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@StStephensPri



Newsletter 23

3rd March 2021

St Stephen's Primary Church School

Happy Friday!

World Book Day... Was a little different this year, but still so much fun and I have loved seeing the costumes whether online or in real life at a distance. In fact, this whole week has felt like a really timely chance to adjust the focus slightly and enjoy some different sorts of activities. More about that from Mr Preedy below, but thank you to the staff (and at-home staff!) who have helped make this week so enjoyable.

Next week... The Risk Assessment has been updated, our classrooms prepared and we are ready to welcome the whole school back on Monday 8th. We are really looking forward to seeing your children back together and I wanted to reassure you of the following:

- All routines regarding hand-washing and hygiene will be re-introduced on Monday morning.
- All of the measures previously in place to mitigate risk are continuing and some have been strengthened.
- We will ensure children have chance to re-connect with each other and have fun together.
- We will be re-establishing our expectations for learning behaviour with kindness and an appreciation of the worry this change will be causing some children.
- We will ensure their learning builds smoothly from what has gone before, whilst continuing to support the well-being of our children.
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The start and end of day arrangements have not changed and can be found here:

[Re-opening Organisation.pdf \(st-stephens.bathnes.sch.uk\)](https://st-stephens.bathnes.sch.uk/Re-opening_Organisation.pdf)

Please take a minute to refresh your memory of these arrangements so that movement to and from school on Monday is as swift and crowd-free as possible.

Home Teachers... For those of you who have been supporting your children at home since January, you may have that end of term feeling at the moment! Thank you for your partnership throughout this challenging period. Your efforts at home have been extremely valuable to the teachers at the other end and greatly appreciated. It has been a tremendous home-school team effort!

Have a lovely weekend, and we will see you on Monday!

Andy Bowman

Love

Courage

Creativity

Joy



Climate corner... A message from Banes School Travel Planning Officer Alasdair Yule to help you to plan your return to school on 8 March safely and responsibly:

Park & Stride If you're unable to walk, cycle or catch the bus to school & need to drive, remember to park away from school & walk the last distance to help create a stress-free & safer journey. Park 10 or 15 minutes away from the school, and walk (or scoot or cycle!) the rest of the way. That way, you and your child/ren will still get the benefits of active travel and help to reduce the number of vehicles at the school gate. Ensure the drop-off point is a safe stopping place.

Social distancing on your active school run

- Remind children that it's now more important than ever to give other people space. When scooting or cycling, keep speeds low, be ready to stop and always give way to walkers. Stay calm if your children make mistakes, but remind them how important it is.
- Make use of wider areas of paths and cycle tracks; be prepared to stop and wait for people to pass where it's narrow.
- If you're trying a new way of travelling, try your route out in advance so you'll know how much time it will take. Vary your route if you can - aim for the most interesting and pleasant routes, avoiding busy roads if possible.
- Allow some extra time in the morning. People arriving on two feet tend to arrive at school over a longer time period, making it easier to manage limited space on the roads and paths
- Remind your children that if you do have to step in the road to pass people, to look and listen first, as you would crossing the road.
- Try and give older children (Year 4 and above) responsibility for getting themselves to and from school. You might prefer to let them walk/scoot some of the way by themselves, to help build their independence and help reduce the number of people around the school gate.

Bicycle Maintenance Tips

- Is your child planning to cycle to school? Then you may want to carry out an 'M-Check' of their bike to check it is safe to ride.
- These videos from The Family Cycling Centre in Bristol demonstrate how to complete an M-Check, and puncture repairs. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=foRGKswKTiM>
- Bike maintenance isn't rocket science! With a little background knowledge, the job will be a bit easier and a lot less intimidating



In December last year Becky, Sasha and Ellie successfully auditioned for Miss Red musical that will be on at The Forum this summer. They've been busy rehearsing on Zoom since the new year and tickets are on sale now! <https://bathboxoffice.org.uk/whatson/missred/> (Matinee and evening performance on Saturday available so far, more dates will be added starting with Friday, as tickets sell).

Well done Girls, we are very proud of you and know you will be fantastic.



What a World Book Week!.. This week has demonstrated the positivity, creativity and perseverance that the children of St Stephen's possess and have made all the staff- as always- extremely proud to be a part of that learning. From costumes to 3D modelling, food creations to book trailers, board game creations to author visits, we have achieved so much this week. An extra special mention to all our extended family of teachers (all our fantastic parents) who have got stuck into the home learning, we can't thank you enough for all of the extra support and effort you will have had to put in this week.



Here is a very brief summary of just some of the activities that the year groups have been doing.

Reception... have been exploring 'The Singing Mermaid' by Julia Donaldson. They have made bookmarks, practised writing parts of the story and created fish, as well as helped read lots towards our '10,000 Reading Challenge'.

Year 1... have been busy reading a wide range of picture books and stories. They read 'The Enormous Crocodile' which inspired them to make extendable crocodiles in class. Additionally, they read 'Owl Babies' before creating 3D models and masks to recreate characters from the story as well as new ones.

Year 2... dropped everything and read for pleasure every day this week. They also explored making posters of a lost Scrapcat, wrote descriptions of Scrapman as well as made and painted Scrapman. Well done for all your creativity this week Year 2.

Year 3... looked at 'The Journey Home' with children having to create their 3D boat models. They joined together as a whole year group via TEAMS to share Elmer and talked about how they celebrate differences, before creating their own elephants using weaving. As well as this, they had a live chat with the author Frank Rodgers, who was very complimentary about the children's engagement in the lesson.

Year 4... have been creating their own story books, joining BBC live lessons and creating some amazing keyhole artwork. As well as this, the children made some amazing book inspired board games.

Year 5... explored and read books such as: Happy, The Stinky Cheeseman and Island. The children have created their own book trailers through editing software, created rainforest artwork and have been inspired by Mark Janssen and his selfless turtle to create a floating island.

Year 6... created riddles inspired by 'The Hobbit' and learnt the Dwarvish Runes alphabet, as well as making 'Bear Bars' inspired by the great adventurer Audrey Sutherland. Additionally, they explored egg experiments and paper aeroplanes which were inspired from the sequel to Humpty Dumpty - After the Fall. Many thanks.

Mr Preedy, Mrs Young and Mrs Smith