



Friday 5th February 2021

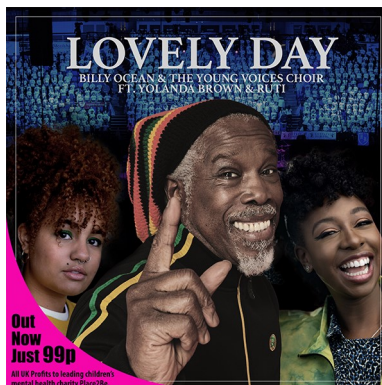
Dear Parents/Carers,

There has been a real sense of hard work and busyness in school and at home, with many of our weekly Christian Values certificates focusing on **perseverance**. This is an admirable attitude and mindset that staff and parents can model for children—and the children are also really good at demonstrating it for adults! As we reach the end of #childrensmentalhealthweek it's important for adults and children alike to recognise and acknowledge when their 'best effort' simply isn't possible... At those times, stepping back and learning to understand (and not be over-critical) is important, so that motivation and enjoyment can return, when the obstacles are more easily manoeuvred.

Last weekend, Mr Qureshi made an official start to a small idea that came at the start of this latest Lockdown. Following some lovely messages and kind gestures of support, school staff felt more motivated, uplifted and encouraged in the arduous task ahead. Now we want to do something similar for our NHS workers, so they know that we really appreciate their efforts to care, support and heal others in these COVID-times. **Please read more on p6.**

In worship this week, we have looked at the growth of God's Kingdom in our school, stretching from its foundation some 200 years ago to the present day. By looking at the Parables of the Vine and the Mustard Seed we have considered ways to share/spread God's love to others and how individual children and adults can take refuge in and benefit from all the school offers. ***If there are any leaves and birds at home, please can you drop them in to the School Office, if you are passing, or coming to collect work packs.***

Please do all you can to stay safe, healthy and happy this weekend. Miss Minnis



Did you see @CeChevening tweets this week?

Each day there was something about well-being in support of #childrensmentalhealthweek with ideas, activities and sources of help for all.

Follow us to keep up with school news and activities!

Christian Value Certificates

This week we are pleased to recognise the following for all their endeavours and displaying our school values in school and at home:

Class R (Miss Levy)- Lydia for **perseverance** in neat presentation and always trying her best. Henry for **perseverance** and **courage**; seeing links in his Maths learning and explaining them to an adult!

Class 1 (Mrs McLean & Mr Langston)- Alice for **perseverance**; always trying hard with her work in class. Ethan for **perseverance** and the determination he has shown in completing all of his work at home.

Class 2 (Mrs Robinson & Mrs Wilde)- Herbie for **perseverance**; both teachers are so impressed by your concentration and your improvements in handwriting and spelling week on week - Well done! Marine for **love**; it's so good to see the love that you have for learning, and the enthusiasm you put into live lessons and your work.

Class 3 (Mrs Roll) - Theo R for **perseverance** and **respect**; always working hard to finish whatever challenge is set! Elsie and Alice for showing **courage** in performing their wonderful 'storm' dances. They both worked so hard and they looked absolutely spectacular!

Class 4 (Miss Sweeney)- Jacob for **Compassion & Respect**; he always shows consideration and care for others—everyone and everything in our class. Toby for **Perseverance**; he is always so positive and upbeat, showing a growth-mindset in learning, even in more challenging situations.

Class 5 (Mr Qureshi)- Sasha, Jasmine and Missy for their **courage and honesty**. Matilda for **perseverance** for having to move between locations and settle quickly in each.

Class 6 (Mrs Edward)— Max for being **honest** about what his capabilities in his learning and working to make sure he is reaching this standard. Eliza for **compassion**; she always takes the time to ask how Mrs Edwards is, when she sends emails. It is so thoughtful and appreciated.

COVID-19 Symptom Free Testing

Kent are advising that everyone without Covid symptoms should get tested every 2 weeks, if they leave the house for a necessary reason, such as going to work or shopping for essentials. 1 in 3 people have COVID-19 but do not show any of the main symptoms, so regular testing will help to ensure people are not unknowingly spreading the virus. For further info see: [Symptom-free testing - Kent County Council](https://kcc.healthit.org.uk/covbook/home) Tests can be booked via <https://kcc.healthit.org.uk/covbook/home>

Fegans

The Parenting in a Pandemic Top Tips regular emails will help you during this challenging and unprecedented period of parenting. Now that schools are closing, some of our therapists will be unable to provide 1-1 counselling to children as usual, so we plan to use this rare opportunity to share their expertise with parents.

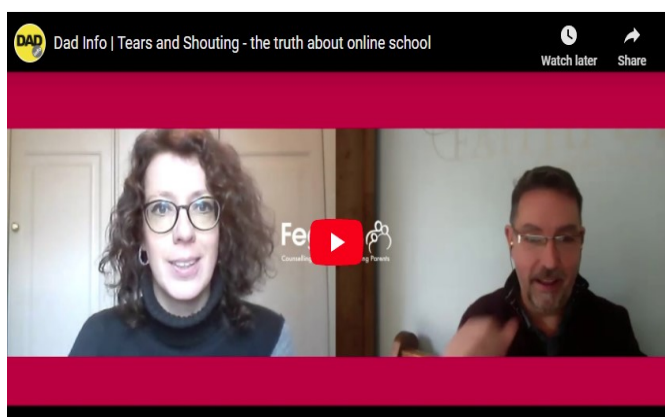
Click the below image for more information:



Fegans– Tears and Shouting: The truth about Online Learning

This article first appeared on Dad.info 'Our number one job right now' says Ian Soars, CEO of Fegans, dad to 3 and trained parent support worker, 'is to support our kids and encourage them.'

Click the below image to watch the clip:



Kent Resilience Hub

The Kent Resilience hub is aimed at parents of children aged between 10 and 16. It has a range of helpful articles, tools and resources for parent and carers, so that you can increase understanding and find tools and approaches to help build your child's resilience.

<https://kentresiliencehub.org.uk/>



Children and Young People's Counselling services

NHS Kent Community Heath are offering up to six counselling sessions to help a young person gain understanding and develop strategies to help them feel better. For primary school aged children, we offer the child six session with a counsellor, or if more appropriate, we will offer parents six weekly sessions with advice of practical, easy to use strategies to support their child. We have also extended our service to include bereavement counselling for those aged 4-19 who have been bereaved as a result of the Coronavirus. Sessions are delivered virtually or face to face within a clinic setting. Referrals are accepted via the [online referral form](#)

If you are unsure about making a referrals, please call 0800 011 3471 between 8am to 6pm for advice.



Cheap eats for lockdown weeks

Change4Life have created recipes, complete with shopping lists, to create 5 easy, tasty lunches each week for around £15. Check out 3 weeks' worth of recipes now, please ideas and inspiration for ways to keep lunchtimes fresh until children are back at school.

[Cheap Lockdown Lunches for Kids | Change4Life \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)



Class R

This week, Class R have been exploring height in Maths. They enjoyed measuring each other using items they found in the classroom. Can you have a go at home?



Class 2

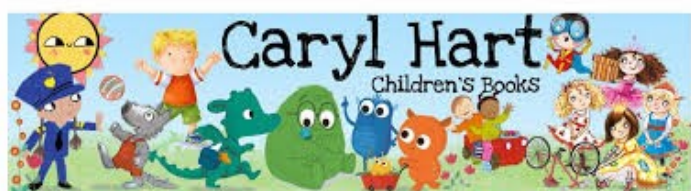
Class 2 have been exploring 'Amazing Africa' this term and are busy turning their classroom into a Safari Adventure! Watch this space ...



World Book Week 1st March to 5th March 2021

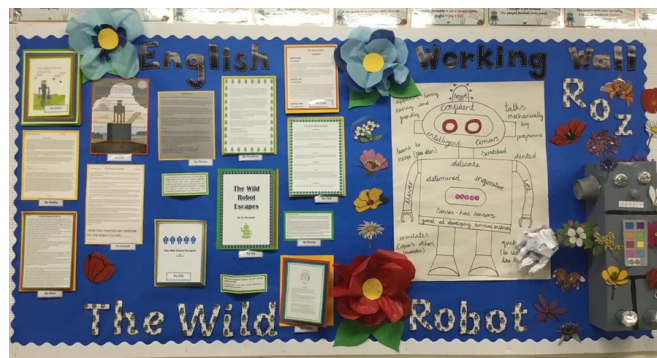
As mentioned last week, we are well under way with our planning for **Book Week** which, this year, falls on the week beginning 1st March. Author **Caryl Hart** will join us for World Book Day when she will host a virtual session with Year R and KS1, Year 3 and 4 and Year 5 and 6 (for both home and in-school learners).

We would normally encourage the children to dress up as a Book Character on World Book Day (4th March), and after careful thought, we would like to offer children the chance to do so again this year. This is completely optional and not designed to bring any pressure, rather a bit of jollity and a chance to unite as a school community. If a whole costume feels a bit much at the moment, the children might like to make a prop for their character or perhaps a hat/hair-band themed to a book?



Class 4

Upon finishing reading 'The Wild Robot', which Class 4 have so thoroughly enjoyed and took dearly to their hearts, we moved on to writing our very own sequels of 'The Wild Robot Escapes'. Despite being apart in distance, we have managed to create a collaborative display of all our wonderful written work. It is only as we read the sequel that we will now discover how close our own stories are to the one Peter Brown actually wrote.



Pupil Premium

If your family has experienced considerable change in circumstance due to COVID-19, you may be entitled to apply for **Free School Meals and Pupil Premium**. The criteria for successful application include:

- *Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)*
- *Income Support*
- *income-based Jobseeker's Allowance*
- *income-related Employment and Support Allowance*
- *support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
- *the guaranteed element of Pension Credit*
- *Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)*
- *Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.*

You can apply on-line [here](#).

The application process must be completed by parents; The additional benefit to successful FSM applications, is that the school will receive **Pupil Premium Funds** to support a child's well-being and development in school.

Key Dates

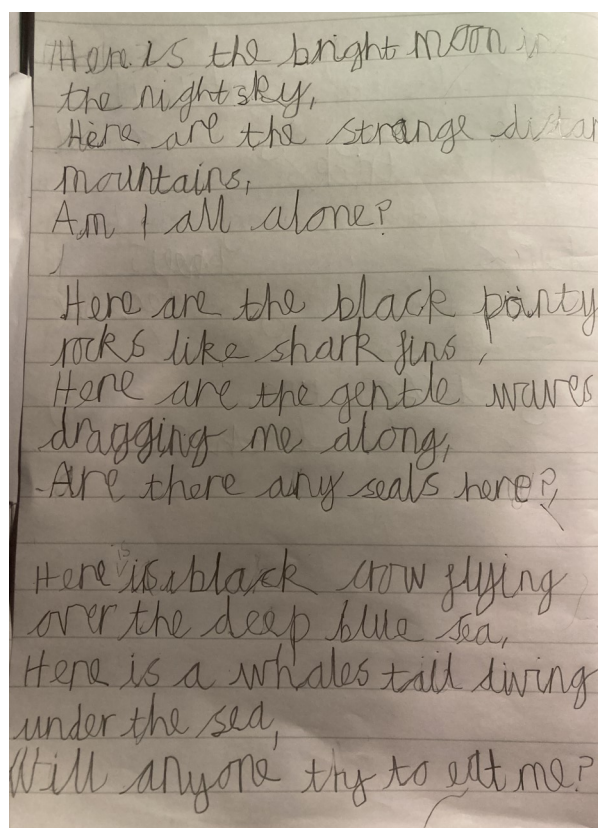
Date	Event
12th February	Last Day of Term
22nd February	First Day of Term 4

These dates may be subject to amendment due to COVID-19.

Home Learning:

Class 1

Nairose in Class 1 has written a lovely poem for you to enjoy:



On site reminders

Please could parents/carers remember:

- The children need **coats and wellies** to school every day and waterproofs for when it rains
- Your child can wear a **plain fleece** on top of their existing school uniform to help them stay warm; **named** gloves, hats, scarves or snood are welcomed.
- If possible could all KS1 parents to pack spare socks, trousers and tights when it rains.
- If your child needs a school lunch, please remember to complete the survey sent by Mrs Jarrett.
- The free fruit delivery scheme has resumed so KS1 children will once again get a healthy snack in school. Parents **do not now** need to provide a healthy snack. Thank you for stepping in!
- Cool Milk will only be delivered on Monday but only for children under 5.

@CeChevening Home Schooling Blues

Read on and be revived!

Hello, I'm **Annabel in Year 6**. As you all know, we have been suffering as a school and as a community from the Coronavirus. It has been such a sad time, so I wanted to boost everyone's motivation to carry on with home-schooling as we are in this together.

The following tips have helped me through lockdown, and I would like to share them with you.

Tips for home-schooling:

- * Get organised with your own learning space away from distractions.
- * Stick to a routine, so then you will feel like you are in school.
- * Create a timetable.
- * **Make sure you communicate with the teacher for help.**
- * If you are finding it too full-on, try having regular breaks. But that does not mean still looking at your device.
- * Limit screen time and yes, I know these devices are amazing for home-schooling, but if you have too much time in front of the screen, it is damaging for your eyes.
- * It is vital to make sure you are getting exercise each day; it could be a Joe Wicks video or going for a walk. Also, you can set yourself a mini-challenge during your exercise such as: a nature hunt or bark rubbings.
- * **The most important thing is too not get stressed out!**
- * Always remember to say how you are feeling.
- * **Do not forget your friends are always there at the end 'school' day!**

Guidance by Annabel in Year 6.

Book Making Workshop with Sally Symes



Sally Symes, co-author and designer of Britannica's **5-Minute Really True Stories for Bedtime**, will be showing little ones, **aged 5 years and above**, how to make their own book at home.

This is sure to be a really lovely, fun, creative craft activity which all the family can enjoy together using supplies easily found at home. The session will inspire children's imaginations and deepen their engagement with the book.

The workshops will take place on **Saturday 13th February (GMT) and Saturday 20th February at 10.30am (GMT)** on Zoom with participants registering in advance. The first session is hosted by [The Book Lounge](#) bookshop and the following week's workshop is hosted by [Bags of Books](#). In conjunction with both events, registrants will be offered the exclusive chance to order a signed copy of *5-Minute Really True Stories* from each online bookshop.

Each session will last 30-45 minutes. To take part, you will need access to a computer, tablet or smartphone to join in and have paper, colouring pencils/pens, and Sellotape/glue to hand. *The colouring in sheet Sally has designed specially for the workshops will be available on the [What on Earth website](#) and Zoom registration pages on Monday 1st February 2021.*

Toppsta Recommended Books of the Month. Which one will you read first?



Toppsta offer a range of books, including adventure, humour or just pure escapism, we're delighted to be sharing their **Best Books of the Month for February** and all the children's book recommendations.

Home-schooling Resources

There are now thousands of links to free book resources to help with home-schooling. You can download a **Colouring Sheet** for The Gruffalo, **Teachers Notes** for A Diary of a Wimpy Kid or an **Activity Pack** for The Boy at the Back of The Class. Browse **more resources over on our website** or just **search for your favourite book** to see what's available.



Cry Out For Carers Facebook Page



After watching the recent distressing interviews featuring those at the frontline battling Covid and hearing about the terrible scale of loss; we have been prompted to set up a Facebook page with a simple aim.

We would like people to post a kind word, thought, picture or prayer on the facebook page for those who are risking their lives to save ours. We will endeavour to let carers know how much we appreciate, care and love those selflessly standing strong in this pandemic. All positive thoughts and prayers welcome – of any faith and none.

We hope to contact carers - whether they be NHS staff; workers in care homes or hospices; outreach; or the many others at the frontline - to pass on your words and prayers.

You are invited to help too by posting encouraging messages on the site, sharing and 'liking' the page or letting us know of contacts who may appreciate an email or card. The page address is... <https://www.facebook.com/Cry-Out-For-Carers-533952494188099>



You may be interested to read of one section of the Bible which was a particular inspiration. The book of Exodus includes an account of Joshua fighting a battle against terrifying odds while Moses looks on. All the time that Moses is able to raise his arms and staff, Joshua and his army prevail; when Moses tires and lets his arms drop, they start to lose. Aaron and Hur notice this and stand together to support Moses' arms. We may see this battle against Covid being fought by others at the front. We may feel helpless and unable to contribute. But perhaps we can all help lift the arms of others and cry out to God to help those in the midst of this battle. Perhaps we can encourage our heroic carers to fight on; and let those brave souls know that they are loved and appreciated.