

RODE AND NORTON ST PHILIP SCHOOL FEDERATION: NEWSLETTER 20

05th February 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

As we come to the end of week 5 of term the end is in sight with just one more week of remote learning before we can all take a breath and have a pit-stop!

Many thanks to all those Home Learning parents who have already completed our Remote Learning survey. The survey closes at midnight Saturday 6th Feb. Please could only one parent per household complete the survey so that the results aren't skewed. Please see the link I emailed out on Tuesday 2nd February. If your child has mainly been attending school the survey does not apply to you. We have already had over 50% of responses in and they are very illuminating and heartening to read. Thank you for your honesty and support for the hard work of the staff. I will feedback the outcomes and our subsequent actions in a future newsletter.

If any parent does not have access to a printer please let your class teacher know and they will ensure that you can collect a printed pack.

Keep up the good work!

More super learning has been taking place in all the classes this week.

In **Paddington** Class Mrs Duncan dressed as a grumpy farmer to read from 'Fantastic Mr. Fox' and home learners all wore fancy dress too for the Zoom call story. Some very creative outfits! At home Ffion joined in Anthony Gormley's Biggest Art Challenge and made a sea-life stained-glass window. Theo. M wrote some fabulous persuasive writing and Indie produced a wonderful piece of work entitled 'Who is Beegu?'

Gruffalo Class all made kites and it was the perfect windy weather to fly them at the weekend. We have also had some wonderful videos sent in of the children telling their own Paper Dolls stories including Theo H and Theo K. Well done to Josephine whose dolls travelled to Moscow to buy Russian dresses and then took the Trans-Siberian Express home! Zac from **Elmer** Class has been working really hard at home, always sending in lots of work. This week he found out about Blue tits and drew a fantastic pencil drawing of a blue tit with some great writing about blue tits, remembering his capital letters and full stops. Bowen has enjoyed learning about The Wright Brothers and came up with some great questions about their first flight at Kitty Hawk over 100 years ago. He also designed a medal to celebrate their achievements.

In **BFG** Class Sofia, Samuel, and Emily have been really creative turning the story of Medusa into a family drama, with and without puppets. Louis W has been learning about Aloe Vera plants and making lots of mini ones to help with burns in the kitchen! Archie sent in photo of a Greek pot which looked great with an authentically sunken middle!

Wildthings Class have been very busy this week as Miss Anderson explains below:

It was Children's Mental Health week this week so Team Wild Things decided to celebrate in style by '**Dressing to Express!**' First up was our amazing remote learners. They came to their afternoon Zoom session wearing the clothes that make them feel amazing! We had WWE jumpers, Minecraft jumpers, woodland wildlife dresses and even an animal onesie! Next, the children in school showed off their favourite outfits and even the staff got involved. Miss Armiger was wearing her favourite PJ's as she loves to be comfy and cosy. Miss Anderson donned her favourite ball gown and tiara (of course!) and Mr Connor wore his red Arizona Cardinals jumper, shorts and some Gorilla slippers that made all the children laugh. We had great fun expressing ourselves through our clothes and it was a lovely reminder to embrace who we are as individuals. If you would like to carry on celebrating Children's Mental Health Week at home, then visit this website and check out all resources

- <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

This week I was also joined by 16 of our home-schooling children in Years 3 and 4 for my **Ancient Greek Pottery Throw Down**. Over this last term, the children have been learning all about the magical world of Ancient Greece. This week, they researched the different vases and patterns that were used during that time period and we found out that the Ancient Greeks liked to decorate their pots with pictures that showed what life was like over 2000 years ago! With this in mind, we decided to create our own pots showing pictures of what life is like now.

The children did an amazing job shaping all different types of clay, salt dough and play dough into their specially designed pots. They moulded, rounded, pinched, prodded and crafted their dough into fantastic vases that will look incredible when they're finished. The children were brilliant at sharing their ideas for their pots and I am looking forward to seeing photos of them all when they have dried.

Well done everyone! Miss Anderson.

Sports Trail Opportunity

Thank you to one of our Gruffalo parents, Stuart Kingwell, who works in a sports coaching company called 'Up and Under Sports'. For this lockdown they have been putting together a set of sports challenges to complete at home.

There is a road map to follow and a certificate at the end. It's all free of charge, and hopefully a good resource for children at home to complete. The challenges are differentiated and aimed at all ages/levels of primary school children.

All the information is on their website www.upandundersports.co.uk at the bottom of the homepage with a downloadable/printable map and certificate as well as a link to their Youtube channel where the challenges are in a playlist following the map. Have a go!

Get Fit in February!

I've managed to make it to the fifth week of term without having to mention parking. Alas, it is becoming a problem again at Norton st. Philip. Please could all parents observe the 'No Parking' sign and cones next to the vicarage wall. If cars park against this wall any passing vehicles are forced to drive onto the village green which is becoming completely eroded. The school then gets blamed by the Parish Council and threatened with a bill for repairs. We also have a problem with parents parking on the single white line on Bell Hill, opposite the school turning. When vehicles are parked here it makes it almost impossible to turn right out of Church Street.

Please could all fit and able parents consider parking just a little bit further away from school and **enjoy a five minute walk** either through the park or up/down Bell Hill. Did you know there is a footpath that leads from the Co-op down through the park? Also a path next to the George pub. Let's save the limited spaces around the green for parents with very young babies. Many thanks to the majority of parents who are already doing this.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend and a good last week of half-term

George Muxworthy
Head Teacher RNSF

School Lunch Provision

Children who are **attending school** as part of the critical worker/vulnerable programme are 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 9th February** if your child requires this provision in school for w/b 8th February.

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

Rev.Caroline Walker will be holding another BIF (Bible is Fun) club this Thursday 11th February at 12 noon. The details to join are here:

Topic: BIF Club - Bible is Fun - Thursdays!
Time: Feb 11, 2021 12:00 PM London

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 carolinewalker@btinternet.com

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