



Lockdown Newsletter – 5th February 2021

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are coming towards the home stretch now, only one more week of school before we break for half term! There will be no work on Seesaw for the children during half term, they and you have both worked extremely hard this half term and deserve a well needed break from school learning.

This is the second week that staff have been conducting the lateral flow COVID tests and whilst it's not been a pleasant process it has been reassuring for everyone.

 Home Learning Stars of the Week 	
Nursery	Richie- for fantastic thinking skills in how to improve the PE challenge Alex - for excellent vocabulary when comparing objects by size
Reception	Joseph - for his hard work especially writing, forming his letters correctly and for making a repeating pattern with 4 colours.
Year One	George - for working hard on all his home learning and persevering when it gets tricky
Year Two	Hudson – for his outstanding effort with all his home learning
Year Three	Jacob - for having a great attitude to learning and continuously working hard and giving every activity a go
Year Four	Freya - for always going above and beyond in her maths work.
Year Five	Riley - gets the star as he has put in huge amounts of effort in doing the work and following up on the feedback given.
Year Six	Isabelle - for giving all of the P.E challenges an excellent go and for maintaining a high level of effort in all subjects.

Just a reminder of the current term dates below.

Spring Term 2021

Spring Half Term Holiday	Monday 15 th February 2021 to Friday 19 th February 2021
Children's First Day Spring Term 2	Monday 22 nd February 2021
Last Day of Spring Term	Friday 26 th March 2021 – finish at 1.30 pm
Easter Holiday	Monday 29 th March 2021 to Friday 9 th April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Children's First Day Summer Term 1	Monday 12 th April 2021
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May 2021
Half Term Holiday	Monday 31 st May 2021 to Friday 4 th June 2021
Children's First Day Summer Term 2	Monday 7 th June 2021
Last Day of Summer Term	Monday 19 th July 2021 – finish at 1.30 pm
INSET Day	Tuesday 20 th July 2021
INSET Day	Wednesday 21 st July 2021
Occasional Day	Thursday 22 nd July 2021

Free learning resources from Hertfordshire Libraries

Knowing where to find free and reliable information resources is an important part of education. The Library offers a gateway to such resources and Hertfordshire Libraries can help, particularly in these times of online learning.

Our Reference Library Online has a range of resources that library members (it's free to join) can use for free at home, or anywhere. They are perfect for helping with homework, research, study, or just for fun. All the resources are reliable and from trusted and established publishers.

Here's a quick introduction to just some of the online resources you and your students may find most useful:

- Britannica Online – the online version of the complete Encyclopaedia Britannica. There are three versions available depending on students' level: junior (suitable for Key stage 1 & 2), student (suitable for Key stage 3 & 4) and adult (Key stage 4 & 6th Form)
- Credo Reference – this is like having your own reference library, ideal for research projects and homework. Search or browse over 1300 subject-specific titles from reputable publishers. This is aimed more at older students, but it also includes 66 titles from DK Eyewitness collection, suitable for younger students.
- Oxford English Dictionary and Oxford Dictionaries Pro – dictionaries from Oxford University Press, to explore the English language with expert guidance on style, usage, grammar and spelling. This also includes French, Spanish, German, Italian, Russian, Chinese, Arabic and Portuguese dictionaries
- Archive newspapers – search or browse digital version of newspapers (the Times 1785-2014, the Sunday Times 1822-2006, Illustrated London News 1842-2003). This would be most suitable for older students, particularly to see how past events were reported. This resource could be used for History, Media Studies, English, and Social Studies.

One important point: due to the terms and conditions attached to the resources, we are not allowed to offer school memberships. Only individual library members can access them. Anyone can join for free at herts.spydus.co.uk, though children under 16 will need a parent or guardian to sign up for them.

World Book Day – Thursday 4th March 2021

It is not long now until World Book Day – some brilliant authors have written special books for the day which cost just £1. For younger children there are Julia Donaldson, Tom Fletcher, Joseph Coelho, Jonny Duddle. For primary aged children there are Zanib Mian, Jess French, Humza Arshad Alex Bellos. For teenagers there are Sita Brahmachari, Katherine Rundell, Derek Landy, Holly Jackson.

These books will be available from supermarkets as well as bookshops and children will be receiving £1 book tokens to buy them.

You can view the catalogue of authors and books on the Hertfordshire Libraries website. During lockdown, libraries are not fully open, but you can request books (children's requests are free) and collect them from the library door. You can also request a Ready Reads pack where a pack of books is selected for you to collect. Each children's Ready Reads pack collected from Monday 15th February will contain a World Book Day token – while stocks last!

Check out the World Book Day website for resources and information. There are many book-related downloadable resources to use with children, author videos (Share a Story Corner) and a monthly World Book Day Book Club starting on YouTube in March with High Rise Mystery by Sharna Jackson.

Anyone can join in the fun on Hertfordshire Libraries' Facebook by sharing a photo of an adult enjoying a book with a child, posting a review (written or filmed) of a book by one of the World Book Day authors, or posting a child's piece of artwork inspired by a book by one of these authors. Please use the hashtags #WorldBookDay #ShareAStory #HertsLibBookDay and #ShareAStoryinherts

