



# The Vale Primary School

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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

# Inspiring All

It was with mixed emotions that I listened to the news this past Wednesday, when it was announced by Boris Johnson that the commencement of the opening schools would be from the 8<sup>th</sup> of March at the earliest. I'm sure that many of you are having the same internal conflict as I. We desperately want all the children to be back in school receiving face to face learning with their peers; yet we want this to be done safely when it will not result in further disruption or a negative impact on the pandemic.

With this in mind, it is absolutely paramount to us that our remote provision is the best it can be so that the children can continue to make progress in these unprecedented circumstances. We thank all of those families who completed our parent survey this week which has really helped us to understand what parents feel is working well and what adjustments can be made. From next week we have already made some changes, including some more live sessions for Robin class; some additional small group live sessions; and directing some of our older children to 'dive deeper' with further tasks. I have sent a separate parentmail with the results of the parent feedback a long with the actions from it.



### RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH

As we found out in our previous assembly, this weekend is the big garden bird watch. It has been wonderful to hear about all the birds the children are spotting on their walks and some of the pictures and writing Mrs Leyland and I have received have been lovely so thank you. We have a lot of robins now on display!



## MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

Children's mental health week is taking place next week and the theme this year is: Express Yourself. As a school we will be recognising the importance of this week and we have sent a separate parentmail with some suggestions for some top-tips at home. I will also be sending the link next week on Google Classroom to the Children's Mental Health Week Virtual Assembly that is being done in association with BAFTA Kids, Place2Be and the Oak National Academy. Teachers will also be posting further activities that will raise awareness and support well-being. In addition, you may like to download the 'RelaxKids' Express Yourself Activity Pack that we have been given access to by one of our parents. This can be found here: [https://www.relaxkids.com/express?fbclid=IwAR38Rjxx6vsqZwTX-yjWHwok3B3PjvXyewbU9wQw20vobFh-SW366r2\\_0lw#](https://www.relaxkids.com/express?fbclid=IwAR38Rjxx6vsqZwTX-yjWHwok3B3PjvXyewbU9wQw20vobFh-SW366r2_0lw#)



## NATIONAL STORY-TELLING WEEK

Next week is also National story-telling week and I know our Children from Year 2 – Year 6 have been busy choosing their favourite books and videoing them reading them for us to share throughout the week via Google Classroom for all to enjoy. The main purpose was for the children to share books like they do when at school in buddy reading. You can also find a host of resources at <https://www.sfs.org.uk/national-storytelling-week> as well as recommended reading for different age groups at [www.schoolreadinglist.co.uk](http://www.schoolreadinglist.co.uk). The recommended reading website is fantastic as it includes many recent and contemporary books as well as classics. You can also find a link to this under the curriculum area of our school website.



## ONLINE SAFETY

As many of our children will be at home for long periods during lockdown it is inevitable that they will be spending more time online, especially with the remote learning! It is important that we keep our children safe when they are using the internet/social media and gaming.

We can only be successful in keeping children safe online if we work with you to ensure the e-safety message is consistent.

It is **National Online Safety day on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February** and we will be having an additional assembly on the **Monday** of this week on zoom, led by our computing lead Miss MacFeeters for all the children. There is one appropriate for junior children and one for infants. These will be posted on Google Classroom. We will also be holding a remote **Parent Workshop for all parents on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 5.30pm**. It is important that you attend this to support your child. It is also essential that parents of children in Year 6 wanting to bring phones to school (for the journey to and from school and not to be used in school at all) must attend this session if they did not attend in the Autumn term. **The zoom link has been sent via parentmail to all parents this week. Please do contact the office if you have not received them.**





## ASSEMBLIES

This week's assemblies will be:

An assembly posted in Google Classroom from Rev David

The Children's Mental Health Week Virtual Assembly posted in Google Classroom

Opportunities to watch the children's stories to mark National Story Week throughout the week on Google Classroom

Friday's Celebration Zoom Assembly – the zoom link will be posted on Google Classroom on the day.

## PARENT & TEACHER MEETINGS

We had planned for these to take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> March. We are currently looking at different platforms and plans as to how to hold these remotely this Spring Term and ask you to bear with us as we finalise plans.

## MATHS SUPPORT

Please find here a link to our school website where you can find a recently added video created by the GLF Maths lead, Kate Mole. This video has been designed to support parents in how maths is taught to enable you to support your children where necessary. [www.vale.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.vale.surrey.sch.uk)

## SCREEN BREAK DAY

It has been a pleasure to see all the activities the children have been completing this Friday whilst having their screens turned off. Here are a few of those that have been shared. Well done everyone – you deserve a relaxing weekend now.

Thank you for all your photos!





## DATES

(New dates highlighted in blue) PTA dates in green

Spring Term Dates		
9.2.21	Online Safety Parent Remote Workshop	5.30pm
15.02.21 – 19.02.21	HALF TERM	
22.02.21	Back to school	
10.03.21	Parent Consultations	
11.03.21	Parent Consultations	
22.03.21	Living Eggs Chicks in School	
01.04.20	Term ends	
	Easter Holidays	
19.04.21	Term starts	
31.05.21 – 04.06.21	HALF TERM	
25.06.21	INSET	
16.07.21	Term ends	
19.07.21 – 21.07.21	INSET	

Take care and stay safe.

**Cathy Browne and Sarah Leyland**  
Co-Headteachers

**IMPORTANT NOTICE: PLEASE DO ENSURE YOUR CHILDREN REGISTER ON GOOGLE CLASSROOM AND ATTEND LIVE SESSIONS UNLESS ARRANGED OTHERWISE. WE HAVE A DUTY OF CARE AND WE WILL HAVE TO FOLLOW SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES AND PHONE FAMILIES THAT DO NOT.**



Inspiring All

### Children's Code of Conduct for Remote Learning

#### Please:

- Follow our vale values and learner qualities as this will help us work together:
  - Be Safe
  - Be Respectful
  - Be Ready
  - Be Caring
  - Be Resilient
  - Embrace Challenge
  - Be reflective
- Use your own device (laptop, Chromebook, tablet), school may be able to loan technology and data cards if this is an issue (contact school if so)
- Log on every day to Google Classroom, via your class Google Meet links - attendance is essential everyday Mon-Fri unless you are ill. Please let your teacher know if you won't be able to make it.
- Work in a well lit, well ventilated comfortable area.
- Switch off other devices to avoid distraction e.g. television
- Keep your camera on and click on mute unless asked to talk to the staff member
- The chat function on Google Meet may be used to ask or answer questions - these should be related to your learning
- Follow the class timetable, take full participation and upload learning when asked
- Think about the quality and presentation of the work you are completing
- Try to take good breaks from working on the screen when you can to have a healthy snack, complete a physical activity and have a brain break.

Remember - believe in yourself, you can do this, asking for help is a strength and we are all here doing this together.

