



Being the best we can be

Bramble's

News

29th January 2021



Message from Mrs Gynn

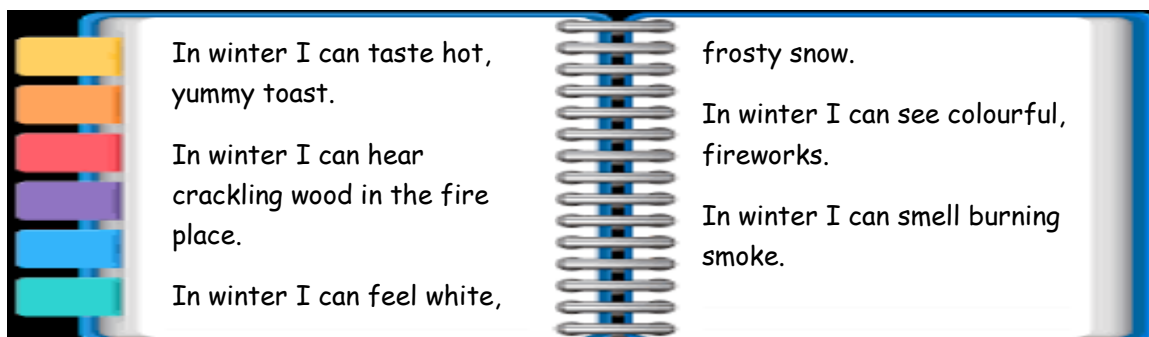


It is quite incredible that this is how our week started! Both at home and in school, children made some amazing snowmen, making the most of the snow we had. We have all really enjoyed seeing their creations.

If the weather forecast is correct for this weekend, they may well be doing it all over again! Which means that we cannot yet put our wellies away!

The week has certainly flown by. Throughout the week, children have continued to work hard and be the best that they can be, both at home and in school.

In Key Stage 1, everyone has been writing some wonderful poems all about winter. They have used their senses to help them. They have been amazing. I have enjoyed watching the actions children have created too, which have helped them to perform their poems. Some of the writing has been great too with so many wonderful adjectives being used. I thought I would share one with you:



In Reception, children have been working very hard to improve their maths work. They have been looking at the number 6 and have drawn part-part-whole models, number lines and written number equations too. It has been wonderful.

Poppy class have been trying to answer the question: how do we move? This has included making lots of fabulous marks on paper and doing yoga too!

I am so very proud of all of our children (and parents too). Despite the strange circumstances we find ourselves in, everyone is getting on with it and doing their best.

I hope you enjoy taking a look at our reasons to celebrate - there really is a lot to be pleased about.

With the announcement yesterday, that the current situation is going to extend beyond the half term break, I know that it may have been disappointing news for a lot of you. Please do remember that all of the staff are here to support you in any way that we can. Especially those of you coping with remote learning. Do remember that if it gets too much on any one day, take a break. Do make use of the weekly phone call too. We want to keep in touch with you as much as we can.

Class Dojo: I know that your children are receiving feedback on their work on Class Dojo, but please do remember that staff do need their weekends - time to spend with their own children and families. Consequently, I am sure you will join me in asking staff to leave looking at Dojo until Monday morning.

Critical Workers: As we look ahead to the half term break, the DfE have announced that schools will not be open during the week's break for children of critical workers. Please remember to make arrangements for your own childcare. School will finish on **Thursday 11th February**, so that staff can go ahead with the already planned training day on the 12th.

I hope you have a restful and safe weekend at home.

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.



REMOTE EDUCATION 10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Remote education ensures continuous learning outside the classroom. For parents and carers, remote education isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors they need to consider, especially around ensuring their children feel comfortable and are familiar with the whole concept. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers support their child in getting the most out of their remote education experience.

1. TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As a parent or carer, your school may have explained how remote education works already, but children may still need help. Take an active interest in their learning and help support them whenever they need a helping hand.



2. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATION AND ONLINE ACTIVITY

It's important to remind your child that despite being at home, the same level of behaviour and conduct exists as if they were at school. Encourage them to remain polite, remember their manners and not to post or send any negative comments just because they are behind a computer.



3. ESTABLISH A DAILY SCHEDULE AND ROUTINE

Working from home and trying to learn in a more casual setting that children might associate more with play and a degree of freedom might take a bit of getting used to. Try to stick to a daily routine and use the timetable/schedule that schools have sent home to help children keep on top of their daily learning.



4. ENCOURAGE SCREEN BREAKS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AWAY FROM DEVICES

Remote learning will inevitably require more interaction with computers, laptops and tablets. Teachers will invariably advise on screen breaks; however, it doesn't hurt to keep a check on their time online or encourage them to get some fresh air/exercise.



5. ENSURE YOUR LEARNING DEVICE IS IN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HOME

It's important to consider where your PC or laptop is placed if live video is being used. Try to keep the background neutral, with no personal information visible and move learning devices out of the bedroom as this could be deemed inappropriate.



6. IMPLEMENT SAFETY CONTROLS AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS ON APPS AND SOFTWARE

Dependant on how your school implements remote education, your child may be required to download certain software or apps. Whilst these are likely to be relatively safe to use, like any other new app or platform, parents should still implement safety controls as a precaution.



7. ENSURE YOUR CHILD ONLY USES OFFICIAL SCHOOL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

It's important that all communication with teachers and school staff is directed through approved school channels, whether that be through the school's online portal or the relevant secure messaging site.



8. FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH RELEVANT SCHOOL POLICIES

Schools should have a policy on remote education that they can share with parents. Familiarise yourself with this and ensure you know what is expected of teachers and your child during lessons, both online and offline.



9. MAINTAIN FEEDBACK WITH TEACHERS

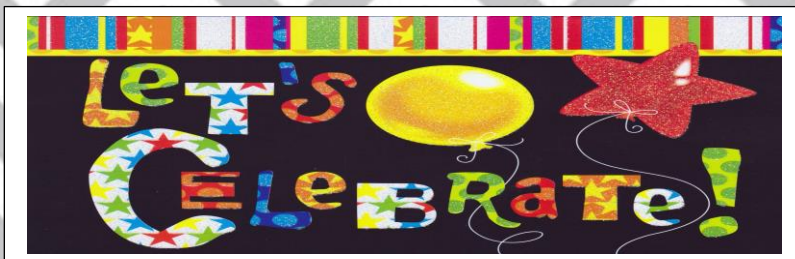
Engage in communication with teachers where possible, and try to feed back progress and development as well as any helpful suggestions around the learning process. Be transparent but remain professional and only use official channels to communicate.



10. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Remote education will likely mean that your child won't get the same level of social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Keep a check on their wellbeing and try to encourage them to get out as much as they can. Whilst learning from home might seem fun and exciting to start with, missing out on seeing their friends every day might take its toll.





Certificates have been awarded to:

Let's Investigate

Fantastic maths or science work

Leo - in school & Thea - at home

Express Yourself

Wonderful art, design technology, music or P.E. work

Stanislaw - in school

World of Words

Great reading, writing, speaking and listening or drama work

Freddy A & Matthew T - at home
Clara & Wyatt - in school

Being Your Best

Callum & Daria - at home

Wow!

Danny & Dylan M - at home
Nikolai - in school

Remote Learning Champions!

The most engaged class this week is:

Well done to the children and parents too ☺



Daisy Class &



Buttercup Class

Look at how amazing our school was



last week:



2,085 stories

913 skills celebrated

462 messages shared

100% positive feedback



We celebrated with:



Darcey who is now 61 and



Ethan and Natalia, who are now 71

Happy Birthday to you all!

The value for January:

Caring

Reminders & Notices...

Vacancy

Do you know anyone looking for a new challenge?

We are looking to recruit a new Site Supervisor.

Please take a look at our website for details of the job role and the hours required

www.stjamesinfant.com - 'About Us' tab - 'vacancies'

Or

Contact the school office for an application pack

Closing date is: 1st February at 12.00 p.m.



Technology at home

Are you using a play-station or xbox to access home learning resources?

If yes - we now have a limited supply of keyboards and mice for loan.

Are you using a mobile phone to access home learning resources?

If yes - we now have a limited supply of magnifiers for loan.

Please contact the school office for more information.



During the national lockdown, everyone is asked to stay home.

The four reasons you ARE allowed to leave home

-  Shopping for food or medicine
-  Exercise for yourself or pets alone or with members of your household only
-  Medical appointments or as a carer visiting a vulnerable person
-  Travel to and from work for essential workers only

What's Coming Up?



11.2.21 - Break up for half term

12.2.21 - Teacher training day



22.2.21 - Term 4 begins

