## Friday 15th January 2021

# West Pennard C of E VC Primary



Children in Year 1 made tissue paper rainbows to hang in their windows at home in school this week.

'Since God so loved us, so we must love one another' (1 John 4 v11)

## **Heads Up**

We completed our first full week of blended learning and it is lovely to be able to oversee some of the rich learning experiences that are taking place. Mrs Pinsent and Miss Major sent over pictures of some amazing Saxon and Viking longboats on Tuesday that Otter Class had been doing at home as part of their work in History about invaders and settlers (see further in the newsletter). Well done Otter Class!

A big well done to all of you also for your engagement with the work set in Google Classroom. I know many of you are juggling an awful lot right now and for some it has not been easy reverting to remote learning as well as negotiating some of the technical problems that have been had on the varying devices. Things will get easier, especially as the children get more accustomed to the new routines.

Several classes had the opportunity to meet up, albeit virtually, this week with a catch up with their respective teachers using Google Meet. The teachers passed on how lovely it was to see each other again and feel a sense of oneness as a class. In the coming weeks we will be 'touching base' with you via these or other means to ensure that all is going well. In the meantime, if you are in need of any help or advice please don't hesitate to call us.

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Kindest regards and stay safe

Mr Wheat

# Stars in Our Eyes

#### Home Learning Stars of the Week

Year~R - Ruby (For fantastic dedication to her learning at home)

Year 1 Caleb (for his Traction Man Waterproof experiment)

Year 2 Walter (for super effort in every subject and beautiful presentation)

Year 3 Thomas (for always completing his home learning tasks to the best of his ability)

Year 4 Lola (for putting 100% in to all of her home learning and doing so with a smile on her face)

Year 5 Bethany (for her fab responses and her great Viking long ship).

Year 6 Ethan (for being such a superstar)

#### Critical Worker Provision Stars of the Week

Ottie, Reece and Stanley











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#### **Newsletter 17**

# Year 5 Home Learning Snapshot

Viking and Saxon Longboats. Lock up your loot!





# PE Home Learning Resources

Our sports coaches (TLE) have produced a big collection of resources to keep you active over lockdown. Click on the picture below to access their Google Drive...



# Mindfulness Resources

Min Robertson, who works for us on a Thursday, has created online videos to support children's Mindfulness during the lockdown.

https://youtu.be/NBVNHU7Jr7Y

# **Covid Notification**

We have to do a return to the DfE each day to notify of children in school. As part of this we need to notify them of any children that are self isolating or have a positive result **whether they are in school or not.** Could you let the school know if your receive a positive test or are self-isolating even if home schooling.

# Out and About (Well, In and Innovative!)

As our daily exercise can be no more than 5 miles from home we thought we would point you in the direction of activities that can be done at home.



# The Great Indoors Initiative

Bear Grylls and the Scouts have produced a collection of more than 100 activities that children can tackle indoors.

The Great Indoors | Scouts

30 Day LEGO Challenge						
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# Take Up the Lego Challenge!

The Lego challenge is a printable calendar containing themed tasks for every day of the month. Kids can let their imagination run wild with all manner of Lego creations, from hospitals and rollercoasters to an unbreakable safe in a bank. <u>Free Printable 30-Day LEGO Challenge (instant</u> download!) (freehomeschooldeals.com)



# Origami Art Animals

Keeping kids entertained doesn't have to cost a bomb. A piece of paper is all they need to bring their favourite animals to life in origami form.

How to Make Origami Animals (origamiway.com)



# **Science Experiments**

You don't need a science lab to experiment at home. Build an insect hotel, create a baking soda volcano, or turn a potato into a battery with the PrepScholar Blog.

## Year 2 Home Learning Snapshot

Year 2 had a theme this week of 'Madagascar the movie'. They made a jungle theatre and did penguin ice experiments.







## Clicker 8

Some children in school use Clicker 8 on the Chromebooks to help with their extended writing. Clicker is a software program (windows/mac compatible) that can help with reading text back, simple organizational features and also support with spelling and sentence structure. There is also some inbuilt resources children can use and add to. If your child is familiar with this software and would like to access this at home, Clicker is now offering free home access to children. Please do let the school know if you would like to access this and we will send out the access code needed. To find out more see: <u>https://www.cricksoft.com/uk/</u> training/clicker-training/tutorials/clicker-8

#### **Devices**

We are working hard to ensure that all have as good access as possible to devices for home learning purposes. We recognise and totally understand the time, technological and technical pressures of delivering remote learning. We have created a follow up device questionnaire to assess needs. Please fill in the google form below...

https://forms.gle/NWWYK6Qs8EuMgPhS8

# Church Lane Pain

We have received reports of parents driving rather fast up Church Lane in the past week. Even though fewer people are attending the school during these times it doesn't make speeding any less dangerous.

We have also noticed quite a bit of dog fouling on the pavement and in the lead up to school. Please be extra vigilant when approaching the school.



### Forest School Activity of the Week

Animal tracks. As you go for your daily exercise instead of looking around you for once, look down. What can you see? Thanks to all the rain we have had lately it is very muddy around and anyone, animal or person, leaves a mark. Can you spot any or name any? Click <u>here</u> for a guide to help you. If you are avoiding muddy fields try leaving a tray of flour or scatter some flour in your back garden and see what comes visiting over night.

# **Quote of the Week**

'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.' Matthew 11 v28

# Home Learning Help

We have a number of paid for subscriptions that you can therefore access for free.

# Bug Club Phonics (Year R, 1 and 2)



## Teach Your Monster to Read (Year R)



Accelerated Reader (Year 2 - Year 6)



Doodle Maths (Year 1 - Year 6)



White Rose Maths Video Lessons (Year R - Year 6)



Google Classroom (Year R - Year 6)



We are working on a few others so watch this space

If you have any access issues with any of the above please message the teachers

# Handy Hints / Technology Corner



If you want / need to share your work or ideas with the teachers in Google Classroom you can record anything that you do on screen as a movie using Screencastify. It works as an add-on to Google Chrome and is free for recordings of 5 minutes. It can be useful if, for example, you have a presentation of quick fire Maths questions to do as a warm up. You can record yourself doing it to show that you can do it, rather than writing anything down.

Visit Screencastify and install it.

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When in Chrome click on the jigsaw piece in the top right and start Screencastify. It will record anything you do on screen.

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