



Lockdown Newsletter – 22nd January 2021

From January 2021 all adults to wear a mask/face shield whilst on school site, Thank you.

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations you have completed week 3 of remote learning – you are half way through the half term! It is lovely to see how hard you and your child(ren) have been working and I know the team are really proud of all our 'home learners'.

I'm sure you will have heard that as from next week staff in primary schools will be undertaking regular testing in an attempt to 'break the chain' of those people who have COVID19 but have no symptoms. I have spent this week learning about the tests and we shall be rolling these out next week. Current advice is that if the test is positive then the in-house bubble will need to 'pop'. This may mean that children who are currently attending school will need to remain at home. Due to the time constraints, this means that parents will be notified at quite short notice. I just wanted to make you aware of the current advice; this as ever is subject to change.

It has been lovely to receive some of your art projects already; I have been really impressed with the high quality and the display in the hall is going to look fabulous. Please email these directly to me head@reddings.herts.sch.uk. Many thanks for your support in this matter.

Thank you so much for your lovely comments regarding our remote learning offer. The team are working incredibly hard and your kind words are really motivating. We are monitoring home learning engagement so should your child be ill please leave a message on the answerphone so we can log that accordingly.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend – thank you for your continued support

Kind regards

TP

Nursery

Mrs E Fleet – efleet@reddings.herts.sch.uk

We have been having a great week with our story 'Walking through the Jungle'. It has been lovely to see children joining in with the story and guessing what the animals would be, based upon the sounds that they make and the way that they move.

Star home learners:

Alfie B- for brilliant re-enacting of the story with his family

Kaitlyn- for fantastic vocabulary describing what she had seen outside her window

Jeroen- for amazing joining in and retelling of the story

Everyone has done an amazing job so thank you all for your hard work this week

Reception

Mrs S Bradley – sbradley@reddings.herts.sch.uk

Hi Everyone,

In Reception this week our focus book was 'The Penguin'. It is all about a little boy named Ben who unwraps a present of a penguin and how he tries to get the penguin to speak.

We have been learning about where Penguins live in the Antarctica.

In Maths we have been learning about weight. What is heavy and light? We are going to be making our own playdough and making fairy cakes, weighing ingredients by spoons or cups.

In Phonics we have been learning the E, F, H and V sounds. Every day we practise saying our sounds and learning our tricky words. We also had some words to read and match to the pictures.

Then on Fridays its ICT time so we will have the Beebots out and even at home the children can access this thanks to Miss MacMillan who has found a website. Another busy week in Reception.

Year One

Mrs K Haswell – khaswell@reddings.herts.sch.uk

Mrs M Patel – mpatel@reddings.herts.sch.uk

This week was exciting as we had our first Year 1 Zoom meeting which was a great success. We know all the children enjoyed seeing and talking to each other and we hope more children will join next week's meeting, again on Wednesday at 10am, when we will be working together to tell a story.

Mrs Patel and I loved having the chance to talk to the children who are working at home and see their lovely, smiling faces.

The children, both in school and those who are remote learning have worked hard this week and this week we have chosen some star learners.

Eliana for making some great paper boats and having a race by blowing them which was very creative!

Logan for learning the split diagraph a-e sound and then applying it to create a great sentence which was I baked a cake.

Sharaf in Maths for using super words like fastest when describing his car race.

We hope some of you will soon be sending Miss Prickett some beautiful drawings as part of the whole school art project, we have so many talented artists in year 1 so we know lots of you will be starting work on this already.

Do all have a restful weekend and try to get some exercise in the fresh air. Put on your wellies and have fun jumping in some puddles.

Take care

Mrs Haswell, Mrs Patel and Mrs Johnson.

Year Two

Mr O'Callaghan – tocallaghan@reddings.herts.sch.uk

This week in Year 2 we have looked at the story of Toby and the Fire of London. Children have been exploring the character of Toby and also been starting to retell the story in their own way by writing a story based off of the book. All of Year 2 have worked incredibly hard this week and Miss Collier and I have really enjoyed looking at all your hard work on Seesaw.

In Maths this week have moved our focus on to telling the time. Children have shown they are confident in telling the time and being able to solve problems using both analogue and digital time.

Children seem to have really enjoyed the topic of Fire of London and next week we will be moving into our Science work where we will be starting to focus on our Science block, but we will be revisiting our Fire of London topic later on in the term.

It was very hard this week but my three stars of the week go to:

- Kooper for an excellent effort when working on Miss Pricketts art challenge! Super effort Kooper!
- Max, Alfie and Leo for building some AMAZING Tudor houses!
- Hudson, for an excellent effort in Phonics this week.
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Well done everybody and I am already looking forward to seeing all of your hard work next week!

Year Three

Miss B Grossman – bgrossman@reddings.herts.sch.uk

This week in Year 3 we have been retelling the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and have also been listening to Miss Grossman read chapters of our class book – James and the Giant Peach.

In Maths we have been looking at division.

We had our first zoom call together as a class and it was lovely to see each other and have a little catch up.

Year 3 have been working incredibly hard to produce excellent pieces of work. In Art we have been exploring digital media and have been using software to edit the appearances of photos.

My star learners of the week are:

- Jorgi
- Maya
- Maram

For having an excellent attitude towards all of their learning and responding to any feedback that I give them. Well done everybody! I look forward to seeing some more of your hard work next week.

Year Four

Miss E Biggadike – ebiggadike@reddings.herts.sch.uk

I cannot believe week 3 is over!!

It is flying by and I guess that is because we are all having so much fun on Seesaw.

The Year 4 children have once again had a brilliant week full of lots of learning. In English, we have written our own autobiographies which I have been amazed by. It has been so lovely to read all about your lives as well as seeing you use a range of conjunctions, clauses and fronted adverbials in your writing.

In Maths, we have now moved onto shape. We have been recapping our 2D shape knowledge as well as looking at lines or symmetry, perpendicular lines, and parallel lines.

In Geography, we have started our new unit 'How to grow an orange in Hemel Hempstead'. So far, we've revised our continents and oceans, looked at European countries and capital cities as well as planning our inter-railing trip around Europe (for when we're allowed of course!). I cannot believe how much we are managing to complete. I'm so impressed with Year 4s commitment, enthusiasm, and independence that they have shown this week and I look forward to week 4.

My star of this week goes to Ayaan for having the confidence to record himself reading his autobiography to me every day. It has been a pleasure to listen to you.

Other mentions to Freya, Lurie, Sparsh and Maia for completing their Seesaw work at a very high standard and presenting it beautifully every day.

One final thing, I was extremely impressed to have been sent a badge from Epic books for Kids to congratulate Year 4 on reading 100 books in 1 week. I am so proud of you all for taking your time to read at home because you know it is incredibly important. Keep it up!

Year Five

Mr M Battersby – mbattersby@reddings.herts.sch.uk

In Year 5 we have started our new book – The Promise – and I'm already seeing some good vocabulary creation and sentence structure ideas from it. We will be using it for a couple of weeks at least to get our own writing ideas.

I am very much looking forward to seeing how our writing improves. Maths has also been going well, moving from multiplication and division to statistics, including tables, bar graphs and line charts.

Keep up the effort in your work, I know it is hard to do at home.

As always, let me know if you need any help. Mr. B



Year Six

Mr M Rawes – mrawes@reddings.herts.sch.uk

Miss S Murray – smurray@reddings.herts.sch.uk

It has been another fun week packed full of learning in Year 6!

In Maths, we have been learning how to read and interpret line graphs as well as calculating the mean of sets of data.

In English, we have begun reading *What Mr Darwin Saw* and have developed techniques for writing formally. In Science, we have begun to study the fascinating concepts of evolution and inheritance.

All of the children have worked very hard this week and have produced excellent work but I have been equally as impressed with the extra-curricular work that children have undertaken: Valeria has produced a stunning piece of still-life art, Prudence, Adam and Imani have all been working on their own stories (and I look forward to reading more of them), Dylan has written an excellent song about the life of Charles Darwin while Max has been practising the piano and performed sections of Queen's *Bohemian Rhapsody*.

What a talented class I have – well done, everyone!

Blue Peter

Blue Peter is the longest running children's television show in the world and we are uploading videos to it that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. We have world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how tos, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. We also feature ways of getting a Blue Peter badge, behind the scenes footage and extra content about our incredible presenters Adam, Lindsey, Mwaksy, Richie and Henry the Blue Peter dog.

Subscribe to <https://www.youtube.com/bluepeter> – (it's obviously completely free to subscribe!) and don't forget to watch the live programme on CBBC at 5.00pm every week, or on BBC iPlayer.

Thanks so much for your time,

The Blue Peter Team!



Introducing the Virtual School Library!

Oak National Academy and the National Literacy Trust have come together to launch our Virtual School Library to keep children reading during lockdown.

Every week, a popular children's author will become our 'Author of the Week' and provide a free book or audiobook and exclusive videos and activities aimed at primary school children, all available at <https://www.thenational.academy/>

Our first Author of the Week is Dame Jacqueline Wilson DBE, who talks about how her infamous character Tracy Beaker got her name, offers exclusive activities and recommends her top reads to check out. The Story of Tracy Beaker is also available to read for free for a week. Spread the word!

Visit the Virtual School Library at <https://library.thenational.academy/>

Don't miss our Children's Mental Health Week Virtual Assembly
Oak National Academy has teamed up with charities Place2Be and BAFTA Kids to create a free assembly for Children's Mental Health Week 2021, celebrating this year's theme of "Express Yourself".

Set your reminders for 9am on Monday 1st February and spread the word as Blue Peter's Lindsey Russell and CBBC Presenter Rhys Stephenson host the assembly alongside some other special well-known faces...!

The assembly will be available on demand if you aren't able to make it at this time.

Available to all learning at home or at school, we're bringing the nation's children together (virtually!) with a positive message about the power of creative self-expression.

Children's Mental Health Week Assembly

New lessons and features coming soon

A wealth of new practical and creative subjects will be available from next week, including KSI-3 D&T, KSI-3 PE, Primary Art, Primary MFL and secondary RSHE (PSHE), with more lessons added over the coming weeks.

For more information on the new subjects, check our Curriculum Manager Katie's blog here or you can start planning now with our updated curriculum docs.

Not only that - some much-sought-after features are also rolling out soon to make planning and assessing your pupils' learning even easier. Stay tuned to keep up-to-date.

Explore Teacher Hub

Matt Hood

Principal of Oak National Academy

Free access to online newspapers and magazines

If you are an individual member of the Hertfordshire Library Service, you are entitled to free access to online newspaper and magazines. These are great for providing information for learning as well as reading for pleasure. With many young people being taught remotely from home, this is an excellent service to make use of.

Online Newspapers via Press Reader.

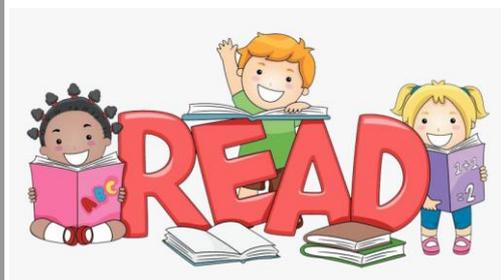
Daily papers can be viewed as well as a range of magazines. There are over 7000 UK and international digital newspapers and magazines, including translation in up to 18 different languages for most articles. Most of the daily papers (not including the Times) are available. There many useful titles including e.g. the Guardian newspaper with regular columns on National News, World News, Financial News and Sport. There are many subject related magazines ranging from "Mother and Baby" magazine for childcare, "BBC Good Food" for Food Technology, "Car Mechanics" suitable for anyone studying motor mechanics and many more including the arts, fashion, history etc. The newspaper "This Week Junior" is also available. The December 26th copy has a really good summary of 2020 featuring news stories through the year which could be useful for project work. Newspapers can be read via the website (see below for details if you are unsure) or via downloading the Press Reader app. Please remember to log out and log back in again every 60 days to maintain access and continue reading.

Online Magazines via RBdigital.

There is access to over 130 titles and there are many useful magazines in subject areas with titles such as History, Newsweek, Popular Science, The Economist and Computer Active to name but a few. Magazines can also be read via the library website or via the RBdigital app. Top tips for searching? Why not search under topic to retrieve eg: all of the available magazines on Computing.

Not sure how to access?

Both the magazines and papers can be read on your browser via the library website or downloaded to read on your device. You will need to set up an account for both these services. Library staff will be happy to answer any questions please contact your local library. If you are not already a library member and would like to join, then you can join online Please do take advantage of this free service to keep up to date with everything that's happening in our fast changing world.



Please follow the link below to join the Library:

<https://her-ts.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/OPAC/JOIN?HOMEPRMS=GENPARAMS>