



29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021

# NEWSLETTER

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## Dates for your Diary

1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Children's Mental Health Week**

15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**SPRING HALF TERM - No School**

Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

**END OF TERM - EARLY CLOSURE  
FOR PUPILS**

Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**STAFF INSET DAY**

Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL  
FOR THE SUMMER TERM**

Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021

**BANK HOLIDAY - NO  
SCHOOL**

31<sup>st</sup> May - 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**SUMMER HALF TERM - No  
School**

Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021

**END OF TERM - EARLY  
CLOSURE FOR PUPILS**

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

**STAFF INSET DAY**

## A Message from Sandy

Have you noticed that during lockdown, all anyone has to talk about is Coronavirus!

With our usual activities curtailed and not being able to mix socially, our emotional health and well-being is sure to be affected.

Sometimes it is good to be pro-active and take a simple step to increasing our positive thinking. One thing that I find useful and often suggest to staff, is to just watch the news headlines rather than the hours of daily reporting about the pandemic. Turning over or turning off completely and choosing to do an activity that does you good really helps to maintain a more measured response to what is happening around us.

Many of the staff who are coming back to work after recovery from the virus have been saying how much more they appreciate the small everyday things in life and how grateful they feel to be experiencing them. The kindness shown to them by friends and colleagues in the Link Community has also gone a long way to aid recovery.

Next week is Children's Mental Health Week and this year's theme is "Express Yourself". Expressing yourself is not just about the spoken word, it's about finding ways to share feelings thoughts or ideas. Many choose to do it through creativity - art, music, writing, poetry, dance, drama, photography or fashion.

What a wonderful theme - let's all try and find ways to express a little cheer and kindness in the coming week.

*Sandy*

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE LINK?

Once again this week, there is lots of activity taking place, both at school and at home.

Our youngest learners in Acorn Class have been busy engaging in a number of activities.



Today saw them making pizza, which they enjoyed eating together, freshly cooked from the oven. The concentration and precision that they took was admirable and Eleni informs us that there was a big thumbs up from our little chefs who were so pleased with their achievements.



Even numeracy lessons appear to be enjoyable in Acorn Class. Perhaps

they're hoping they will count ten pizzas next week!



Interactive music sessions are always fun. Highly visual, they encourage turn taking, participation from all, whilst developing social interaction and building confidence. Wonderful sessions.

Meanwhile in Hazel Class, there was talk about creating an explosion! Thankfully, the school is still in one piece, as it transpires that they were making volcanoes. Encompassing both scientific and DT skills, the effects were quite dramatic.





Yates Class have been super creative creating their very own cardboard houses. They have also been learning about health care services and did a brilliant role play centred around the dentist.

Maheen's elder brother helped her to make her house.



And just in case, you thought it looked too professional - here is the evidence that Charlotte made it herself.



Life skills, such as cooking are much enjoyed at home as we can see from photographs sent in from Charlotte and Sean. Just look at this fantastic Banana loaf that Charlotte made.



Sean made some fairy cakes, which look delicious. Working together with Mum, who helped him use the cooker, they produced a perfect dozen.



It's so important to stay active during lockdown. It's all too easy during this cold weather to sit down in the front of the television in the warmth of your home.

Murray is trying to ensure everyone at the secondary school remains active. He is running a competition to see who stays most active this term.

To help you keep moving, he has uploaded a whole bunch of resources onto Purple Mash for all of our young people to access.

Ben B from Yates Class has submitted some wonderful work, which both Murray and Sandy were very impressed with. Well done Ben.

Sandy was also delighted to read Alex F's (from Fuller Class) article on the Presidential Inauguration. Very impressive Alex - a keen interest in politics is good to see.

Charlotte S from Fuller Class has been an absolute super star on Purple Mash. She has completed all the literacy and numeracy tasks that have been set. Keep up the good work Charlotte.

## AND FINALLY .....

Our 'snow day' last weekend seems ages ago, but we're sure that most of you got outside and were active that day!

We've heard stories of sledging, building snowmen, snowball fights, lots of people making snow angels and many humorous accounts of what your pets got up to in the snow.



We finish our newsletter with a picture of Liam from Beech Class enjoying the snow, being active and having fun. Have a lovely weekend.