



The Thursday GREEN'EM

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Social Distancing

We have had a few parents contact school to ask how we can improve social distancing in the playground at drop off and pick up times. As a school we have widened the window for pick up and drop off to enable this to happen. We felt this was a better system than giving every class a specific time for children to be collected and dropped off or lining children / parents up in the yard for handover. Other schools have said no parents on site at all, which is something we know you won't want. We spent a lot of time looking at the possibility of a one-way system but then it would need to be "policed" which is not possible. We are very lucky as a school site as we have numerous ways round the outside of school, 6 different entrances on to school premises and individual doors for classrooms. This means everyone has several choices in the way they get to class. What is really evident is by 9.00am and 3.00pm the playground is virtually empty so if you think it is too busy you could alter your time on premises or go a different way round if you think a particular route, such as the airport steps, are too busy. One thing we can't control is how close adults get to each other, this responsibility is down to all of you. Think about what you do and whether there are any small changes you can make to keep yourself and others safe.

Remembrance Day

Yesterday we marked Remembrance Day across school by holding a minute of silence. Children in classes have been learning about the importance of the day and why it is important that we never forget what happened in the wars. The Y6 children have read and recorded a poem called In Flanders Fields, this is on the blog if you would like to listen to it.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,

That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago

We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Anti-Bullying Week

Anti-Bullying Week happens in schools across England each November. The theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2020 is: United Against Bullying. Anti-Bullying Week will happen from Monday 16th - Friday 20th November.

Our theme this year is around online safety. We will be looking at how we keep safe online and protecting ourselves. We will also be learning about how to keep digitally happy and healthy by deciding what is appropriate online, getting enough sleep, limiting screen time and how to seek help if something makes us feel uncomfortable. More than ever we think it is important to promote kindness and this theme will also run through the week. We will be talking to the children about being kind whether that be face to face or online, kindness matters.

"If you have good thoughts they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely." Roald Dahl

What is Online Harm?

Simply put, it is any behaviour online that causes harm; this could be physical, emotional or sexual. Access to phones, social media and the internet means that young people can communicate with others without those caring for them knowing and this can make it difficult when we want to keep them safe.

The Marie Collins Foundation (MCF) and the National Working Group (NWG) have launched two new resources on how to respond when it is discovered a child has been harmed online:

The [Online Sexual Harm Reduction Guide](#) is aimed at professionals;

[How Can I Help My Child?](#) is aimed at parents and carers.

Both are downloadable

from <https://www.mariecollinsfoundation.org.uk/news/marie-collins-foundation-mcf-and-the-nwg-network>

Children in Need

Tomorrow, 13th November is Children in Need fundraising day and we will be dressing up in anything yellow or spotty for a 50p contribution. There will be buckets outside classrooms for donations to be dropped in. Once everything has been counted, we will let you know how much money we raised.



Learning Across School

We have been very busy in **Nursery** doing lots of Halloween and Bonfire night activities. The children enjoyed using the interactive whiteboard to make firework pictures, painting, making potions in the water tray, hammering golf tees into pumpkins and dressing up.

In **F2** we are learning about the planets that are in our solar system. The sun is enormous and it is what gives us light and keeps us warm. It is all exciting learning. We are trying to fly to the moon, we will send you a photo if we get there!

In **Y1** we are learning all about 3D shapes this week. We are looking for objects that are cubes, spheres, cylinders, cuboids and cones. We are also starting our history learning about space explorers from Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walking on the moon to Helen Sharman and Tim Peake visiting the space station. We are also exploring the different way people celebrate their birthdays.

In **Y2** to continue our Titanic learning we have looked at the order of events that happened on the Titanic. We cut up the events and put them in the correct order so that we learnt about time lines. In PE, we have been recapping our dribbling skills in hockey as well as stopping and passing the ball.

We played Piggy in the Middle where the children had to intercept the ball. They were amazing!

This half term in **Y3** we are trying out rugby in PE. Already we have started improving our passing skills by making sure we are looking where we want the ball to go. We learnt to hold the ball by its belly and pass side on. It is really difficult passing the ball and catching it while you are moving. We will keep practicing and getting better!

This half term, **Y4** have Jack working with us on our dance skills. This week, we have looked at breaking – footwork in particular. Each child has two, and then three, cones and we used these to step towards and perfect moves such as the cross step.

In the additional Friday session, the class moved onto popping moves – beginning with the scarecrow and moving into a walk out. We really enjoy dance. Particularly when we put it to music afterwards.

In **Y5**, we have been brushing up on our clay making skills before we make our Roman coins. We brushed up on the different techniques we will be using such as making a ball, rolling a sausage and using tools. In our next session we will put these to the test. We loved using the clay...even if it was a little messy!

In **Y6** PE we have been practicing our Basket Ball skills. Dribbling with the ball and not just running with it is our greatest challenge! We are getting better every week. We are using our time outside on the MUGA to practice at lunch time!

Applying for a Reception Place 2021

Primary Admissions are now attempting to make as many of their processes as possible paperless, parents are encouraged to make their applications on-line at: www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools-childcare.

Key dates:

Online site closes – 7th December

Closing date – 15th January 2021

Offer date – 16th April 2021

Please remember all families need to apply for a place for their child and just because a child attends our Nursery, they will not be guaranteed a place in Reception.

Training Day

It is our first training day of the year on **Wednesday 25th November**. School will be closed to all children.