



Uffington Church of England Primary School

"Everyone Matters"
Love, Honesty, Courage



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Newsletter

28th January 2021

Note from Mrs Bradbury

Thank you once again for the lovely messages and positive feedback you have sent to staff this week. Like you some of our staff are juggling home schooling their children at the same time as preparing teaching live online lessons or supporting the critical workers class - we therefore understand how much you are having to cope with. This has not stopped the children producing some superb work. In school this week I was thrilled to read a story called Stone Age Boy written by Aaron. He combined descriptive fiction alongside historical facts. I have also seen some very inventive magic flying carpets in production!

Can we please ask that children are ready for their online lessons by being appropriately dressed (not in pyjamas) and not eating breakfast if possible? Thank you.

Through our online platform, you have unprecedented access to the teachers and this communication has been helpful and vital in supporting you and the children. Alongside this, I have clear health and safety guidelines about limiting the number of staff on site. Therefore, I have asked the teachers not to come into school once a week to make welfare phone calls for the time being. If you feel that you do need a phone call from one of the teachers, can you please email them, and they will be able to book an online meeting with you. We still intend to hold parent teacher consultations after half term and more information will follow nearer the time.

As you know each week, I take part in a county wide briefing with OCC and Public Health England. Much of the focus this week has been in implementing home testing for all staff. Any staff who are in school will test twice weekly, using home testing kits supplied by the NHS/DfE and report results both to the NHS and to me.

Finally, the Department for Education announced yesterday that all schools will be closed over the half term break, this includes our critical worker class. Therefore, we will close from 3pm on Friday 12th February. All dates are on the school website.

Whole School News



Next week's puzzle piece is:
Have a positive attitude.

COVID Winter Grant Scheme

The government has awarded councils money under the COVID Winter Grant Scheme designed for vulnerable households and families, with or without children, who are particularly affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

Oxfordshire County Council is working closely with advice centres and the city and district councils to help ensure that local children, families and vulnerable individuals do not go hungry or without utilities and other essential items this winter.

Support is available in the form of advice, supermarket and fuel vouchers or through the direct payment of energy or water bills. South Oxfordshire and Vale of the White Horse residents that are struggling to afford food or pay their fuel bills, may be eligible to receive help.

Further guidance is available at the following advice centres.

For South and Vale please contact Citizens Advice on 0808 278 7907. For Vale of White Horse, please contact the team at Wantage Independent Advice Centre on 01235 765348.

If you require an Advice Centre Winter Grant Scheme referral form, please contact the school office.

Please note that only one member (over the age of 18) per household can apply, and you must live in South Oxfordshire or Vale of the White Horse.

This scheme will be available until the end of March 2021. To find out more about the Government's COVID Winter Grant Scheme, visit www.gov.uk, and to find out what other support is available to you during the pandemic, please visit the COVID support, advice and guidance pages on the following website www.southoxon.gov.uk

Class news & other bits

White Horse

Last week in Whitehorse Class, we looked at Princes, Princesses, Knights and Dragons! We loved doing the ice challenge and seeing which ways were best for melting the ice! We created a wanted poster for a dragon! And we made ourselves some crowns! The children and parents have been working so hard! Remember to keep reading online, any problems or if you need new allocated books, just let me know!



Ridgeway


This week remotely, Ridgeway class have been taking advantage of the wintery weather. In Science, we have been observing and photographing signs of winter whilst out walking and in our gardens. We have been talking about how the season has changed since it was autumn and what this looks like in terms of weather and plants. We have also been noticing the changes in daylight and length of the days/nights. In English we used the spontaneous flurry of snow, at the weekend, to write a short recount of our Snow Day. We made sure to use time connectives and past tense verbs to share our exciting day with each other.

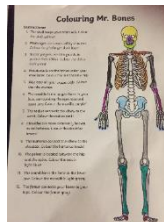
In maths, Year 1 children have been working on their mental maths strategies and number bonds to ten to solve addition and subtraction. They have been adding by making ten first to help them see patterns and quickly solve addition. In Year 2, the children, have moved on to division. We have been sharing by grouping objects and been applying our known times table facts to division problems.



Dragon

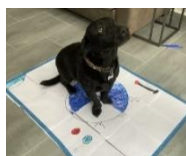
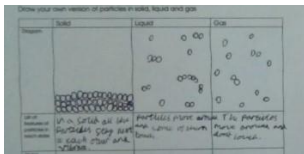
We want to start by saying thank you to everyone in Dragon Class who has worked so hard on their adventure story writing. Mr. Sheppard and I have been so impressed with the writing that has been produced. In maths the problem solving in division has been making us all work a bit harder, some of the questions have even been stumping the adults! We have also had some great science work this week Mr. Bones has been helping us to learn the scientific names of the bones and Operation Ouch has been causing mayhem in the kitchen as we set up bony science experiments. Whilst in RE we have been exploring the Hindu concept of dharma (duty).

Person	Their duties
A pupil 	A school pupil has a duty to: Concentrate in class Listen to the teacher Pupils must help their friends



Wayland

I am so proud of Wayland and how they continue to embrace home learning. I have seen wonderful examples of children showing perseverance and determination and some fantastic pieces of work. This week, we have been thinking about our designs for magic carpets and creating prototypes to test how they might work practically. We have also voted on which book we want to listen to as our class fun read and the children voted for the Costa Children's award book: "Voyage of the Sparrowhawk" by Natasha Farrant - it is proving to be a real page turner set at the end of the first world war. We finished our Arabian stories and inspired by the photo of Shep, (who has disappeared to ancient Baghdad during lockdown - see the photo below) made our class mascot the protagonist in many of the stories. The class continued to explore different states of matter and explored what happens when we heat or cool solids, liquids and gases. Keep up the fantastic work, Wayland!



Dog on a flying carpet.

Whole School

Recommended by the DfE and PHE

Coronavirus: How to keep children healthy, happy, learning and entertained at home

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Here is your free e-copy of Family First magazine, packed full of information to help keep children happy, learning & entertained at home during lockdown. We hope it helps in some way.

Please click the link below:

https://issuu.com/sevenstarmedia/docs/ff_issue_7_digital211220

Like & follow us on Facebook
Stay safe, The Family First Team



School Absence Reporting

All absences from school (including online learning) still need to be reported to the school office.

Please email as the telephone is not fully manned.

office@uffingtonprimary.org

School Money Accounts

We kindly request that parents check their SchoolMoney accounts and pay any arrears.

Please remember all letters sent home are available to view on the school website.

We are a nut free school.
Please do not send your child to school with any food products containing nuts.