

ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER



NEXT WEEK'S ASSEMBLY ONLINE

**Term:** Summer - **Issue Number:** 08 - **Date:** 19th June 2020

## HELLO FROM MRS WALLIS

It has been good to welcome back some children from Y1 this week as they settle into new 'pods' and new routines. Children are remarkably resilient and they seem to have taken the changes in their stride as they return to school after such a long absence. Children in Y6 who have come back are established in their new groups and are enjoying being with friends and learning in class again. Cool Club is expanding! From Monday, we will be dividing the club into two – CC1 and CC2 in order to cater for the varying ages of the children as well as an increasing demand for places.

There is a lot of speculation in the news about when and if more children can return to school. Currently, we are accommodating all of the children that we can in terms of space and staffing, and I don't foresee any changes to these arrangements between now and the end of term. I will keep you informed of any developments should they arise.

As we approach the weekend, I am once again impressed by how many of our children are engaging with home learning; whether via tasks set on Purple Mash, Timestable Rockstars or other challenges that have been set by class teachers. In addition, some families have collected work packs from school so that children can continue learning without needing to access technology. If you would like a pack for your child, please contact the school office via the admin email and we will arrange one for collection.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement as we continue to work together to develop our children's learning and understanding at this challenging time.

Have a good weekend,

Mrs Wallis



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@StCathsHodd



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE EARLY YEARS TEAM

Hello!

We hope you are well and you have received your learning packs. A reminder that the learning packs are not to replace play-based learning and quality story time and subsequent discussions you have. It is a substantial pack and your child is not required to complete it to a deadline. It is simply a support for families to facilitate home learning and we hope it helps.

If you managed to make a diorama from last week's newsletter, then we would love to see it; please send a picture to [scsocial@stcaths.herts.sch.uk](mailto:scsocial@stcaths.herts.sch.uk) and we will put it on our Facebook page.

Next week, you will be sent link to a website where you can watch some of our early years' team read some stories. As we move through the summer term, why not make the most of reading outside?

For those of you returning to school on Monday, we hope you are excited and for those of you learning at home, enjoy the learning we have sent home. If you are returning to school, please make sure you have accessed the video that shows the changes to the environment and set up for your child's return. If you have any questions, then please contact the school office and one of our team will get back to you promptly.

Thank you and see you soon,

The Early Years' Team

## GREETINGS FROM THE Y1 TEAM

It's been a pleasure to welcome back some of our Year One children this week. We have been so proud of the way they have settled back into the school environment, respected our rules, and shown kindness and respect to each other. We've had a lovely time talking about our worries, making moving monsters and playing with paper dolls. We've even been outside playing in the rain! The classrooms are starting to look much brighter now we have some of the children's lovely work on the walls too. Next week in school, we will be looking closely at a beautiful book called Ruby's Worry and exploring bubbles! We can't wait!

Well done to all those children who are continuing their work at home too. This week, we have seen some fabulous instructions on how to catch a wicked lizard and some splendid superhero costume designs for Superworm. Do we have some fashion designers in the making? Look out for more adventures next week when we will be getting 'Mad About Minibeasts'!

Finally, we want to give a special mention to Iva C in Barclay Park class. Not only has she been working hard with Ms Maud and Mrs Lines in the Walrus Pod, but she has also completed her Purple Mash work too! Great effort Iva! We all thought you looked brilliant dressed up as Superworm!

From the Y1 Team

[Support for handwriting](#)

[Karate cats](#)

[Litton Sutton English Hub Phonics](#)



## SOME WORDS FROM MRS LINES AND MRS BUTLER - Y2

Hello Year 2.

We hope you are well and have had a chance to put your wellies and waterproofs on and get outside in the rain. We know you have been working hard this week. Well done to those of you who have completed the maths and geography tasks on Purple Mash. We have really enjoyed seeing all the different things you have been doing on the year 2 blogs. If you haven't had a chance to use them yet please give it a go. From the Home page click on 'sharing', then 'shared blogs' then 'year 2'. You will be able to see pictures of some of your friends and all sorts of great work and interesting activities.

It has been very quiet on Times Tables Rock Stars for a few weeks. If you have a moment pop into the studio to play a few games. You might even become the year 2 points leader for the week.

We hope you have received your postcard by now. We really loved writing to each of you. Look out on Monday for the new Where is the Sea? work which will be sent by email.

We hope you have a good weekend.

Stay safe. From Mrs Lines and Mrs Butler.

## SOME WORDS FROM THE Y3 TEAM

This week in Year 3 we have been exploring the book 'Dolphin Boy' by Michael Morpurgo. Throughout the week we have read extracts from the book and explored some of the language used along with word harvesting nouns, adjectives, adverbs and verbs to describe how dolphins move through the water. The final task of the week has been to begin writing our own adventure involving a dolphin of our very own. Using the word harvests to support and inspire our writing too. Next week we will be continuing with our own versions of the stories.

Let me tell you about our maths learning now, it'll only take a fraction of your time! That's because, this week we have been learning more and more about fractions. This has been a particularly tricky maths unit, however I am sure that when sharing out treats at home, creating equal fractions will be done quicker than ever before!

We introduced our first weekly science investigation this week and year 3 have been sending through their posters and projects all week long. This week's project was all about fossils and rocks and how the two are created. It's not too late to send yours through, so once it's done send a picture via '2Email'. In our quiz this week, the topic quiz questions were all a bit rocky to match with a little Latin to boot!

Do remember to check the '2Email' app within Purple Mash for the daily tasks- don't just rely on the '2Do's popping up. Have a great and well deserved weekend,

Miss Chaytor and Mr Harvey



## SOME WORDS FROM THE Y4 TEAM

Hi year 4,

A huge well done to everyone who is participating in the guided reading tasks every day. We've seen some lovely artist's self-portraits this week, great animations and interesting artist fact files.

We previously sent out an email to pupils and a blog regarding the class lists for next year. If you haven't done so already, please let us know your child's 3 preferred friends they want in their class next year. We can only guarantee one of those friends but will do our best to try and ensure pupils are happy with their classes come September.

Please be sure to regularly check the blogs and emails for updates and new information being communicated about the work. Helpful videos or websites linking to the work will be put on the Year 4 communication blog so be sure to check it regularly. There may also be projects or work set via the blog at a later date that require a longer period for research and completion. Please keep an eye out as your child may log on and only check the 2dos section missing any work set via the blog.

Please remind children that more detailed written tasks or animations require them to work for longer periods and in the case of some written tasks, require some online research. An extended writing task should take around 40 minutes to complete.

Additionally, the First News kids' magazine has been posted on the blog, which the children can access and read online. It contains great news about the current world events, explained in a child friendly manner.

This week a special mention goes to Kundiso for a detailed self-portrait which shows a true likeness and to Kevin for not only editing/improving his animation but creating a stunning finished piece. As always, be sure to check out the WOW board as your fantastic work could be featured.

Stay safe and healthy,

Ms Sofroniou & Ms Taylor



## A MESSAGE FROM MR HUNT AND MISS BLACKALLER

Hello year five,

Yet again, we have had another tremendous week; so many of you have completed the work and carried out research about our topic, well done. We are still focusing upon our term question 'who else comes to our school?', which allows us to look at the world around us. However, this week we have studied famous scientists that have helped to shape our knowledge of the world we live in.

Our long task this week was to create a comic book about a famous scientist, which were so good we have opened a new blog so that others can read them. Why not have a look; you may learn something new about a famous scientist or TV naturalist?

There have also been some great examples of creative writing which are posted in our Creative Writing Blog. Some of them are very entertaining and are well worth seeking out.

The timestables rock stars tournament has been a little neglected this week but a special mention should go to Harry H, Max, Tami and Georgia for posting the highest scores. The tournament is still running so have ago, you could help your class win this week. We are launching our times tables challenge again next week, so get practicing to see if you can beat the six minute challenge next Friday.

Mrs Hasell has created some fantastic videos to help keep you active and get fit whilst at home. These are posted on our new YouTube channel, why not give them a try to help get ready for our virtual sports day (information will be posted soon)

We sent out a document this week to help access the email app on Purple Mash. I hope this has been of some use and that you can now use it to contact us if you have any questions or queries; we have already seen pictures of extra work via this, thank you.

Next week's email will be posted via Purple Mash on Sunday and will inform everyone what tasks are to be set for the week.

As ever, if you have any questions or need any assistance with the work, just send a message to Mr Hunt and I will answer as quickly as possible.

Keep safe and working hard

Mr Hunt, Miss Blackaller, Mrs Bacon



## WEEKLY ROUND-UP FOR YEAR 6...

Hi Year 6

We have had another fantastic week of learning! All of the topics the children are studying are important stepping stones to help them get ready for secondary school.

At school and at home, the children have studied famous speeches from Martin Luther King to Greta Thunberg. They have then written and delivered their own speeches using the key features of great speeches- emotive language, rhetorical questions, repetition and powerful vocabulary.

At school in maths, the children have been finding out all about algebra and how we can express the variables in sequences and patterns using algebra. At home, the children have been converting measures. Have a go at these two questions:

How many mm are in 4.23 metres?

I want to run 15km every week. So far I have run 2500m, 1.954km and 4000m. How many more metres do I have to run?

In science, the children have studied the topic of light- what are the sources of light, which objects are reflective and how do we see? Did you know that light travels at 299,792,458 metres per second! We have seen some great experiments in school and at home the children have described different sources of light and reflective materials. Next week, look out for an email to families where we will explain how we are going to compile a virtual yearbook on film as a celebration of Year 6's time at St Catherine's.

Also, if you are learning at home, remember to look out for your weekly Monday morning email explaining the home learning for next week. Keep focused and if you have a question, email Mrs Waring or post a question on our Year 6 blog and we will help you.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Waring, Mr Scott and Mr Fitch



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CURATE

Hello everyone,

I hope you are all well. This half term we are thinking all about courage – what it means to be brave or courageous. In last week's message, Rachel wrote about Daniel in the bible and how he and his friends showed courage in refusing the rich diet that the king had ordered and instead relied on just eating vegetables and drinking water. They trusted that God would keep them strong and healthy and that is what happened.

Then in last week's assembly I told the story of Moses who had to be really brave and courageous and go to Pharaoh and say 'let my people go!' That took a lot of courage – but it worked, and Moses' people – the Israelites – eventually escaped from Egypt.

What can you see that is the same (or similar) between the two stories – the story of Daniel and the story of Moses? If you want, you can find the stories in the bible. You can find the story of Moses in the book of Exodus and Daniel's story is in the book called Daniel!

When I read these stories I can see that both Moses and Daniel had to find the courage to speak up for the things that were really important to them – and that they were able to do this because they knew God was with them and that God was able to keep them safe.

So that's two things that are the same for Moses and Daniel – both of them had to stand up for what was important and both of them knew that God was with them and able to keep them safe.

There are lots more stories of people in the bible who showed courage in lots of different ways, but I wonder if this week you could think of any people you know who have been brave or courageous. This might be famous people you have heard or it might be someone who is a friend or someone in your family. Who can you think of that has been brave or courageous?

Have a great week.

With my best wishes

Kate,

Curate, St Catherine's and St Paul's Hoddesdon

## SCHOOL YOUTUBE CHANNEL

As you know we now have a St Catherine's YouTube channel which we have been able to use to support the welcoming back of children in Year 1 and Early Years and share Mrs Hasell's daily fitness challenges.

We are also exploring how it can be used to support those learning at home and celebrate some of the learning taking place both at home and at school.

Please can we remind you, that if you should receive a link to one of our YouTube videos that you keep this private and do not share the link or the video in line with our online safety agreement.

Many thanks,

