

27th November 2020

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Learning and Achieving Through Love, Courage and Respect

Dear parents and carers,

It is getting colder and the hats, scarves and gloves are being dug out from the back of wardrobes or from bags under the bed. It is winter days like these that are perfect for a **family walk through the countryside**, spotting the seasonal changes and enjoying the fresh air. Walking also does wonders for mental health, which is especially important during stressful times such as these.

We are looking forward to welcoming back **Ainslie Class and Lambert Class** on Monday 30th November after their period of self-isolation. Once again, we would like to thank parents for your understanding in this situation, and for supporting your children's home learning. I hear that they have been having a great time with the activities that have been provided by Mrs Cousins and Mrs Aram! I have been hearing about scavenger hunts, hedgehog houses, and boat building, as well as Read Write Inc lessons and Maths investigations. I also know that the children have enjoyed taking part in their daily Zoom calls with their teachers, and being able to see their friends. I certainly enjoyed taking part in both class's Zoom sessions on Thursday, during which Mr Goldsmith led two fun PE sessions. The children and staff (and some parents!) joined in with gusto—it was also quite amusing to see Iron Man and a unicorn taking part... I enjoyed reading a story to Lambert class who showed some really good listening and comprehension skills.

The countdown to Christmas is beginning, and the children are already starting to get excited! We have special Covid-friendly plans for our **Nativity play** this year (further details to follow) and the children can start to bring in **Christmas cards** for their friends, if they wish. Please only bring them in on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and put them in the Christmas letter box in school, where they will be left to quarantine for a few days before being handed out. Please ensure that the recipient's class, as well as their name, is written on the envelope to ensure it is handed to the correct person.

The period of Advent starts on Sunday, and as part of our learning about Generosity and Compassion we will be taking part in a **Reverse Advent Calendar** in which the children will learn about giving as well as receiving. We will be collecting in food items each day to send to the Isle of Wight Zoo to help provide food for the animals—please see the separate letter for further information. We thank you in advance for taking part in this.

Thank you and have a lovely weekend, Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone Team

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This week's Collective Worship focus is: Having the Courage to Care

"Rise up, take courage and do it."

Ezra 10:4

Miriam showed great courage when she put her baby brother Moses in the basket on the river. She also showed great courage when she approached the Pharaoh's daughter who found Moses. Have you ever had to be courageous when showing compassion for someone or something? I am only one, But I am one. I cannot do everything, But I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do. And what I ought to do, By the grace of God, I will do. Amen By Colin Farrar

assion



Ainslie	~
Lambert	~
Robertson	Tommy—excellent knowledge and participation in our talk with Oliver from the Dinosaur Farm. Jared—for his fantastic Maths work and concentration with Mrs Boyd, for which he received a HT's award.
Macarthur	Jack C—showing kindness, responsibility and excellent Maths skills. Jack and Bailey—for being a good friend and showing compassion.
Clover	Sonya—excellent effort, focus and cheerfulness, and for showing compassion.
Sports Bee	Felicity - for consistently showing the School Games Values and putting in great effort in PE lessons and lunchtime challenges.



Wellbeing Window

Have you been getting more sleep?

This week's task is:

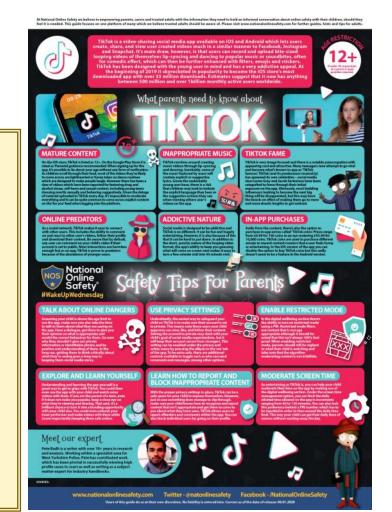


Ask someone "how are you?" and really mean it.

All too often we will ask someone how they are out of habit and just expect the "good thanks, you?" as a reply. Think about all of your friends and family and think about if they might be struggling with how the world is right now. Give them a call or send a text to find out how they are really getting on.

Reaching out can mean the world to someone who is feeling low.

Samaritans: 116 223 - Free from any phone



News from the classrooms

Ainslie Class have been very busy learning at home this week. As well as doing lots of Phonics practice and learning the days of the week, the Reception children were given a few challenges such as



building a boat to transport some of their toy figures to the mainland, and creating hedgehog hotels in their gardens. Lambert class has been working hard at home with their home learning and creating an animal project which they are going to share on Monday in school. They have enjoyed taking part in daily zoom sessions, sharing stories, having PE with Mr Goldsmith and playing a range of games such as Simon Says, Would you rather, guessing animal riddles and a scavenger hunt.

On Monday, Year 5 had another opportunity to further their STEM career knowledge in a ZOOM call from the Winchester Science Centre. Racheal talked to us about what it was like to work there and what she did, and also showed us a 'whoosh bottle' experiment. The children asked some excellent questions.



On Tuesday morning, Robertson Class enjoyed a talk by Oliver - a palaeontologist - from the Dinosaur Farm in Chale. He supplied us with a box of exhibits and some amazingly accurate replica dinosaurs that the children really enjoyed handling. They asked some excellent questions and are now very knowledgeable about how fossils are formed, in preparation for writing an explanation about this.

Doodle Maths



Well done to Macarthur Class, who are the top Doodlers this week!

School Dinners

Children in Year R, 1 and 2 are entitled to a 'universal' free school meal everyday. Children in years 3-6 are charged at £2.15 per day.

W/c 5th	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pizza	Turkey Pie	Roast Pork	Spag Bol	Fish Fingers
Option 2	Veggie risotto	Veggie Pasta	Quorn	Veggie Chilli	Cheese pastry
Dessert	Oaty Square	Fruit and Yog	Marble Cake	Drizzle Cake	Ice cream

If children from years 1-6 do not like what is on the menu, they can ask for a jacket potato with either beans, cheese, beans and cheese or tuna mayo. Fresh salad and fruit is offered everyday alongside the daily options.



Wednesday 16th December 2020



You can support The Earl Mountbatten Hospice this Christmas. They have a Christmas fundraiser which you can take part in by clicking here: <u>https://www.mountbatten.org.uk/</u> <u>letter-from-father-christmas</u>



Last day of this half-term is Friday 18th December

Back to school on Monday 4th January 2021

