



Stone Church of England Combined School

Newsletter – Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

You may be aware of the announcement earlier this week that schools will not reopen until at least 8th March. This means that we have 2 more weeks before half term and at least a further 2 weeks after half term of partial school closure and remote learning.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for the many supportive messages we have received during this period. The teachers and TAs are doing everything that they can to support children and families and I am so proud of them.

Myself and the teachers are fully aware how difficult some families may find remote learning especially as the majority of parents are working from home too. Please remember that the most important thing is the wellbeing of the children – obviously encourage them to do as much as they can but do not worry if everything is not finished everyday or if something has to be handed in late. Talk to your child's teacher if you have any concerns at all that we can support you with. We have had a very high level of engagement with remote learning so well done and thank you.

Buckinghamshire Council shared the following data with me today regarding the current infection rates across Buckinghamshire which I thought you might like to see:

277 per 100,000 in Chiltern, 366.3 per 100,000 in South Bucks, 386.3 in Aylesbury Vale and 387.9 in Wycombe with an overall rate of 365 per 100,000 in Buckinghamshire. This is positive in that the rates are coming down, but they are still very high.

I must inform you that the Government has updated their guidance on Key worker places in order to try to keep numbers as low as possible in school and to reduce the spread of the virus. The new guidance is that if the key worker is working from home or there is another family member able to look after the child (even if they are working from home) that the child should not be sent to school.

With one class now having more than 50% of key worker and vulnerable children identified, I must ask that places are only requested if no other childcare is available and that only the days required are booked rather than the whole week. If you have booked a place that you no longer require, please let us know as soon as possible.

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.

Kind regards

Mrs D Morrison



Child of the Week

EYFS:

Kyra K for her compassion and empathy in class.

Emilia W for being an engaged and active learner.

Year 1:

Zac C for consistently trying hard with his work.

Ayden K for great phonics work.

Year 2:

Isaac J for writing a fantastic story about the Minpins.

Sophia C for great work in Maths this week.

Year 3:

Janelle B for excellent enthusiasm and always trying her best.

Princess E for great team spirit and for always being inclusive and kind.

Year 4:

Max S for great vocabulary choices.

Melissa N for a brilliant non-chronological report.

Year 5:

Emily for her super effort in the Sumdog competition.

Freya for her hard work and positive attitude towards her learning.

Year 6:

Finley C for working extremely well on all of his work for every lesson and taking on board next step comments to help him.

Rachel P for persevering with her learning and positive attitude in school.



Healthy Eating Lunch Idea

Nutty Cinnamon and Yoghurt Dipper

Ingredients

100g natural Greek yogurt

1 tbsp nut butter (try almond or cashew)

¼ tsp ground cinnamon

1 tsp honey

Method

In a small tub, mix together the yogurt, nut butter, cinnamon and honey. Serve with apple wedges (tossed in a little lemon juice to prevent them turning brown), celery or carrot sticks, and mini rice cakes or crackers.



Skills for Life

This week's Skills for Life collective worship focuses on big challenges. Watch these new videos from Mojo (each one is only a few minutes):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYGdMjgYJlo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwBzuzQ8fw8>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=McX11OqHM_c&t=111s

How might you use what Mojo has learnt about facing challenges in your life?



Parenting Tip

The Big Life Journal, who provide fantastic growth mindset resources, outline below what parents can do to support their children when they say 'It's not fair!'

Does your child say, "It's not fair" whenever things don't go their way or they don't get what they want?
How to best respond?

FIRST, realise that very often children use the word "unfair" because they don't have other words to describe how they feel.

You can help your child find the word that describes how they're feeling:

*"You didn't get what you wanted and now you feel **disappointed**." or "You feel **angry** because you expected something different."*

When we teach children about different kinds of emotions, we help them build emotional knowledge or emotional literacy.

It's very important because it helps them understand and manage their own feelings AND understand the emotions of other people and respond to them appropriately.

SECOND, if your child says, "It's unfair!", you can help them understand the difference between "fair" and "equal".

Explain that your job as a parent is to make sure that everyone gets what they NEED. And everyone doesn't need the same things or at the same time.

So things are not usually equal but they are usually fair.

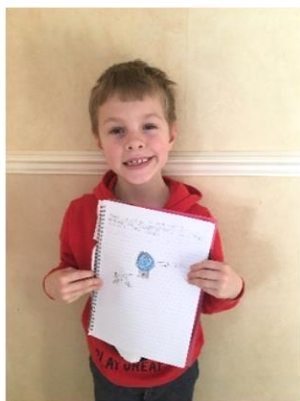
You can say:

"Your brother got new shoes because his feet grew. No one else got new shoes because our feet can still fit in our current shoes. Is it equal? No. Is it fair? Yes. When your feet grow and your current shoes become uncomfortable, you let me know so we can get you new shoes."

So you're essentially emphasizing that things might not be equal but they are FAIR and you will make sure that everyone in the family has what they NEED.

CLASS 3

This week we are focusing on class 3. They have been enjoying reading poetry, walking in the snow and doing their work and PE at home. In school we have been busy making book reviews for our class reading corner. We have also been enjoying Joe Wicks workouts and learning all about Ancient Egyptian Gods.





Scam email

Buckinghamshire Council would like to draw your attention to a scam email that states you have been selected for a Covid-19 vaccine due to your genetic make-up and/or family history. This email looks official but goes on to ask for your credit card details.



E-Safety

Please see the attached documents to support you in keeping your children safe when using YouTube and YouTube Kids.



Sumdog Contest.

Well done to all the children who took part in the Bucks Sumdog Contest last week. We had a large amount of children who took part each day and gained points for their class.

Congratulations to Charles from Class 2 who came 1st in the county and Ariya in Class 3 who came fourth. Well done to both of them for their hard work as over 300 students had taken part. Also Congratulations to Class 3 who were the highest from Stone School. They came 7th in the county too.

Mrs Webb will be in touch when there is another contest.



Children's Mental Health Week - 1st - 7th February

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week. Parents are invited to use SCARF at Home resources from our PSHE Scheme by Coram Life Education to support their child's positive mental health. This link includes a range of activities, books read online and Harold's diary:

<https://www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk/scarf-at-home-keeping-happy-and-healthy-during-lockdown-share-your-scarf-special>

Additional resources will be shared over the next week.



Pupil Premium

Your child may be entitled to pupil premium funding to support your child's learning and development in school if you receive one of the following benefits:

Income Support (IS)
Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (not contribution-based)
Child Tax Credit Only (with income up to £16,190) with no element of Working Tax Credit
Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
Guarantee Element of the State Pension Credit
Income-related employment and support allowance
Universal Credit (annual net earned income of no more than £7,400)

Please email office@stone.bucks.sch.uk confidentially if you are receiving any of the above benefits and ask Mrs Loxley to check if you qualify. As well as the school receiving money to support your child's learning, your child can benefit from Free School Meals.



Behaviour and Bullying

We aim to establish and sustain high expectations of behaviour for all pupils, built upon relationships, rules and routines.

We never tolerate bullying. Therefore, if you have any concerns that your child is being bullied, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance who will carry out a bullying investigation. If, following the outcome of this, your child is still reporting concerns, please contact Mrs S Hale who manages behaviour and discipline.



Reporting COVID-19 Test Results

You should immediately let the school know the results of COVID-19 test results. To report the result of a COVID-19 test, please email testresults@stone.bucks.sch.uk. This email address is for reporting the results of COVID-19 tests only. Please use our usual forms of communication for everything else including reporting that your child is unwell.



In Case of Whole School Emergency Closure

If we decide to close the whole school in an emergency (e.g snow, COVID-19), a notification will be placed on the BCC (Buckinghamshire Council) School Closures webpage. If the closure happens whilst children are at school, we will text parents/carers and publish on the BCC (Buckinghamshire Council) School Closures webpage. In these instances, please do not phone school to check unless you have alternative collection arrangements of which you need to advise us.

Link to school closures webpage: <https://closures.buckscc.gov.uk/>

In Case of Partial School Emergency Closure

If we decide to close a class/bubble the parents/carers will be contacted by text message. If the children are in school, please come to collect your children immediately – do not phone the school to check. If your child is not in school – please do not bring them in until further notice.

Please ensure you keep the school updated with any contact detail changes especially mobile phone numbers.



Dates for 2020/21

Spring Term 2021:

Tuesday 5th January to Thursday 1st April

Half Term:

Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February

Summer Term 2021:

Monday 19th April to Wednesday 21st July

Half Term:

Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June

Inset Days 2020/21

Monday 4th January 2021

Friday 28th May

Friday 9th July 2021