



Dear Parents and Carers

It seems unbelievable that we are already at the end of January, having missed our regular schooling for four weeks now. We know what a worry this is to families who are concerned about their children falling behind, especially after lockdown last year too. We share your concerns and sympathise with parents and carers who are doing their absolute best to support their children. I would however like to reassure you that you are not alone. Many other families are experiencing the same concerns and daily struggles, despite what social media may portray. As returning to school is not on the cards now until at least March, I wanted to reassure you of some steps you can take to help. Firstly, be kind to yourself, if it all gets too much and the pressures of home schooling reach a peak, take some time out with your children and come back to it later. The live lessons are recorded, so you can be more flexible in when you access them. Just drop the class teacher a quick dojo to let them know, so they don't expect assignments to be returned. Secondly, we are happy to offer extra support via messages or phone calls, making suggestions to help with your individual circumstances and sometimes it helps for the class teacher to talk to the child. Thirdly, we can send resources to help—in some cases we have sent workbooks to take a little pressure off the daily work set as it allows you to still do some work, but maybe not always the work set. We are also happy to come round and see you in person with a doorstep visit, this can sometimes provide that vital face to face (at a distance) contact that gives children the link back to school. In this newsletter, there is also information about supporting children's well-being and mental health as we know what an impact this time can have. Lastly, we are also providing some bespoke online sessions with our TA's to offer more directed, personal support. Please continue to keep in touch to ensure that we help you in the best way that we can. Please be on the look out for an email with a survey, which will help us to help you more.

Please keep safe. Best Wishes

Suzanne Farr

Amazing Gift!

This week, Capel school received a very generous donation from a member of our extended family. They want to remain anonymous, but they are especially keen to help our children through this difficult time. We have already started putting the funds to good use by sending out resources to help our children with their learning. This could be in the form of magnetic letters, pens, workbooks, story books, teaching clocks, well-being resources and educational maths equipment. If there is something that you think your child would benefit from, please do let us know. We can't thank our donor enough for all their kindness and I am sure you would all want to join with me in sending them an enormous virtual hug!



Dear Parents and Carers

We just want to give you a brief update on how the Governors have been supporting Capel since Gordon's last note. We all find ourselves in a new term and a new Tier. Whilst it's a constant challenge, Mrs Farr and Team have been doing an incredible job keeping staff and children as safe as possible. The Governors have reviewed the updated Covid-19 Risk Assessment and are really happy to say how reassured we are with it. We have also reviewed the data from the assessments the children completed in December. This shows a really positive picture, especially taking into account the length of time the children were unable to attend school throughout the first lockdown and the short time teachers have had with them back in the classroom. Monitoring visits have continued, albeit virtually, however, the strategy planning has been slightly delayed due to the restrictions. We are hopeful we can share more with you about that in the next update.

All in all it has again been a busy time for everyone and we are very much looking forward to when we can all come back into school.

Take care, keep safe, best wishes.

Nikki Woodward & Capel Governors

Luna and Star say Squeak, Squeak (Thank you)

After Luna and Star wrote to the children last week, they have received some wonderful pictures to decorate their area. They are delighted and wanted to make sure I said thank you on their behalf. Please keep them coming, it's a big space to fill.

Safer Internet Day will be on the 9th February 2021

Safer Internet Day 2021 will be celebrated in the UK with the theme:

An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world

There are lots of resources that you can explore to help you and your children learn more about internet safety. This is such an important topic at the moment, with so many more children using the internet for remote learning.

You can find resources, information and activities at

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>

<https://www.saferinternetday.org/>



Half-Term

You may have seen in the media that the Government have now confirmed that schools will be closed over half term for all pupils. We will not be setting any work or lessons during this time either. If you are using the voucher scheme, this will continue over half term. Can I please remind families that any positive COVID results within our families need to be shared with the school as soon as possible, this includes over half term.

Year 3 are learning how to write persuasive letters and have chosen some incredibly grownup topics for this. They range from plastic pollution in our oceans to overpopulating the village with new housing developments. Miss Montgomery is beyond excited by the work coming from the class already and cannot wait to see the letters next week. We will keep you posted and perhaps even publish some on the website as well as sending them to some key figures.



'Don't do it Alone'

<https://www.kooth.com/>

Just some of the things you'll find on Kooth



Magazine

Helpful articles, personal experiences and tips from young people and our Kooth team.



Discussion Boards

Start or join a conversation with our friendly Kooth community. Lots of topics to choose from!



Chat with the team

Chat to our helpful team about anything that's on your mind. Message us or have a live chat.



Daily Journal

Write in your own daily journal to track your feelings or emotions and reflect on how you're doing.

Year 5 have used personification to describe this scene from the book Varmints. I think you'll agree that these examples show how they have used fantastic vocabulary and personification to bring the scene alive in the imagination.



The tense towers rose from the menacing mist, peering down at the innocent creatures.

The long, leaning limbs of the mighty monuments, stretched out like an ancient army attacking ambivalent and afraid animals.

The stormy sky looked ready to devour and living thing. The dangerously dark clouds crept in ready to suffocate it's prey. Luke

The ground moved as it was trampled under feet. As the buildings moved in they flattened the lush green grass. As the clear blue sky split, the light was thrown up into the air. The huge buildings moved as they were pulled into place. Buildings ballooned smoke and pushed me against the wall. Lush green grass. The wind roared in and out of the buildings that were stretching tall. James B

The once loved forest is collapsing whilst a huge city is being born. The buildings screech as they are moved into place and sneeze up piles of dust. The busy city used to be lush green fields and trees as far as the eye can see. With bright blue skies that birds would come from everywhere to fly in. But they shall fly to see no more, and those who do, meet the smoky breath of the city and the scent of sadness. An enchanted forest of unhappiness traps everything inside and keeps it there. These buildings for giants stretch to the furthest corners of the universe tickling its tummy. The buildings held up the sky and beyond, if one fell they all would. Jamie G

The beautiful landscape was being attacked. It was disconsolate. It screamed out with a terrific shout. As the smoke blasted through the land, everyone was banjaxed that got in its way. As the brobdingnagian* skyscrapers arose like a giant beast that brushed the heavens, plumes of smoke caterwauled into the unilluminated sky.

The sounds of the ropes creaked and groaned like an old man's knees. The buildings growled as they were heaved into position, crashing down onto the land. The thumping sound of the hoards of workers echoed round the countryside. (*gigantic) Jacob

Darkness descended on the city. Once there were clear skies, the buildings were so tall that they could just reach up and gently brush the bottom of the calm clouds passing by on the whispering wind. However, it was bound to be destroyed one day, and when that day came, the horror on everyone's faces. They tried to flee leaving all that they loved to be devastated. Suddenly there was a big gloomy cloud of fog that fell on the city and in came the CREATURES, everywhere you looked you would see a black creature with a pointy

The light has decided to give up competing with the gloomy dark clouds which have invaded the sky. The ground roars as it is shredded by the feet of thousands. It has given up producing grass and flowers.

Ropes groan as they pull their heavy load, buildings creak into place. Sam