

1 February 2021

Dear Parents






SCHOOL YEAR 2020/2021 - NEWSLETTER NO 20



REMOTE LEARNING

Thank you for all you are doing to support your children at home with the remote learning. We are really pleased with the overall engagement of the children on Zoom and returning the work being completed. We recognise the tremendous effort you are putting in and the children, so well done. This week it is National Mental Health and Wellbeing Week. Therefore some of the lessons in the afternoon might have links to this and I have included a whole host

of activities that you can do during the week to help you with your child's wellbeing. Obviously what, when and how you do these is up to you. We will suspend one afternoon this week to allow you to take some time and have a screen free afternoon. This will be Friday afternoon when there will be no live teaching sessions.

	Build the tallest tower	Build a den in your house or garden	Make a boat to float in your bath	Create a large piece of art	Make a sock puppet	Make your own healthy lunch	Paint a pebble	Draw a picture on a cereal box and cut it to make a jigsaw	Create a board game to play with your family	Bake and decorate a cake
	Play Kim's Game (memory game with a tray of objects)	Learn to read/spell 5 new words	Learn some words in another language	Learn some sign language	Learn a magic trick	Write a rap song	Draw your family and any pets you have	Learn to juggle	Learn to tie a tie	Practice a musical instrument
	Find a picture in a book you never noticed before	Read a recipe or instructions to complete an activity	Read a poem	How many book titles can you read in 1 minute? Can you improve?	Turn your favourite story into a comic book	Read a description from a book and create your own illustration	Read to someone else in your family for THEIR enjoyment	Time how many words you can read in 1 minute. Can you improve?	Read someone else's favourite book	Begin to read your favourite book again
	Have a disco with your family and dance to your favourite tunes	Go on a safe walk with a family member	Make an obstacle course inside and out	Make up a fitness workout – Joe Wicks style	Touch every wall in your home	Take 200 steps around the house	Walk up and down the stairs 10 times	Do 50 star jumps	Throw and catch a ball as many times as you can without dropping	Sit down on the floor and stand up straight again 20 times
	Draw a picture for someone	Make a phone call to a relative	Write a card or letter to someone to say "hello"	Tidy your room	Match Tupperware lids to bottoms	Fold your clothes	Write a card or letter to someone to say "thank you"	Teach someone else how to do something	Hoover a room in your house (ask a parent first)	Do the washing up

As we are aware that not every child is able to answer or ask questions or just feel like they are able to chat, we are extending the afternoon live teaching sessions to include a class 'social catch-up' so that the children can see and chat to their friends as well as their teacher. The start times remain the same they will just last longer. This will be for the three afternoons that there will be live teaching and varies for each key phase. However, as stated above there will no longer be live teaching on a Friday afternoon to give the children and parents a chance to catch up and take stock of the week. The teachers will be on hand during this time to answer any emails and also continue to accept the work and complete their feedback ready for the following Monday's lessons.

SURVEYS

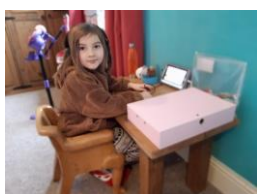
Thank you to those parents and children who have responded to the surveys sent out last week. I am extending the deadline until this Friday so we hear from as many parents and children as possible. It would be great to hear your views. These are the links embedded below.

Pupil survey

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JUrfCLjsEqTVLApi5DMR7UHzyXABIGoXyZbj2TNXxUQTBM1NUQkwzSFpGOEVKU1ZDOVdWMjREWi4u>

Parents survey

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JUrfCLjsEqTVLApi5DMR7UHzyXABIGoXyZbj2TNXxUQ0xEN0xLUVJLRTJEQkM4REdKVjRFTUY3TC4u>



Here are several examples of a great workstations created for the children at home. Please do send these to me as we like to see how the children are working.



SAFER INTERNET

Next week it is Safer Internet day. This will take place on Tuesday 9 February. I have included some links for parents to look at before then. The first one provides you with some 'at home' activities and the second one contains some videos highlighting the importance of safer use of the internet for both parents and children.

[I am a parent or carer | Safer Internet Centre](#)

[Safer Internet Day 2021 films | Safer Internet Centre](#)

The children will be doing something related to e-safety and reliability online next week in their live lessons.

PA NEWS

Almondsbury School Valentine's Virtual Balloon Race:

On the 14 February we will be competing in a seven-day virtual balloon race with other good causes.

You can buy a virtual balloon for £3 and give it a name, colour, shape and pattern. In addition to this, you can select different features of your balloon, such as weight, which will determine flight performance, in order to enhance your chances of winning.

Live weather data will determine the progress of each balloon, and each entry can be tracked on Google Maps and Satellites once launched.

The Valentine's Day race, will 'set off' from the Eiffel Tower at midday on the 14th February. First prize, for the balloon that travels the farthest, is £500 cash, second prize is an Apple iPad and there will also be 10 lucky winners of £10 book tokens. Other good causes also take part with their balloons, so we also have a prize for the balloon that goes the furthest from the Almondsbury School Balloons: A Giant Teddy!

To purchase and design your balloon: <https://ecoracing.co/user/page/1360>

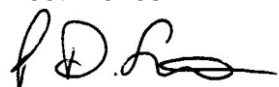
LOTTERY NEWS

You can still sign up to the lottery by going to www.onelottery.co.uk and searching for Almondsbury School.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

There are a number of websites that will be helpful for each child to investigate to help them with their home learning. This week's website is: <https://www.thenational.academy/>

Best wishes



Mr Paul D Smith
Head Teacher

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LETTERS SENT OUT LAST WEEK AND POSTED ON WEBSITE		
CONTENT	YEAR GROUP	INFORMATION OR ACTION
		Information and action

DATES 2020/21

TERM 3

Monday 1 February	National Mental Health and Wellbeing Week
Monday 8 February	Safer Internet Week
Thursday 11 February	PA meeting – held via Zoom 7.30pm
Friday 12 February	End of Term 3

TERM 4

Monday 22 February	Start of Term 4
Thursday 11 March	Parents Evenings 4-7pm
	PA meeting – held via Zoom 7.30pm
Tuesday 16 March	Parents Evenings 4-7pm
Friday 19 March	Comic Relief Day
Monday 29 March	Arts themed week in school
Wednesday 31 March	End of Term 4
Thursday 1 April	INSET DAY – School closed to children

TERM 5

Monday 19 April	Start of Term 5
Friday 28 May	INSET day – school closed

Term dates for 2020/21

Term	Starts	Ends
Term1	Tuesday 1 September 2020	Friday 23 October 2020
Term 2	Monday 2 November 2020	Friday 18 December 2020
Term 3	Monday 4 January 2021	Friday 12 February 2021
Term 4	Monday 22 February 2021	Thursday 1 April 2021
Term 5	Monday 19 April 2021	Friday 28 May 2021
Term 6	Monday 7 June 2021	Wednesday 21 July 2021
INSET DAYS confirmed	Tuesday 1 September 2020 Monday 2 November 2020 Monday 4 January 2021 Thursday 1 April 2021 Friday 28 May 2021	