



MARCH



THOMAS A' BECKET INFANT SCHOOL SPRING TERM NEWSFLASH – ISSUE 3 5th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers.

We hope you enjoyed the World Book Day activities this year, and that you dressed up even though we weren't all together in school. Please keep sending in pictures, as we would love to put some of them on display in the school hall. Look at Mrs Dingwall's Weekly Challenge at the bottom of this letter as well as there is another activity we would love for you to have a go at and bring with you when you come back in next week.



We are really looking forward to seeing you all back in again on Monday. Please, please read through the information letter that came out earlier this week so that we can continue to keep everyone within the TAB community as safe as possible. If you do not have a copy of this letter, you can find it on the school website.

We know some of you may be feeling a bit worried about your child returning to school, so we have recorded a couple of stories for you that you can share that address worries and how to manage them. Each class teacher has been working with the children to help prepare them for next week and we will be adding resources to Google Classrooms for you as well.

We have sent out a Google Form for you to share your experience of Lockdown and worries that you may have about returning to school. This will be used by each class teacher to plan ahead to support your children next week and beyond.

Friday Afternoon Pick Ups

Thank you so much for everyone who has responded to the Google Form. This will enable us to continue working in smaller 'bubble's for the rest of this term and enable staff to be able to have their planning time. We hope that by the summer term, the numbers of COVID will have reduced sufficiently to return to our usual PPA routine and will let you know as soon as we can about this.

Preparing Your Child For the First Day Back in School

As schools begin to open to more children, parents and children may well be feeling anxious. Here's some ideas of how best to prepare.

Be Calm.

Your child will take their lead from you and be reassured if you are steady and matter of fact.



Be Curious.

These are strange times and their imagination may run away with them. Listen, and try not to dismiss or minimise their fears but validate how they are feeling – "it's completely fine to feel like that at the moment" or "I can really understand why you would feel like that"



Be Positive.

Remind them of all the ways they have learnt to keep themselves safe: washing their hands regularly, sneezing and coughing into their elbow, not hugging others and staying in their own space.



Be Thankful.

Help your child think of things they are looking forward to: being with their friends, seeing their teacher, favourite activities but be mindful some of these may not be available for them



Be Supportive

Younger children particularly may struggle with separation anxiety and may become fearful, clingy or act out. Reassure them that you will miss them too and think of them through out the day. It might be helpful to draw a little heart on their wrist and one on yours too. You can call it the hug button and when they find they are missing you they can press the heart and know that you will be doing the same at home. Sometimes having a little object to remind them of you through the day helps but please check this out with your school first.



Be Prepared.

Support your child to be aware of changes that may have happened to their classroom environment since they were there last and rehearse any new routines that school may have shared. Rehearse and practice your 'goodbye' routine and create a 'hello' greeting for the end of the day for them to look forward to.



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**TRAUMA
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SCHOOLS**

Spring Egg Hunt



To finish off the term and to bring some sunshine and smiles to our children's faces, we will be holding a Spring Egg hunt in school on the last day of term, Wednesday 31st March. This will be run in a COVID safe manner, similar to our Pumpkin Hunt last term. Donation buckets will be out on the playground on this day.....

Parental Feedback

We have sent out a Google Form for you to give us feedback about your families Lockdown experience. Please complete this as it will really help the teachers with planning for the children's return to school and to support anyone with any particular issues that may have arisen.



Data Collection Sheets



We will be sending home data collection sheets next week. Please check the information and make changes if necessary. Only forms that need updating should be returned to school.

Bikes and Scooters

Can we please ask all parents and carers to remind their children that bikes and scooters should not be ridden on school premises. Our pathways are quite narrow and there have been a few 'near misses' with younger children. Thank you for your support with this.

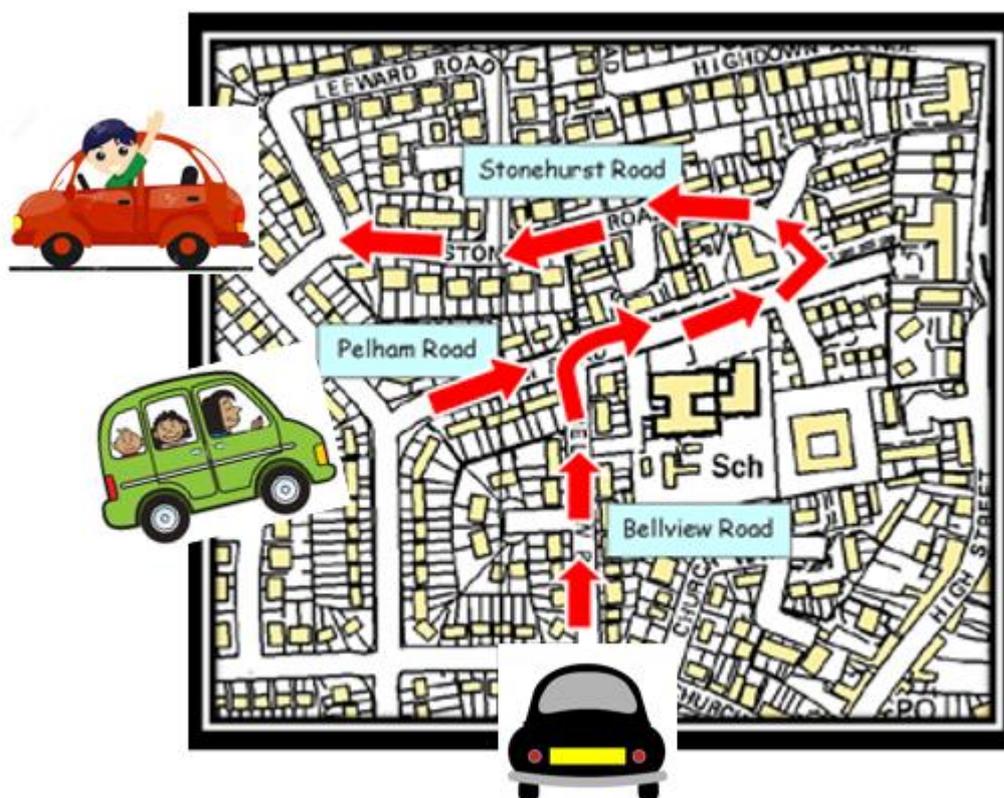


Parent Consultations

We will be holding our Parent Meetings after Easter. We will provide dates and slots soon, so you can book your appointments via Zoom. We will be re-visiting and consolidating learning with your child over the next few weeks. This will then enable us to talk about what we need to work on together during the Summer Term so that your child can be happy, successful and make progress in their learning.

Voluntary one-way system

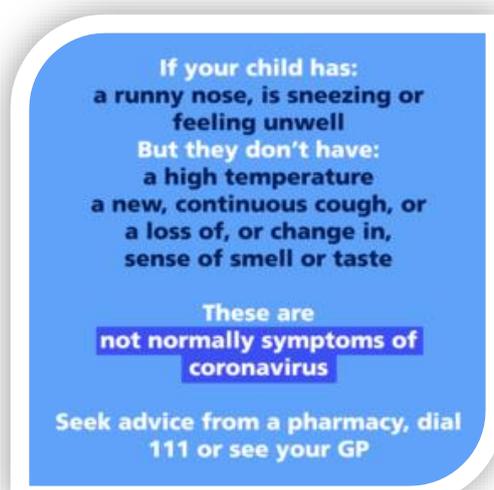
Please follow the voluntary one-way system to help us reduce the amount of traffic in front of the school. Thank you



COVID Update

Please ensure you have read all the relevant information sent out on the information letter earlier this week. It is vitally important that everyone in our school community adheres to the guidelines to ensure school stays open and everyone stays well. We have had a couple of enquiries about testing for primary aged children, but as it stands at the moment, it is only secondary aged children being tested. There has been some information in the papers about the possibility of families having access to tests for younger children, but as yet, we have not heard anything and do not envisage that this is something that will happen in school. We will of course, let you know if we get any further information.

PLEASE DO NOT send your child into school if someone in the household has symptoms of COVID 19. They must get a test and everyone in the family should isolate until you either receive a negative result, or for the time you are asked to isolate by NHS.



The current guidance for lockdown remains in place. This means that:

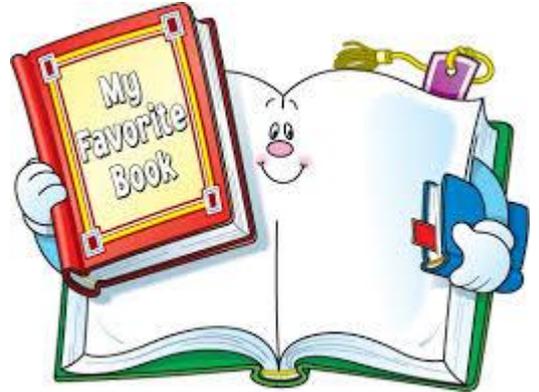
- shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person
- go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home
- exercise with your household (or support bubble) or one other person (in which case you should stay 2m apart). Exercise should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.
- meet your support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one
- seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse)
- attend education or childcare - for those eligible
- If you do leave home for a permitted reason, you should always stay in your local area - unless it is necessary to go further, for example to go to work

Mrs Dingwall's Weekly Challenge

As it was World Book Day this week and as I have been reading you my favourite books recently on Google Classrooms. I want to know what your favourite book is.

I would love it if you could draw me the front cover of your favourite book (you can copy it or design your own) and then bring it into school with you when we return next week.

We want to create a beautiful whole school display of your lovely learning and I can't wait to see what you produce!!



TERM DATES 2021

INSET DAYS:

Thursday 1st April 2021

Friday 28th May 2021

Easter Holidays:

Friday 2nd April - Friday 16th April

Summer Half Term:

Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

Last day of Summer Term 2021:

Friday 23rd July



Congratulations to the following children who have completed **100 'reads'** at home:

Toby – Owls

Kevin - Owls

It is so lovely to see the excitement and pride of those children who have achieved the next stage of the reading challenge. Reading is such a key skill and we want to encourage regular reading as much as possible, both in school and at home.



Congratulations to the following classes, who have reached 100 stars:

Dragonfly



EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB 2021 ACTIVITIES

GORING PRIMARY SCHOOL - WORTHING

"Childcare during the holidays they want to go to"

Fresh air. Fresh activities. Fresh attitude.



MANDALORIAN NERF

Calling all galactic bounty hunters we're embarking on some Mandalorian style NERF action. Battle for the darksaber, save baby Yoda and create your warrior signet. Good fun for Nerf enthusiasts. (Due to more competitive nature of this day, age 6+ is recommended)

NEW

BACK TO BASICS BUSHCRAFT

Join our instructors for a day of fire lighting skills, camp building, Nettle tea foraging and fun & games. Inspired by ancient methods and modern skills to perfect your Bushcraft skills.

ROALD DAHL DAY

Dream Catchers, Snozcumpers, Marvellous Medicine and Poachers Secrets. A day inspired by three of our favourite books; George's Marvellous Medicine, The BFG & Danny Champion of the World. Join us in a colourful, magical and frankly silly world. We will be making potions, inventing new giant foods & learning poachers secrets! PHIZZ - WHIZZING it will be!



"ANOTHER EPIC DAY, 3 YEARS OF ATTENDING THE CLUB & MY SON STILL THINKS IT'S THE BEST THING EVER"



"MY SON HAD SO MUCH FUN. HE WANTS TO GO BACK FOR MORE TOMORROW!"



CAMPFIRE COOK OUT - EASTER EDITION

Gather around the campfire for Hot Cross Bun toasting, Ampit fudge making and a toasted marshmallow or two with plenty of energetic adventure games and woodland fun this Easter.



"RECOMMENDED FOR ALL FREE-RANGE FANS!"

THE BIG WILD EGG DAY

An Eggciting day of Easter egg hunting, Egg Drop challenge and nature scavenger hunts. The Easter bunny's in town!

For more info on dates, locations and how the clubs run & to book: WWW.THEOUTDOORSPROJECT.CO.UK
 BIRTHDAY PARTIES - AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - SCHOOL WORKSHOPS - PARENT TODDLER GROUP - FRANCHISE - WEEKEND CLUBS