



ROSSETT ACRE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Charity No.1048680

'Excellence and happiness for all'

NEWSLETTER FOR ROSSETT ACRE – 26 March 2020

Hello everyone. As you will have noticed, the newsletter has changed a little, in terms of its appearance, as we no longer have any forthcoming events that we can display for you.

These are unprecedented times and I know that many of you will be worried about what lies ahead in the following days and months. I think it is important that we stay in touch as a community and support one another so I will attempt to produce a newsletter each week (in term time) for you, as usual, to keep you updated on what is happening. I do hope that you and your family are safe and well and that you are beginning to settle into a routine during these early days of home learning.

Quote of the week: 'When you can't change the direction of the wind - adjust your sails.' (H. Jackson Brown Jr)

CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE LAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE WE CLOSED

Congratulations to the following children who received a certificate in the last two weeks' celebration assemblies: Abigail, Oscar (AC/TT), Robyn (AW), Charlotte (EJ/CH), William (AI), Lilian (CR/JJ), Toby (SC/PA), Harry (MR), Marley (MW/EB), Reuben (JM), Robert (SK), Toby B (TM), Alice (CD).

Chester, Pearla (AC/TT), Seb (CN/SK), Phoebe (AW), Ted (AI), Charlie, Whole Class (CR/JJ), Whole Class (SC/PA), Ava (MR), Stella (RJ/LS), Jessica C (MW/EB), Lucas, Whole Class (JM), Sammy, Whole Class (SK), Whole Class (TM), Milly, Whole Class (CD).

LIFE AT ROSSETT ACRE

Life at school is rather strange at the moment, however, the Rossett Acre staff team are doing an amazing job in challenging times. Some have been providing care for the children of our key workers and dealing with the logistics of this – it is a mammoth task, especially trying to explain to our youngest children what social distancing is, when they just don't understand!

Others are working at home and have been providing activities and work for children to do in their own homes, whilst also looking after and caring for their own families, like so many of you are.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of them for their dedication and commitment to our children, the school and education in general. I am incredibly proud of them.

Key Workers: At Rossett Acre we are committed to supporting the key workers in our community and we would like to publically thank them all for their hard work and dedication, putting their own health at risk to care for others and keep the country going. You are phenomenal and we can't thank you enough!

I would also like to say a big thank you to the Trust, who have been supporting all the schools in the Red Kite Learning Trust so brilliantly during these perplexing times, and also to Ian Foy, our Chair of Governors. This last week has been a real team effort!



COMMUNICATION

Our main communication in school, at present, is through Class Dojo and Tapestry. I have been very impressed with some of the work the children have been doing and the creative ways that some children (and parents) are learning. I have seen some super phonics work, writing, lots of physical exercise (which is very important), maths and many of the children have taken up my HT Challenges, which is fantastic. Today, I believe the whole of Y3 and 4 are taking a virtual visit to Chester Zoo too!

Remember, it is really important to structure your day to work around your own lifestyle, which for most has seen a massive transformation over the last week; do what you can and don't feel guilty if you don't complete everything you want to. Children spending time with their family and learning to do everyday tasks, as well as having downtime, (which is so important for well-being) are just as important as any academic work. Turn this change into a positive and take time to notice the little things in life; get out in the garden, watch the birds, look at the trees budding, feel the warmth of the sun on your skin, watch your child smile and even adopt an attitude of gratitude. This will help you and your child/ren stay grounded and support your mental health.

HIGH FIVE NETBALL COMPETITION

On Monday last week, 15 Year 6 children took part in the Harrogate School Sports Partnership High 5 Netball Competition at Harrogate Grammar School. They all took part with great enthusiasm and effort. The two teams finished in 2nd and 3rd position which was a great result. Well done to Lily B, Harry B, Ayda C, Stella C, Arvin D, Haris D, Selma D, Miles D, Poppy H, Jasmine I, Roma J, Suri M, Solenne O, Flo R, Ayshea S. Thank you to Mrs Stevens and Miss Illingworth who accompanied the children and to the parents who cheered them on.

PANTO & WWII VE DAY CELEBRATION

I wanted to say a huge thank you to all the adults and children who rehearsed so hard for this years' pantomime, which sadly had to be postponed. I know this was a great disappointment to you all and to us in school too. I hope that once we return to normality, we will be able to go ahead with the pantomime, which is such a highlight of our school year.

Similarly, I would like to say a huge thank you to Lesley Stott and the children in our Singing Squad who also practised so hard for the WWII VE Day Celebration, which was also postponed. Again, hopefully this will be able to be rescheduled.

SATS AND TESTING

As you will have seen on the news, SATs, Phonic Screening and the Y4 Multiplication Tests will not take place this year. I know that the children have been working hard towards these and I wanted to let them know that I acknowledge this and that I am very proud of them. However, tests definitely do not define anyone, especially at such a young age, so maybe positives do come out of stormy weather!

HT CHALLENGE

The Field Studies Council, sent me an email today which has some lovely ideas for children to do, which are nature based. I love nature and Geography, so here is my HT Challenge for today:

Complete at least one of the tasks from the link below. I particularly like the one about looking at the clouds and seeing what you can see and then telling someone in your family a story based on the clouds - very creative.

<https://r1.dmtrk.net/65YE-SEE-65K4MSL1E/cr.aspx> (Ctrl + click)

YEAR 6 CRUCIAL CREW

Each year our Year 6 pupils visit the Yorkshire Showground and take part in the North Yorkshire Police Crucial Crew event with other primary schools from the area. As the event has now been cancelled, NYP have sent a link to an internet interactive game which can be played at home. It takes the form of a character who goes through a series of risky and unsafe situations who has to make a decision based on three options each time. Subjects covered include internet safety, water safety, electricity safety, fire safety, road safety, gas safety. It links in with learning objectives and is in line with PSHE objectives.

The link to the game is www.crucial-crew.org.uk

LEARNING FROM HOME

The attached document was recently sent out via ParentPay and uploaded to our website. It has a range of ideas, activities and websites which may help you with your child's home learning.

EASTER HOLIDAYS

The Easter holidays will be upon us soon, although they will be very different from normal. Teachers **will not** be setting work over the Easter break as it is important that they spend time with their families and are able to recuperate and refresh after what has been a trying time for all. I will however, send out some Easter activity ideas next week with my newsletter, so look out for these.

CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19

Remember to keep washing your hands regularly, use 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' and practise social distancing at all times. We want you all to stay safe and well.

Lastly, at school, the children and adults talk a lot about our pets. The children are all aware that I have five fur babies, so I thought I would send a photo of one of my dogs, 'Diggle' to make them smile. Here he is after chasing his stick – he is quite out of puff!



We miss the children so much in school and are looking forward to when they are all back with us and we can hear their laughter and see their smiles.

Keep supporting one another and remember to be kind and understanding towards others too. Everyone is trying to do their best in a situation that none of us have been in before. It is challenging but we will get through this together.

Take care and stay safe.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Penhale".

Corrine Penhale
Headteacher