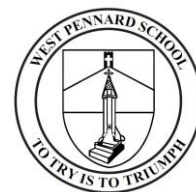




Weekly Newsletter

Written for the Week Beginning 8th June 2020



Dear Parents/Carers,

Unfortunately, I am unable to be in school at the moment due to a pre-existing health condition and so continue to work from home in a 'virtual' capacity. Firstly, I would therefore like to thank the staff at West Pennard for being quite simply AMAZING! Everyone works so well together at West Pennard and this has never been as clear as it is now during our 'new normal'. A special thanks to Mr Wheat and Mrs Clarke for managing the school in my absence.

I am thrilled to report that the Year 6 children have been brilliant and are adapting to the new procedures really well – a huge thank you to Miss Morris and Mr Venning for supporting the children so expertly with the transition back into school. It looks like you've had a fun time ... I'm even hearing stories of socially distanced cricket. Fantastic ☺

Next week we look forward to welcoming some of our Year 1 children back to Dormouse Class. The children will either be taught by Mrs Robinson or Miss Holmes and I know that they will ensure the start back to school is a positive one.

Thank you also to our Year 6 parents for managing the 'new normal' so well ... we appreciate you following the new procedures and know it's odd not being able to have the usual contact.

With all good wishes

Jo Hale

Quote of the week

Cleverness is a gift, kindness is a choice

Jeff Bezos

Collective Worship

The Church of England have put together a series of Faith at Home videos, which can be found here <https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-action/faith-home/faith-home-videos>

Whilst they include some Collective Worship videos there are also videos for families to share together on topics like Hope, which you might like to access.

Somerset Libraries

Staff from libraries across Somerset have been busy creating dozens of great videos of children of all ages to enjoy each week online. These include regular story times, health and well-being videos, top tips on cooking and gardening and of course some useful book reviews. There have already been thousands of views for the different videos and the digital library offer has also been extended to include quizzes, podcasts and even a very helpful guide on what flowers to look out for in verges when walking the beautiful Somerset lanes. Please do visit www.glassboxtaunton.co.uk/videos to see the videos created so far or find Somerset Libraries UK on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to regularly check out the new content.

Visit www.somerset.gov.uk/libraries to see the full programme of online events and activities.

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Headteacher Miss J. Hale

Mindfulness

We welcomed back some of our Year 6 children this week. They had the opportunity to do a mindfulness body scan where they could download any worries or anxieties. A great many thanks to Min Robertson from Generation Be UK for supporting the children in this way.



Returning Children

It's been lovely to get back to school this week and see some smiling Year 6 faces. The children have all been incredibly positive and they really impressed myself and Mr Venning with their attitude towards this new way of schooling. In our bubbles this week we have spent time catching up, seeing what everyone has been up to during lockdown and getting used to a new routine. We have also been lucky to have Mrs Robertson come in and take us for Tai Chi sessions, giving us time to be quiet and calm. In my bubble we spent a day working with Mr North on a 3D printing project too, which will continue for the next few weeks.

Miss Morris

Art Work

Please see below some geometric artwork carried out by the key worker children.



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Somerset Health and Wellbeing

Trudi Grant, Somerset's Director of Public Health shares some really useful tips on how to protect your mental health and wellbeing. There is also a wealth of information on various questions you may have regarding the coronavirus and talking to children about it.

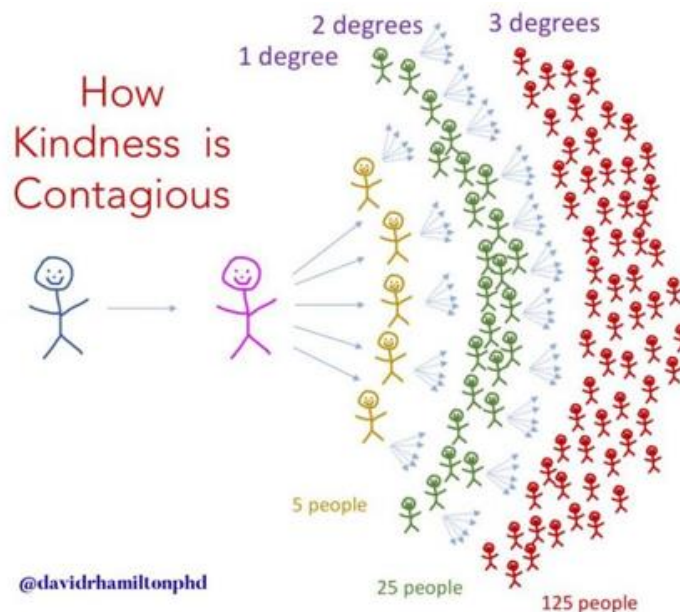
- More information can also be found at www.healthysomerset.co.uk/covid-19/
- [Somerset Parent Carer Forum](#) also offers lots of helpful support and information on looking after you and yours.
- You should also check out Somerset Lifehacks – mental health tips for young people by young people, specially updated during the coronavirus emergency.

52 Lives

Everybody needs a little kindness once in a while and I wanted to point you in the direction of 52 Lives, the kindness charity that we did a lot of work with last year. They have put together a lot of resources and activities to support wellbeing through acts of kindness. Visit...

<https://schoolofkindness.org/resources-for-schools/self-isolation-little-kindness-lessons-and-activities>

Mr Wheat



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Headteacher Miss J. Hale