

Forest Academy News

Keeping you up to date!

Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,



Happy New Year! We hope you had an enjoyable break and were able to find alternative ways to celebrate with your loved ones.

2021 has not started in the way that any of us had hoped, with the closure of schools for most pupils until at least February half term and another national lockdown announced on Monday.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the staff who have worked tirelessly to move learning online at extremely short notice. We would also like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and carers who have engaged with the learning and the zoom calls. Please bear with us while we are all getting to grips with using Google Classroom.



You will have received communication about what the school will provide in terms of learning over the next few weeks.

To summarise:

- Teachers will upload teaching videos and tasks for maths, English, reading and other curriculum subjects daily on the Google Classroom platform.
- Weekly home learning packs for every year group will be available on the school website from 9:00am every Monday.
- From Monday, there will be **two** daily class zoom meetings in which misconceptions can be addressed and any questions answered. It is important that every child attends the meetings every day to keep in touch with their friends and teachers and share any questions or queries they may have about their learning.

Google Classroom Tips and Hints

When your child has completed a piece of work on Google Classroom, please ensure the document is attached to the assignment page. If they have edited the Google Doc, which was assigned by their teacher, this will save automatically and be included when they 'Hand in' their work. If you have completed a new document, please ensure it is attached to the assignment before it is handed in. If the 'hand in' button is not there, but your child has completed the work, please attach it and submit by pressing 'Mark as done'. Please avoid 'sharing' documents with the teachers, as this will not come through Google Classroom and they are unable to give feedback on your child's work. If anything is unclear, please revisit the instructions page on how to submit tasks or use the below links to help you better understand the platform.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9rWfgFVAEg>

MORNING REGISTRATION

From Monday 11th January, we will be introducing daily morning registration for each class via zoom. This is to support children and parents into maintaining the routine of a normal school day. The registration times for each class are below. Children will be expected to be up and dressed in their school sweatshirt for the call. The register will be taken and there will be a brief description of the day's learning shared with the children as well as any other important messages. Zoom links for the meetings have been emailed today. The times are:

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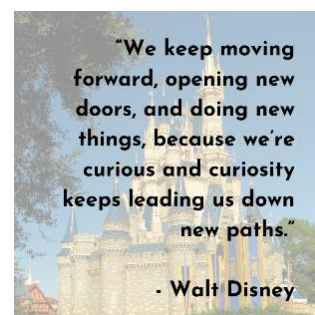
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Reception Ash Class	Y1 Cherry Class	Y2 Elm Class	Y3 Lime Class	Y4 Oak Class	Y5 Pine Class	Y5 Poplar Class	Y6 Rowan Class	Y6 Willow Class
8:45am	9:45am	9:00am	9:30am	9:15am	9:00am	9:00am	8:45am	8:45am

CORE VALUES

Our core value for this half term is **CURIOSITY**. Curiosity is the urge to know more about something. It is really important to be curious because it helps us to gain more knowledge and understanding of our constantly changing world as well as helping our brains to continue developing.



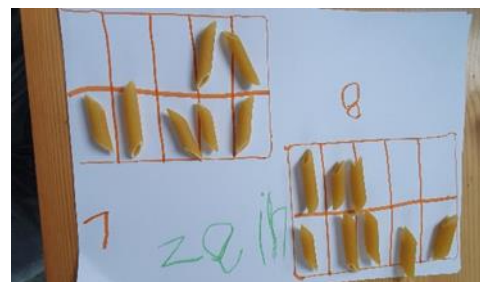
DEVICES FOR SCHOOLS

We are in the process of procuring a small number of devices from the Department for Education, as well as school devices, to be loaned to those families most in need during lockdown who meet strict criteria. These devices will remain the property of the school and will need to be returned to school once the lockdown has ended. Further information about this scheme will be shared in due course.

THIS WEEK'S LEARNING

RECEPTION – ASH CLASS

It was lovely to see lots of the children on the daily zoom meetings this week. As usual they are all showing their eagerness to learn and their curiosity, which is the core value for this half term. This term the children are exploring Land and Sea on which the literacy lessons will be based. At home they can continue to explore these topics via the activities posted on Google Classroom and our home learning packs. In maths they have been looking at different ways to represent numbers. It was lovely to see some pictures of some of the work children have done at home. If it is a bit tricky to take pictures of the work and post it on google classroom, feel free to email them to homelearning@forestacademy.org.uk



YEAR ONE

This week the children have been making predictions about their new core text, 'The Journey' by Francesca Sanna. The children have come up with the most amazing predictions and justifications of their opinions using the word 'because' to extend their sentences. They have been adding to 20 using bar models, whole part models, tens frames and drawing pictures and number lines to represent calculations. Well done to all the children for sending in photos of their work and uploading photographs and work completed to Google Classroom. It has been wonderful seeing everyone through the zoom calls. Keep up the good work Year 1! In science the children have acted out the weather in each season and created pictures of the seasons by representing trees. Their art outcome will also be creating trees in the style of the artist Eli Halpin and the illustrator of our core text, 'The Journey', Francesca Sanna. This week the children have also been sketching trees.



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YEAR TWO – ELM CLASS

This week learning has been quite different for Elm class. The children have started using the Google Classroom platform to watch recorded lessons and to submit their learning. Every day, Mrs Cross has been posting maths, reading, phonics, English and science lessons, resources and tasks for the children to complete. She would like to say a massive 'thank you' to all the children who have already sent their work back in the form of Google documents, photographs or annotated tasks. Once they submit their work, Mrs Cross will send it back marked with personal comments. Mrs Cross and Ms Hartfield are very proud of all the children for showing

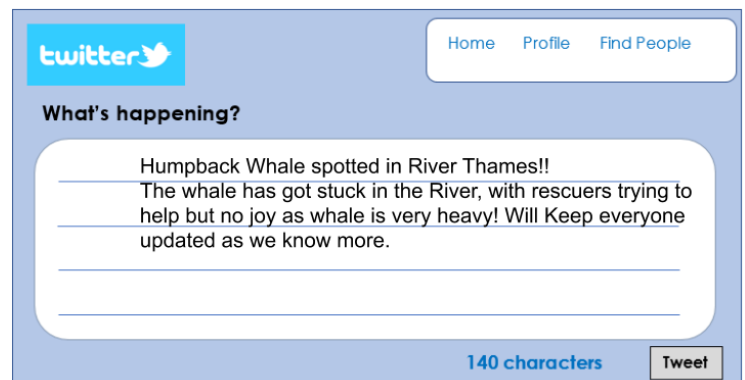


great resilience and positive attitudes towards their learning. All the children have their Google Classroom log ins stuck in their reading dairies and they should know to access the Google Classroom as we have practised this in class. Keep up the good work Elm Class!

Here are the displays from last term's work. Enjoy!

YEAR 3 – LIME CLASS

Lime class have been settling in really well to remote learning. The children have been introduced to our core text this half term 'This Morning I Met a Whale.' First, the children read a news report on a whale being spotted in the River Thames, then they had to respond with a limited word count tweet to summarise the event. The children then made predictions and generated questions about what they think will happen throughout the story. The children came up with some brilliant predictions. Austin said "I predict that many people will not believe what the boy has to say about his close encounter with a whale in the Thames. I think this is because he is young, but I think that later in the story they will grow to believe him and hopefully correct the damage caused by humans." This week, the children have also been introduced to Sikhism and the various symbolic places, people and books that people of the Sikh faith use.



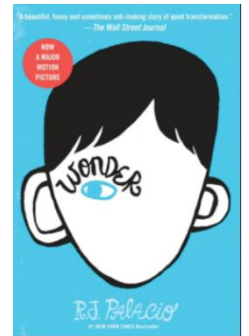
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YEAR FOUR – OAK CLASS

It has been a strange start to 2021, but children have shown great resilience this week, as they have adapted to remote learning from home. It has been lovely to catch up with Oak class over our daily zoom lessons and hear all about their learning. They have been finding the perimeter of shapes in maths. They have also been reflecting on whether Roman Britain was multicultural and finding evidence from clues to justify their answers. Children have also been practising their clarifying skills in reading to find the meanings of any tricky words. In English, we have been looking at the theme 'Identity and Diversity' through our core text Wonder. Children have also explored different sounds that they hear and used technical vocabulary to describe them in their science lessons. They have also researched the artist Kimmy Cantrell in preparation for some exciting artwork that they will be creating over the next few weeks. Please remember to send in any photos of the children's work via email and twitter. A fantastic effort all round!



YEAR FIVE – PINE AND POPLAR CLASS

During our first week back at school, the children have started their science topic on Materials. The first lesson was sorting materials in many different ways, by their properties. In maths, they have been using their knowledge of fractions to convert to percentages. They have been applying this knowledge to multistep problems. In geography, they have been looking into the features of countries in Europe and comparing them with the UK. Sikhism is the religion Year 5 will be learning about this half term. This week the children looked at symbols of a range of religions. In English, they have been developing grammatical skills to help improve writing. In reading, children have been applying the reading strategies of predicting, clarifying and making inference from the texts. Google Classroom has been a major platform for learning this week. Well done to those children who have consistently handed in their work.



YEAR SIX – ROWAN AND WILLOW CLASS

This week Year 6 have been getting to grips with using Google Classroom to access their learning. In English they read Chamberlain's declaration of war speech and asked and answered questions about Britain's decision to declare war on Germany in 1939. They have also been revising different types of punctuation and grammar including apostrophes and prepositions. In maths they have been learning how to convert between fractions, decimals and percentages. In art, they have answered questions about Picasso's Guernica, a mural they will be studying this half term. In history, they have learnt about Gurkha soldiers and their role during World War 2.



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To see more of the fantastic learning at school follow us on:



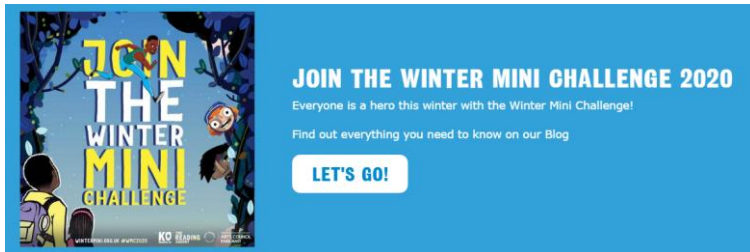
Twitter @Forest_Academy

or

facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Forest-Academy>

Croydon Libraries Winter Reading Challenge



The Winter Reading Challenge runs from 1st December 2020 to 15th January 2021. The challenge encourages children to keep up their reading habits over the Christmas holidays. To find out more and to join the challenge, head over to www.wintermini.org.uk.



Have a good weekend,
From Mrs Oldfield, Mrs Wray and all the staff









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Happy Birthday wishes to:

	Prince	Cherry Class
	William	Lime Class
	George H	Cherry Class
	Kashay	Oak Class
	Rida	Poplar Class
	Josiah	Oak Class
	Sabiha	Cherry Class
	Paiwand	Oak Class

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Support and Advice

These are very challenging times for everyone, but there is a lot of help available. Below you will find the contact details of a number of organisations to go to if you need help or advice:

- For help with welfare rights advice, call the council's free advice line on 0800 731 5920 to speak to an advisor or email welfare.rights@croydon.gov.uk.
- [Discretionary Housing Payments](#) may be available for a limited time to top up housing-related benefits to cover housing costs such as rent
- You may be able to claim a [discretionary reduction in council tax](#)- visit Croydon Council website to find out if you qualify
- There are three food stops with community partners in New Addington, Selsdon and Thornton Heath, where eligible residents can get £20 worth of food and groceries for £3.50 per week. For information email anita.konc Zack@croydon.gov.uk
- Gas and electricity prepayment meters during COVID-19. Contact your energy suppliers, to discuss options to ensure your supply is not interrupted. Visit this website for further information: <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-and-your-energy-supply>
- The council's Gateway service helps residents avoid homelessness, and offers support ranging from one-to-one debt advice and maximising benefit entitlement. If you are a Croydon resident needing support from Gateway staff, email gcc@croydon.gov.uk including a mobile number so an adviser can call you back.
- Croydon Council have a [COVID-19 web page](#) which will be updated daily with any changes to services.
- Help for anyone experiencing or at risk of domestic abuse - Croydon Family Justice Centre
020 8688 0100 or email fjc@croydon.gov.uk

If you have concerns about a child (or their families) welfare, contact Croydon Council's

Single Point of Contact (SPOC)

Telephone: 020 8726 6400

Out of hours: 020 8726 6400 (ask for out of hours team)

Email: childreferrals@croydon.gov.uk

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 – 16:00

NSPCC

Tel: 0808 800 5000

Email: help@nspcc.org.uk

You may remain anonymous if you wish.

If you think a child is at risk of immediate harm telephone 999