



All Saints CE Primary School & Nursery

Nurturing, Resilience and Achievement for all!

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

Thursday, 11 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Newsletter No18

I hope you are well and keeping safe! What a wintry week! I do hope you've got out and enjoyed some of the snow and the cold – as bitter as it is, there is something delicious about going out in the cold, then coming back in to the warm...

We've made it! One half term of lockdown now complete, and hopefully not much more to go after.

Thank you for all your support, and a well done for all your hard work and determination. It has not been easy, but we are slowly getting through this together.

We will be taking a break over half term, and I suggest you do too. It has been a long hard slog in the last six weeks, for the children as well as parents!

In the Newsletter this week, there's lots of exciting things to catch up on – I've included some bits and pieces you can do over half term if you'd like, alongside some news and pictures from the classes.

The Great Big Art Exhibition – we're taking part (if you want to!!)

Join in with this national event! It started on 28th January and runs until the end of April, but February half term is the ideal time to create your piece of artwork and join in!

The idea is to encourage everyone to make a piece of artwork – your own theme, or inspired by an artist or anything else really! Then put it in your window at home for everyone else to see!

You can also display it in the virtual gallery – go to: <https://firstsite.uk/> to register (completely free), download the PDF pack full of inspiration and information, and also find out how to join the national virtual gallery. Mrs Ridler and Ms Brooks are already on there!

Some news and reminders:

Bishops Stortford Festival of Literature – prize draw win for All Saints!!

We hope you've enjoyed some of the events put on this year! Yesterday was the Picture Book Award, with the winning book being voted on by children in the participating schools (which we were one!). The winning book, *Pirates V Monsters*, by David Crosby, is excellent, but so were the others!

During the award ceremony, a prize draw was held and I'm delighted to announce our school won!!

The prize is the artwork drawn by Garry Parsons during the ceremony – he is the illustrator for one of the picture books contending for the award, 'Llama Glamorama'. You can watch our prize being created by clicking this link (it's from 38minutes into the ceremony):

<https://www.festivalofliterature.co.uk/pbastream/>

You can also listen to the Llama Glamorama book being read by the author, Simon James Green here:

<https://online.clickview.co.uk/share?sharecode=564eec5f>

Parsonage Lane, Bishops Stortford, CM23 5BE

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HALF TERM FUN

In keeping with my previous Newsletters before a half term, I thought I'd share some of the fun (and perhaps slightly surreal) celebration days coming up. I suspect one or two may be the creation of a company, but nevertheless, it helps to inspire something fun to do/think about!

Saturday 13th	National Tortellini day
Sunday 14th	Valentine's Day
Monday 15th	National Gum-Drop Day
Tuesday 16th	Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day)
Wednesday 17th	Ash Wednesday / Random Acts of Kindness Day
Thursday 18th	National Battery Day (celebrating things that use batteries – who knew!) <i>For the adults: it's also National Wine Appreciation Day...!!</i>
Friday 19th	National Chocolate Mint Day
Saturday 20th	Love your Pet Day
Sunday 21st	National Sticky Bun Day



Lonely Planet have created a set of Lockdown Travel Guides...

Half Term Activities

A selection of things you could do with the family, some are free, others have a cost.

Barracudas Virtual Half Term Camp – Monday to Friday.

Videos are being uploaded to their Youtube and Facebook channels and are **free to access**. Visit their website for the schedule: <https://www.barracudas.co.uk/locations-prices/virtual-half-term-camp/>

Jorvik Viking Museum – York

They have a range of activities and events – some are charged, others free.

<https://www.jorvikthing.com/whats-on/>

Cinema Experience

Turn your lounge into a cinema – choose a family film (or treat yourself to one just out), set the time (and day), ask the children to make their tickets, get in the popcorn, snacks, drinks, and enjoy the film!

Mars Landing Live Stream – Thursday 18th Feb

Watch the Mars Perseverance rover landing on Mars, live!

<https://mars.nasa.gov/mars2020/timeline/landing/>

National Trust – visits and activities, free for members

Some National Trust places (gardens and parks) are still open for exercise. But they also have lots of things you can do at home: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/february-half-term-for-all-the-family>

Draw with Rob Biddulph (illustrator): <http://www.robbiddulph.com/draw-with-rob>

Lots of 'how to' videos for creatures, animals and characters. Have a go!

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NEWS FROM THE CLASSES

Mental Health Week in Y5

Year 5 spent the week thinking about what makes us happy! We completed some mindfulness activities such as colouring, making a texture bag full of things that reflects us, singing songs and taking some photographs that make us happy. We also did some drumming activities and street dancing as well as completing some physical '60 second' challenges.

We looked at the book 'The Chimpanzees of Happytown' by Giles Andrea and drew our own Happy Town. We then wrote poems about what makes us happy.

By Taylor



By Corey

I would call my happy place Merryville. In my ideal place it would have a chocolate factory, unlimited stock on all items, money would grow on trees, genies and a wishing well, really good sunshine all year round and teleporting devices.



By Dolly

Poetry: "Happiness is ..."

Happiness is cycling over a grand bridge and past the gushing stream.
Happiness is constructing a sandcastle on the sandy beach.
Happiness is enjoying a warm coffee on the terrace.
Happiness is viewing the town in a ferry cabin.
Happiness is relaxing in a domed rotunda, listening to the birds sing.

By Jacob

Happiness is....
the sand between my toes on the beach
the noises in the zoo some of them screech
Practising on the climbing walls
Dancing to the beat
Playing with my friends all day in the street
Reading in the library or shop
Laughing with my friends, I just can't stop!!
The floor is lava, run and hop
While my mum is at the shop
Jolly Bay Jolly Bay
It's a place you'd love to stay.

By Bronwyn

Dress To Express Yourself Day

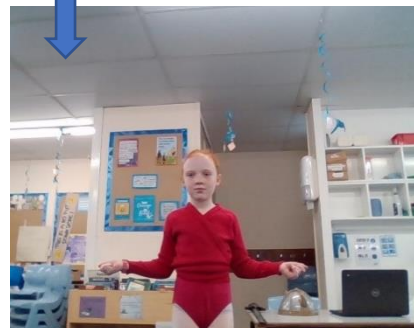


Jacob wore red and grey because he is supporting his favourite team.



Charlie C chose this onesie because he likes football and the colours make him happy.

Eve wore her ballet outfit because she absolutely loves dancing and it makes her feel happy!



Chris loves playing sports and chose this outfit because they are comfortable and the colour blue makes him happy.

Snow Play in school

Some pictures of the snow fun from earlier this week:



Year 3 Ice Sun Catchers





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A Prayer for the Nation – NHS and Key Workers

Our God is the great hearer – and the agent
used more than any other is the NHS.

Today we voice our gratitude for those who serve this country
In the National Health Service.

We pray the God would prosper the work of their hands-

That they would all be encouraged

In their continued work of sacrifice and care amongst us. Amen.

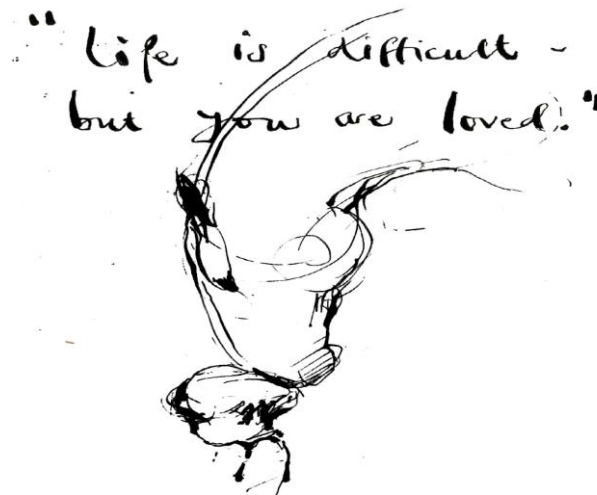
Taken from: <https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation>

And finally... the return of the Orange Hat!

This week I wore my orange hat for the first time in a while – I had intended to wear it for the Dress to Express day last week, but left home without it in the rush that a morning in the Asher household usually involves.

However, on Monday I remembered it, and was treated to many compliments through the day. One in particular has stood out. A running commentary was given in the Y5 bubble as to my movements as I recorded my video message from the playground, and I was declared “the lesser-spotted orange-hatted headteacher” by one of the members of the bubble. I won’t say who, but thank you for the new name!

I hope you all have a wonderful half term, and whatever you do get up to, remember...



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

Kind regards,

Philip Asher, *Headteacher*

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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 – bsfoodbank.coordinator@gmail.com 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: www.staystrong.org.uk

FREE WEEKLY WEBINARS TO HELP YOUR FAMILY BE HEALTHIER!



Useful healthy information

Live stream expert family nutritionists like Steph!

Take part in fun games & quizzes

Connect with other families!



SIGN UP NOW AT
beezeebodies.com
or 01707 248648





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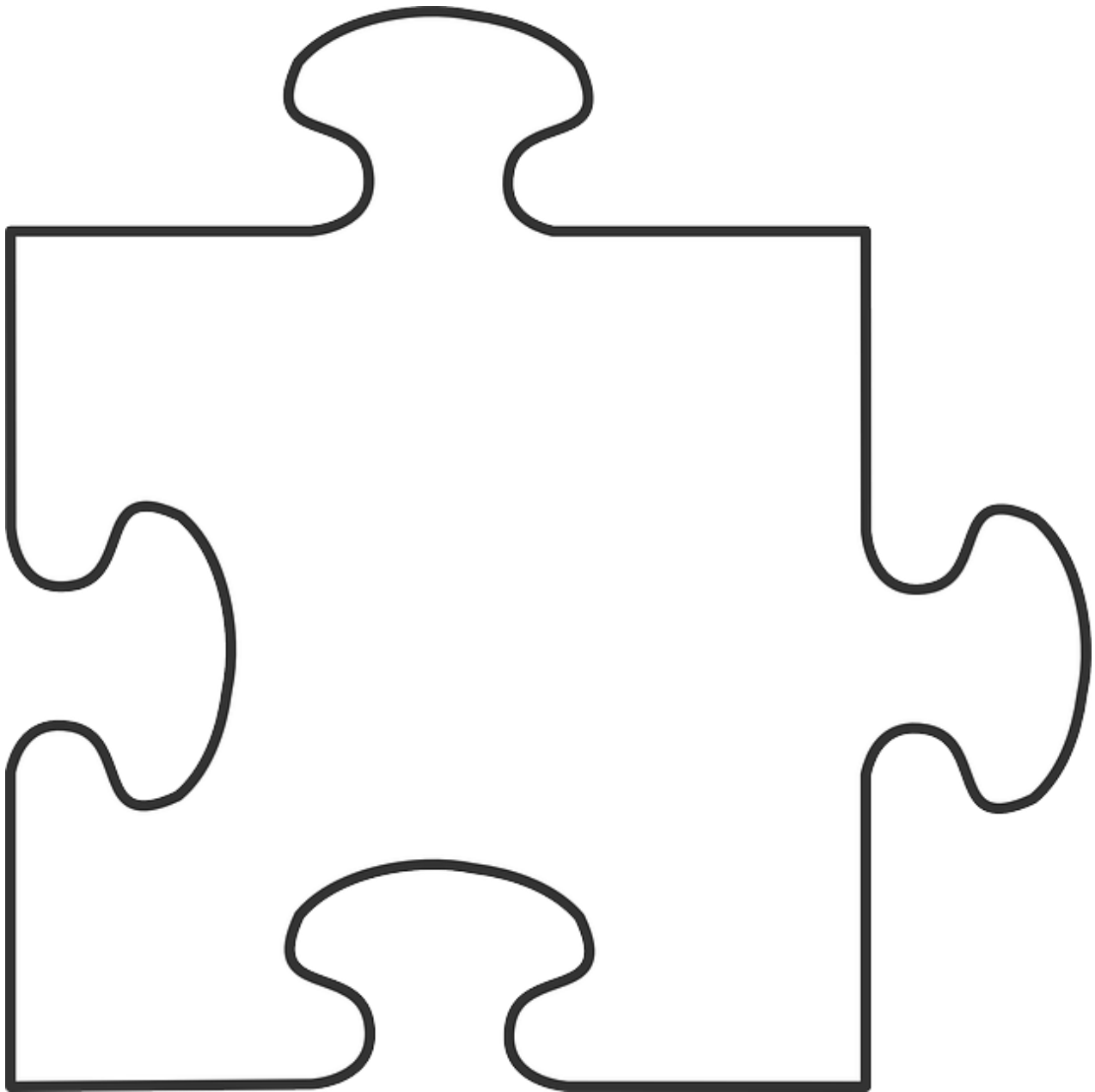
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We are all part of the puzzle and we all have a part to play in these difficult times. Fill the puzzle piece below with words, drawings, colours, collage etc. that represent you or your family. Place it in your window next week during Children's Mental Health week. 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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