

RODE AND NORTON ST PHILIP SCHOOL FEDERATION: NEWSLETTER 03

18th September 2020

rodeandnortonschoolfederation.co.uk

Rode Early Bird and Stay and Play Team

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OFSTED Registration: EY489041

HERE COME THE GRUFFALOS!

A very warm welcome to our new Reception children starting in Gruffalo Class. Mrs Muxworthy and Mrs Walker enjoyed meeting everyone at the home visits (and some gigantic dogs!) and during the induction sessions in school. We look forward to seeing everyone for their first official day at school on Monday. Get the cameras and the tissues ready!

A NEW SCHOOL YEAR KICKS OFF!

Elmer Class were very excited to have their first football coaching session with ex-professional footballer Martin Philips this week. We are extremely lucky to be able to access the skills of our very own FA coach and hope this could be the start of building up those silky skills at a young age which will help to produce an amazing winning school football team in future years! This week they started by working on shooting and goal-keeping using mini goal nets. They learnt how to stop the ball and which part of their foot to use to kick it. Martin will be working with Gruffalo and Elmer Class every Thursday. Come on you Purples!

YEAR 2, 3 AND 4 STEP UP TO THE WICKET!

Following a tantalising virtual assembly with Scott Chappell, from Somerset Cricket Board, BFG, Wild Things and Paddington classes were extremely excited to get going with their cricket sessions led in person by cricket coach Alex. What a splendiferous time they had learning the intricacies of batting, bowling and fielding. The BFG's decided on the motto 'There's no I in team' and there certainly wasn't. All the children learnt to be team players, to encourage each other and to be good winners and losers. There were smiles all round although the session ended all too quickly. I think we may have some future county cricket players judging by the enthusiasm and skills shown. Roll on next Thursday!

CORONAVIRUS IN CHILDREN – SYMPTOMS AND TESTING

This week we have seen an increase in the number of children and staff experiencing mild respiratory symptoms such as runny noses and colds. Children and staff with these symptoms do not require self-isolation or testing for them or their wider family.

The three main symptoms of coronavirus in children have been clarified by NHS this week. They are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)

- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If any child or adult displays these symptoms it is very important that they stay at home, self-isolate with their household and get a test. I'm sure you are aware of the current problems in accessing a test, and we sympathise greatly with anyone who is experiencing these difficulties. However children cannot return to school until the child, or person in their family who is experiencing the symptoms, receives a negative test or is out of the quarantine period. Quarantine periods are 10 days for the person with symptoms or 14 days for anyone in the household not experiencing the symptoms.

If you have any questions about your child having Coronavirus symptoms please contact one of the following member of our senior staff, not your class teachers:

Carolyn Tommey: ctommey@educ.somerset.gov.uk

George Muxworthy: gmuxworthy@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Kim Slade: kslade@educ.somerset.gov.uk

More information about symptoms and testing is available [here](#):

HOME LEARNING CLARIFICATION

Home learning activities will be provided to any child who is self-isolating due to a family member having the symptoms of Covid-19. If a child is absent because they are unwell, with either Covid-19 symptoms or another illness home learning will not be provided. Please contact your class teacher with any questions.

FLU VACCINATIONS - REMINDER

All children within the Federation have been offered flu vaccinations this year. A letter from the School Aged Children Immunisation Nursing Team (SAINT) can be found [here](#). This letter includes information about the immunisation and the link to an electronic consent form.

The link will close by 7th October 2020, all forms will need to be submitted by this date. Please complete the form even if you do not consent to the vaccination.

SAINT are proud to be able to share with your their teams flu promotional video to demonstrate how school based flu sessions will run this term during these uncertain times.

https://youtu.be/cdqeuh97_aU

FAIR FROME FOOD BANK

At this time of year, we usually request donations to Fair Frome's food bank as part of our Harvest celebrations. Although we will sadly be unable to invite you into school to celebrate harvest with us this year, donations can still be made directly to the food bank. **Please do not bring produce into school** but there are donation points across Frome at: Sainsburys, Asda, Tesco Express, Coop Badcox, Coop Westway, Lidl, Wholefood shop, Coop Funeral care, or indeed direct to Fair Frome, behind the Town Hall.

As always, Fair Frome welcome any donations of dried non-perishable goods but are currently short of the following items:

Cold meat
Soup
Tinned fruit
Tinned custard
Sauces for rice (curry sauce etc)
Tinned vegetables
Biscuits
Coffee
Tinned snacks
Juice/squash
Sugar
Toiletries

If you would prefer to make a financial donation to Fair Frome you can do so via this link to [local giving](#)

CAN YOU HELP MRS VOWELL TO RAISE MONEY FOR WATERAID?

Mrs Vowell is swimming a marathon in a month tethered to a tree in a pool in her garden! Can you help her to raise £250 to help children who have no access to water to drink, or to keep themselves safe during the Covid crisis?

"This autumn I will be taking on a Swim Marathon with a difference to help raise funds for the 1 in 10 people who don't have clean water close to home.

I will be swimming a marathon in my back garden, in an unheated paddling pool that is colder than the sea, tied to a tree for 40 minutes a day (a mile). The challenge began on the 10th September and finishes on the 10th October.

I am encouraging my class and my own children to wash their hands as often as they possibly can, to help protect themselves and their family from Covid. It breaks my heart that there are children who cannot do this, as they do not have access to soap and water. Clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene should be a normal part of everyone's daily life. Without all three, people can't live dignified, healthy lives. With all three, they can unlock their potential, break free from poverty and change their lives for good. With clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene whole communities can start to thrive. It sounds normal and it should be'. Thank you for your support!

Mrs Vowell - [Donate here](#)

Carolyn Tommey
Executive Head Teacher Rode and Norton St Philip School Federation