

RODE AND NORTON ST PHILIP SCHOOL FEDERATION: NEWSLETTER 18

22nd January 2021

rodeandnortonschoolfederation.co.uk

Rode Early Bird and Stay and Play Team

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OFSTED Registration: EY489041

Dear Parents and Carers,

Message from Mrs Muxworthy

By the time you read this newsletter we will be half-way through the first half-term of the year. I don't want to wish the year away but that does mean we have made it through the first half of this 6 week period of Lockdown Learning. We don't yet know whether we will all be able to return to school after half-term, it may not even be until Easter but I think you can all award yourselves an extra special 'teacher's refreshment' tonight as a reward for getting this far!

In school we recognise that teaching is hard work and staff need to pace themselves in order to last the distance of a whole term. Please make sure all you home-educators do the same and remember you are not trying to replicate school but instead are creating a special family time at home and memories that your children may keep far into the future.

We have been delighted to see photos of children playing in the woods, cooking, building models of the Taj Mahal, playing family board games, making up their own board games, riding horses, go-karting, gardening, dancing, singing and dog-walking. The highlight of my week was catching a chat with the McPherson family who scooted up to school to deliver their letters for Mrs Tommey, written in beautiful handwriting. The children gave me a full critique of their new home teachers!

It has been such a tonic to see the 'Hopes and Dreams' thought bubbles that have been coming into school ready for our 'Big Book of Hope'. I have also taken delivery of some more lovely cards and letters for Mrs. Tommey. It's not too late to still send things in over the next few days.

Staff News

Following a recruitment and interview process I am pleased to inform you that last week we appointed Katie Twitchen as our new School Business Manager. Katie lives in Norton st. Philip and has two children at our school. Katie is currently a Business Manager in another Somerset school and brings many skills to add to those of our talented Office Team. Katie will be taking up post after the February half-term and we are very pleased to welcome her to our Federation team.

School Lunch Provision

Children who are **attending school** as part of the critical worker/vulnerable programme are now entitled to receive a packed lunch if they are in **Reception, Year 1 or Year 2** as part of the **Universal Infant Free School Meals** offer. Your child may well prefer to continue bringing in

their own lunch. Please contact Tina Tarbrooke in the Rode office **by 3pm on Tuesday 26th January** if your child requires this provision in school for w/b 1st February.

BIF Club for all Parents and Carers in the Federation working at Home and doing Home Schooling - Every Thursday 12noon

*****Starting Thursday 21st Jan*****

Rev.Caroline Walker will be holding another BIF (Bible is Fun) club this Thursday 28th January at 12 noon. The details to join are here:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82047737915?pwd=am4wN1VzSUhSNFlrbHkvNGVJNDhBQT09>

Meeting ID: 820 4773 7915

Passcode: 705639

There will be a short bible story presented over Zoom and a related craft/creative activity. This will last approx. 20 - 30 mins max. If parents and children then wish to stay on Zoom and go into Breakout Rooms - with their agreed friends they can remain in those for a further one and a half hours if they choose! Further details and if you would like to ask more about this do contact Caroline on 01373 834258 or email carolinehwalker@btinternet.com

Feedback Friday

Many thanks for all the 'Feedback Friday' photos that have been coming in. Keep them coming as we love to see what you have all been doing. Individual class teachers will feedback to you.

Wishing you all a good weekend and enjoy that teacher refreshment tonight!

George Muxworthy

Head Teacher

Rode and Norton St Philip School Federation

Coronavirus in Children – Symptoms and Testing

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

- a high 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 sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

What to do if your child has symptoms

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. You, your child and anyone else you live with should stay at home and not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have the test.

Anyone in your support bubble should also stay at home if your child has been in close contact with them since their symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started. More information about symptoms and testing is available [here](#):

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:

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

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