

Nurturing, Resilience and Achievement for all!

Headteacher: Mr Philip Asher, BMus(Hons), PGCE, ARCO, NPQSL, MCCT

Friday, 19 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Newsletter No22

The children really are superstars! They have continued to show their determination to get stuck into learning and pick up where we left off. I think it's fair to say, though, they are tired! These are long and full days, with lots to take onboard and absorb.

Our theme this week has been to consider what 'comfort' is – not from the squashy pillows and hot chocolate perspective, but from the emotional support and help perspective. With the children excited and anxious all at the same time to be back in school, there are many mixed emotions and helping the children to stay rooted is key to helping them reconnect with each other – particularly our younger children.

The passage from the bible comes from Matthew 11:28 – "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." We thought about how Jesus wants us to share what is troubling us, or making us anxious, then we can get help. Even if praying isn't something you or your family choose to so, talking to someone about things that worry you can really help – and the children are no different.

We discussed where the children might get comfort from – emotional help and support - who can they ask for help – with their work, or with worries? If we'd had 'live' assemblies I might have been able to take a few responses, but since I can't, I imagine they were along the lines of parents, teachers, friends and family. This week, we also started our Yoga mindfulness sessions, and it has helped the children already – one child already said it helped them feel more ready to learn afterwards!

Lockdown Rules – Going to the Park/Play dates

Several children shared this week they are meeting up outside of school with children from other families and across bubbles – in the park and arranging playdates at each other's homes. We've also had one or two queries about whether this is allowed. We are sorry, but **IT ISN'T.**

The National Lockdown has not ended – and the rules about meeting up indoors or in groups outdoors are still in place until the beginning of April at the earliest. You can find out more here: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home

The Government only re-opened schools based on school being the only place they mix with people from other households. This is to limit the spread of the virus, which is still in the community though at much reduced rates to when we went into lockdown in January. While children are not always badly affected by the virus, they are known to spread it. Some of our staff and parents are vulnerable or have family members who are extremely vulnerable – despite the vaccine. Others are not yet able to have the vaccine. They are all trusting everyone to be sensible and follow the rules.

Please don't betray our trust in you.

Keep our school and community a safe place. Thank you.







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Star Learners

Now we're back in school, we've restarted our weekly shout outs for star learners! These children received shout outs last week and this week as part of our Celebration Assembly:

Friday 19 th March	
Ruby & Grace (Reception)	Charlie & Rebecca (Y4)
Lily & Freddie (Y1)	Charlie J & Daisy (Y5)
Thomas & Elliott (Y2)	Mason & Kayla (Y6)
Teodora, Adrianna, Isabel (Y3)	

Relationships & Sex Education Consultation (RSE)

We are consulting on our policy and curriculum developments for RSE. The Government announced that this would become statutory from Summer Term 2021 (postponed from last year due to the Covid Pandemic).

Schools have been required to update their policies and adjust their curriculum to match the changes. We have done this and wanted to seek parent views.

Mrs Francis has made a video to explain the changes and what our policy is, and we have put together a survey for parents.



Please click the clipboard logo to go to the page on our website.

They will be live until the end of this term. Thank you for your help!

End of Term – Update: No early closing on last day

We normally close early on the last day of a full term, but this term we will close at the normal time. Please therefore collect your children as normal next Friday when we finish for Easter.



Night Owls will be open as usual.

At the moment this only applies to the end of Spring Term, and we will review the collection time for the Summer Term (as previously advertised in the Term Dates) later in the year. Thank you.

@AllSaintsPriSch





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Part of the Puzzle

We've already had one or two coming in from those in school at the moment. They look great!

Please don't forget to bring you 'Puzzle Piece' in for our display. It will help the children to share in the experience of lockdown for each other and help us to brighten the place up! Thank you.



Y1 Boats – floating or sinking?













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A Prayer for the Nation -

Look upon us, O Lord, and let all the darkness of our souls vanish before the beams of your brightness. Fill us with holy love, and open to us the treasures of your wisdom.

Amen

Taken from: https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation

Take care, keep safe, and remember to wash your hands!

Kind regards, Philip Asher, *Headteacher*



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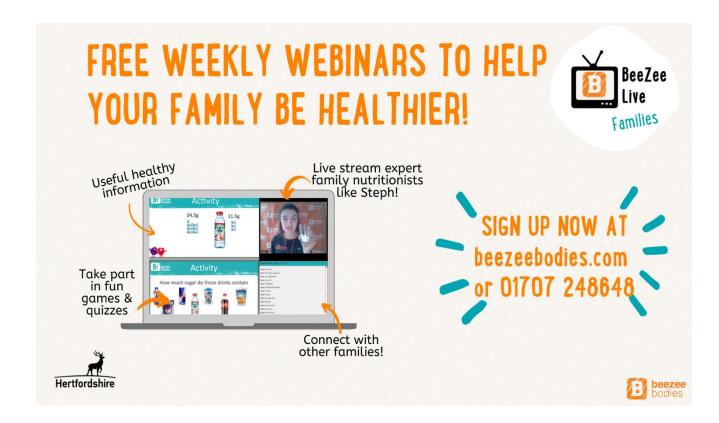
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Additional Help for Families

Below are a list of organisations and places you can find help and support if you need it:

- Aspects Family Support http://www.aspects.org.uk/ or telephone 01279 758134
- Citizens Advice Bureau 03444 111 444 or: https://citizensadviceeastherts.org.uk/
- Children's Centre https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/family-centres.aspx
- Bishops Stortford Food Bank <u>bsfoodbank.coordinator@gmail.com</u> or on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pg/bsfoodbank/about/?ref=page internal
- Hertfordshire Children's Services https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/childrens-social-care/childrens-social-care.aspx or 0300 123 4034
- Family Lives https://www.familylives.org.uk/ or telephone 0808 800 2222
- Action for Children https://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do/parents-and-families/
- NSPCC https://www.nspcc.org.uk/
- Childline https://www.childline.org.uk/ or telephone 0800 1111
- School Nursing Team https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing/
- Stay Strong website: <u>www.staystrong.org.uk</u>



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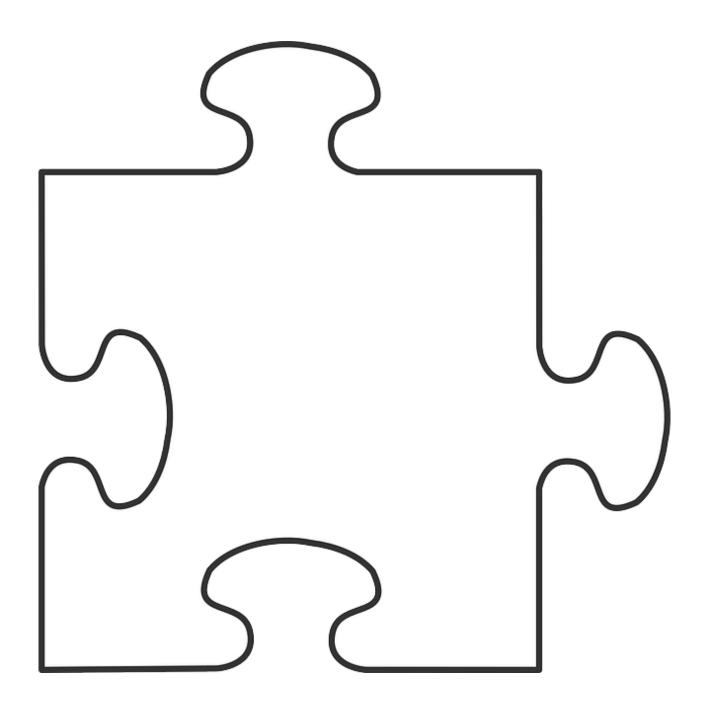
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DON'T FORGET TO DO A PUZZLE PIECE TO BRING IN TO SCHOOL WHEN WE RETURN ON 8th MARCH! We'll put them all on display in the hall.

We are all part of the puzzle and we all have a part to play in these difficult times. Fill the puzzle piece below with words, drawings, colours, collage etc. that represent you or your family. When we return to school, bring it in and we'll add it to the school puzzle display.

If you can't print this out at home, draw your own jigsaw puzzle outline and use that!



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