.

Reading Buddy

Congratulations to Year 3 for improved engagement and 2 Opal for their excellent effort on Reading Buddy. This is set for homework every week and children's reading comprehension can improve with this additional resource. Answering questions set to their level with their Reading Buddy is a great way to engage children in their reading whilst improving their comprehension.



NEW Google Classroom Phonic resources

We'd like to draw attention to all parents in KS1 and EYFS to our new Phonics section on Google Classroom. In it, you will find a selection of short video clips that show parents and carers how to pronounce, write and apply set 1, 2 and 3 sounds. Parents and children can watch the short video clips that also consolidate reading red words, green words and multisyllabic words. These resources will be updated every week so we urge parents and carers to dip into this section weekly as I'm sure your children would greatly benefit from accessing these supportive resources.

Half term 60 second reading challenge



Thank you to all the children and their wonderful reading buddies who took part in last week's 60 second reading challenge. The children and their reading buddies enjoyed reading a range of texts and identifying tricky words. Here is Ethan from 1

Ruby with his completed reading challenge chart.

Picture Book of the month



This week, Leth from 1 Ruby has chosen 'Aliens Love Underpants' by Claire Freedman. He chose it because it was a funny book that made him giggle. You can watch his book recommendation on Google Classroom in the Y1 class pages.

6 Saturn's book recommendation: What Not to Do if You Turn Invisible

A surprising, beautiful and funny novel about a child who, by disappearing, will write herself into your heart forever...



Maths

Congratulations to Turtle, Jet, Holly, Maple and Mercury class on their improved engagement levels on Times Table



Website:



Contact:



twitter

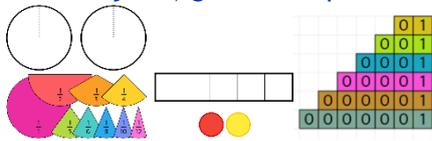


Email:



Rockstars/Numbots. The classes with the highest engagement this week were:
 EYFS - Turtle and Dolphin, KS1 - Jet, LKS2 - Maple. UKS2 - Mercury.

Over the half term, I was introduced to a wonderful online tool called 'Toy Theatre'. It features interactive maths tools and games that are appropriate for primary aged children. In the Mastery Approach to maths, using concrete materials and manipulatives is key to helping students develop conceptual understanding of various topics. Toy Theatre has interactive manipulatives and tools that can be used to reinforce what has been learnt at school. It also has lots of fun maths (and other subjects) games and puzzles.



Free School Meals for October half term

The local authority decided to provide funding for free school meal families for the October half term. A link was shared with families this week. If you haven't applied and are eligible please click on the link below.

[Half term free school meal support | Half term free school meal support](#)

If you need help with the application, then please let school know and we will assist you.

Assembly

Story: Footballer Marcus Rashford has been campaigning for the UK government to extend the free school meals scheme over school holiday periods.

Question: Do famous people have a responsibility to use their voice to help others?
Virtual Assembly: <https://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss/2020-10-30/>



This week's British Value



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

This week has seen the start of after-school clubs for KS1 and KS2 children. The focus will be on areas in English and maths. Groups will change every half-term and they will include a range of abilities. Every teacher will have selected children based on their knowledge of what those children need to do to improve in those subjects. These clubs are a great opportunity for your child so please take up the offer.

SAFEGUARDING:

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/>

Website:



www.derwentwaterschool.com

Contact:



twitter



@Dwaterw3

Email:



parentcomms@derwentwater.ealing.sch.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.



Colder Weather

Please encourage your child to wear more layers than normal as the weather gets colder. School has to follow rules of good ventilation to prevent the virus from spreading so we are keeping windows open. The heating will be on but the classrooms will feel cooler.

Streets Scheme

The streets scheme started this week. The barrier prevents cars driving into the road at drop off and pick up times. We hope this will improve safety at the gate. School needs volunteers to stand at the barrier. Please get in touch if you can help.



Remote Learning

A reminder that our remote learning offer should be used if children are well but needing to isolate. Let school know if you have any issues accessing any of our online learning platforms.

NEW 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.

Website:



www.derwentwaterschool.com

Contact:



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