

Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

The good weather is back with us this week, just in time for us to plan for our VE Day (socially distancing) picnics in our own gardens. I am seeing so much red, white and blue bunting and ribbons being hung up on fences and in windows on my daily walk with Teddy. My bunting is being blown about on my fence as we speak. Our children of key workers will be enjoying a day of VE activities in school culminating in a lovely red, white and blue picnic on the school field! Get decorating your gardens ready for the exciting event.

We have some very interesting wildlife that the children have discovered around school whilst doing their outdoor learning including toads, tiny baby snails and a nest of four blackbird chicks that we have been carefully observing from when they were four powder blue eggs. Mother and babies are doing very well. A big well done to all the children who are sending in exciting examples of what they have been doing at home and as a result of their home learning projects. You can see some of the photographs below.

We hope you all have a great VE Day and enjoy the extended weekend.

Best wishes.

Mrs Zillah Cope
Headteacher



Updated DfE guidance

The guidance for parents on the closure of educational settings has been updated by the Department for Education with additional information, regarding the resources and support available to help with home educating. Please [click here](#).

BBC Home Learning

To supplement the home-learning packs which we have provided, you can visit BBC Bitesize Daily, where there is a weekly timetable of lessons for every year group, covering all subjects. For a copy of the timetable and details of how to access the lessons, visit:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/bitesize-daily-schedules-teach/zdtwjhv>

VE Day – marking 75 years

Remember to visit our Facebook page on Friday, where you will be able to get interactive with us by sharing your photos on our VE Day post which will go live on the 8th.

We look forward to seeing how you decide to mark this special occasion during these unprecedented times: whether you have created your own decorations for an at home street party; baked a recipe from the wartime years or you could even share a poem or dress up in themed outfits from the era – we want to hear from you!



VE Day Resources

The British Legion have produced a VE Day resource pack for children to access at home. Go to:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/teaching-remembrance>

Stargazing

Below is a list of astronomical sightings which students may want to keep an eye out for over the next month:

- 7th May – Milk Moon (Last Supermoon of 2020).
- 12th May – Close approach of the Moon, Jupiter and Saturn.
- 27th May – Comet Swan visible to the naked eye.

Parent/Carer Survey

We really value your feedback and feel we have been working well with our pupils so hoping you can spare 5 minutes to complete the attached survey. Please click [here to take part](#).

Thank you in advance for your support.

Star Struck

Well...can you actually believe that we secured David Walliams to send you a very special message...we are still in shock and honored that he's taken the time to say hi - don't forget he has some amazing books out and you can see him each week on Britain's Got Talent. Visit his page by clicking [here](#). Click [here](#) to watch our video.

New Life

Our family of resident blackbirds that we have been watching on our outdoor webcam.



Support

We wanted to let you know about a new charity called Shout. Anyone can text Shout to 85258 anonymously and it is free on major UK networks and doesn't show up on a phone bill. It creates a space for people in a moment of crisis, to take them from a hot moment to feeling calmer.

Shout is powered by a team of Crisis Volunteers, supported by expert Clinical Supervisors. www.giveusashout.org.

Supporting you

Health Visitors, School Nurses and Family Nurses are all still working to support you. Please click on the link [here](#) for more information and their contact details.

Slowing the spread

Please see below information on helping the UK slow the spread of Covid-19. The image below shows how you can help, please adhere to all guidelines in place. http://news.files.bbc.co.uk/include/news/spec/pdfs/BBC_SlowTheSpread.pdf

Stars of the week

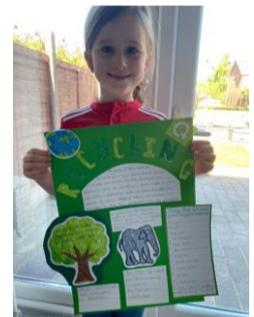
Congratulations to our stars this week:
Fir - Tegan Jex
Willow - Isla Domagalski
Maple - Lily Morgan
Rowan - Nicky Fisher
Elm - Daniel Chalmers
Beech - Elissa Higgins
Oak - Harrison Shore



#welldone

Pupils Work

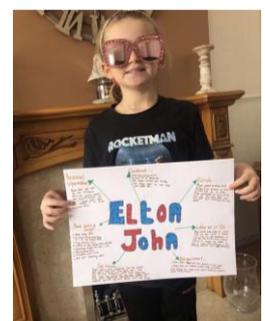
Mia has completed her own research about recycling to make an informative poster.



Jack made a bird house and Eliza did some baking



Annie did some research on Elton John



Competitions & Challenges

Drama opportunity: The National Theatre are providing an online free streaming of four live productions which you would normally pay around £10 per ticket for. They are streaming every Thursday in April from 7pm. It is a chance for pupils, parents and staff to watch some prestigious theatre from home. Visit [here](#) to view the offering.

D&T competition: Rolls-Royce are running a fantastic competition, encouraging aspiring designers up to the age of 16 to design their dream Rolls-Royce of the future. Entries close at 12.00 on Monday 18th May 2020. Click the link [here](#), to find out more.

PE challenge: Gold medallist and British and European sprint record holder Mickey Bushell MBE will be setting pupils within The Marches Academy Trust a press-up challenge! Follow our Facebook page to find out more, take part and have an opportunity to win a medal.

History competition: The Historical Association are running a 'Write Your Own Historical Fiction Competition 2020'. Winning students will each receive a cash prize, engraved paperweight and a year's free subscription to the Historical Association for their school. Entries close Friday 26th June 2020, click [here](#) for more details.