



RIPLLEY ENDOWED CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Where we Aim for the STARs (Share, Trust, Aspire, Respect)

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – 15th January 2021

Update from Mrs Jackson-Ward

Dear Parents and Carers,

I do hope you have all had a good week – even with more snow!

Our teachers are now all up and running with online learning and the children are coping extremely well with it. We are very proud of them and it just shows how resilient and independent they are.

However, we all know learning from home is difficult. Try to make sure that the children have a quiet, organised space, free from distractions, to learning in. A dedicated corner of their bedroom or kitchen table perhaps. This will help them concentrate and focus better.

Having a timetable to complete the learning for that day will help too. That way tasks don't build up and become overwhelming - for you all! This will ease stress levels all round.

Another important tip for learning at home is to have regular breaks - make sure you all eat, and drink plenty of water throughout the day. Keeping hydrated is important for brain power. (Mozart is great music to listen to when you need that extra brain power – there is lots on YouTube – google it!)

If you are having any issues or just need to chat, there is always someone in school you can contact. Just give us a call or send an email.

On another note, school has been made aware of a gaming app called Cunch-Line Chronicles which is based on County Lines (County Lines refers to drug dealing and criminal activity that takes place across county lines and can involve Y6 children in some areas). Oursaferschools.co.uk is concerned about 'the glorification or nominalisation of gang culture and criminal activity and feels it has adult themes not suitable for children.' The other app is Dragon City. Here the children can build a city populated with dragons. This is popular with younger children but it is intended for users over 14 years. However, this app has a chat feature which is unlocked as users progress and the children are encouraged to share personal information to gain gems – this information may be shared with third parties.

The site always recommends that you:

- Talk to your children about keeping safe online and who they would talk to if someone made them feel uncomfortable.
- Check that they understand what to do if they see something online that upsets them or worries them.
- Ensure your children only play games with people online that they [and you] know.

This site has resources to help you with this. Please take time to look at it.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Lisa



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Keyworker Booking Forms

A reminder that all booking forms up to half term are due in today. Please can we re-emphasise, that in line with Government guidelines, if there is another adult in the household/support bubble that isn't a keyworker, children should where possible stay at home.

Swallows Class Update

We just wanted to say how impressed we have been with your attitude to learning this week. We weren't sure how our zoom learning was going to work but thanks to you it has been a success and it's been lovely to see and talk to you. We've also enjoyed all the photos and videos you have been sending us so please keep them coming.

We'd also like to say thank you to all the parents for the lovely, supportive messages you have been sending us.

Next week, starting with YR, we will try to get in touch with everyone individually via zoom to catch up and make sure everything is ok.

This week we have been locating Jamaica on the map, planning their route there and making sure their passport is ready to go. In DT we have been developing our cutting skills, and in Music learning about pulse and rhythm. In R.E the Year 1&2 children have been learning all about Judaism and we have been very impressed with the children's knowledge on this! All of Swallows have also continued to learn about animals as part of Science. The Reception children have been learning all about farm animal offspring and the Year 1&2's have been learning about ocean animals! We also did some phonics in the snow as well as snow painting it looked great fun!

Have a wonderful weekend in the snow Swallows

Robins Class Update

Our first full week of home schooling and we have snow again!! What fun we have had building snowmen, igloos and photographing snowflakes. We started learning about films and cinema from 1920 until now. The children produced some great timelines and even made their own black and white movies. It was all about skeletons in science. We learnt scientific bone names, identified them on a skeleton and learnt why we need skeletons. We also started reading our new class story: 'The boy who drew dragons', and really enjoyed watching the author, Andy Shepherd, reading the first chapter to us. We have been investigating what makes a place of worship sacred in R.E.; multiplying, dividing, and finding factor pairs in maths; and, in stark contrast to our current surroundings (and climate!), we have been exploring the jungle and developing our creative writing skills over a few days to finally publish a jungle log. We have had some super descriptive and well-structured pieces of work, demonstrating that the children's imaginations can transport them anywhere!



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Falcons Class Update

This week: we've measured snowmen and investigated prime numbers for maths, written fantastic entries for our Elf Encyclopaedia, looked at the history of music in the 20th century from Louis Armstrong to Bastille and listened to David Walliams read his new book Codename Bananas.

Just a reminder that from Monday next week there will be live English lessons for Falcons via zoom every day. The timings will be Y5 at 1pm, and Y6 at 1:30pm. Please make sure that your child is able to access the call, as the session will be the 'input' part of the online lessons for the week. Mr Williams will message the zoom codes on Seesaw each morning.

★ Stars of the Week ★

Congratulations to all our stars of the week who have demonstrated our 'Aspire' Star quality this week.

Falcons: Oscar for 'Aspire' - For being a Seesaw star and being dedicated to his online learning: his uploads are as of high a quality as his school-based work. Very well done!

Robins: Niamh for 'Respect' - an awesome week of home learning, consistently producing some very impressive, high-quality work!

Swallows: Ava B for working hard on her pre-cursive letter formation. We know how tricky it is to keep up these good habits so well done!