



## Parent Update 5<sup>th</sup> February

News and information from school and the community to keep us in touch during lockdown.

We're almost at the end of the first half-term of 2021. Not at all as we could ever have imagined, but we have survived so far and I know that pupils, staff and of course you as parents will keep that resilience high so that we keep the best learning possible going for all of our children. Only one more week of home-learning before a well-earned break for everyone over the coming February break.



### Rights Respecting week – w/c 8<sup>th</sup> February

As I outlined in my assembly on Monday, we aren't letting a global pandemic stop us from having our traditional Rights Respecting week. Teachers have pulled together lots of exciting activities and challenges for children to take part in right through next week – all with a 'colour' theme and also linked to our whole school chosen article – Article 24 'The Right to Be Healthy'. It really is the only Right we could have chosen to focus on as a school this year, isn't it?

Why not join your child for our Rights Respecting Assembly on Monday morning when we will be sharing our Team challenge for the week. And also look out for your child's Team overview for the week which details of other activities for each Team.

Each class have also chosen a Right to look closely at over the coming week and these are:

- Y6 – Article 32 Children should be protected from dangerous work.
- Y5 – Article 2 Non-discrimination – all Articles apply to everyone.
- Y4 - Article 17 Children have the right to get information that is important to their well-being, from radio, newspaper, books, computers and other sources.
- Y3 – Article 13 – Children have the right to freedom of expression and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds in their choice of media.
- Y2 – Article 8 (the right to an identity) – a name, nationality and family ties.
- Y1 - Article 30 Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family.
- R - Article 29 Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

It would be lovely to see photographs of children carrying out any of their 'Team' activities in their team colour tops and also, if they can, please encourage them to wear their team colours at next week's Celebration Assembly.



**Cleves Cross Learning Trust Art Competition** – I'm sure that all children know now about our 'A view from my window' art competition. Please remember the closing date for entries is Friday 12th February. There are categories for staff, parents and pupils so everyone can get involved. It would be lovely to see some really imaginative views so that we can dream about the summer, beaches, paddling pools in the garden.....

**Children's Mental Health Week 2021** – I hope that the children have enjoyed some of the activities that have been shared during this past week, highlighting the importance of keeping our mental health in good shape. I've shared some photographs with you at the end of this update. I know that lots of us enjoyed today particularly as we 'Dressed to express'. I'm looking forward to seeing your home ideas on Celebration Assembly this afternoon at 2.45pm 😊

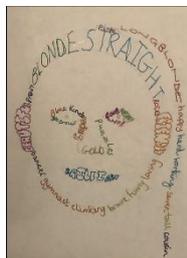
### **GoWell poster competition**

Following on from Children's Mental Health Week, you might want to enter this poster competition which is all about top tips for your own wellbeing. There's been some fantastic examples of this over the week, so why not enter this too?

<https://www.go-well.org/bbcomp/>



This week, **Year 3** were looking at their Mental and Physical health within our Children's Mental Health week activities. We completed some of our favourite 'calming down' activities in obscure places, made our own 'happy places' to display near our workstations and created self-portraits using words that reflected our personality. We are so impressed with everyone's hard work and determination. Keep up the great attitude everyone!



**Year 6** have continued to impress with their fantastic attitude to remote learning, engagement in all the lessons and the standard of the work returned to school. The class are very confident with navigating their way round Teams now and nothing seems to phase them at all! It has been a very busy few weeks and we have really enjoyed our Victorian topic to this half term. There has been lots of great writing based on our class novel 'Street Child' and great pictures from home of the children trying out a few activities from a Victorian school lesson! This week, in Children's Mental Health week, we have been enjoying sharing ways we can look after our own well-being. Our ideas have included; taking part in Masterchef challenges, PE competitions with friends on zoom and also, getting outdoors for the '50 things to do before you're 11 ¾'! Well done Year 6, we continue to be very proud of you all!

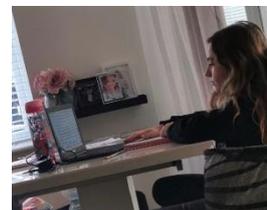


**Year 5** Mr Donohue and Mrs McAuley have been delighted with the engagement levels during our online sessions. The standard of work has been very high throughout. The detail included in the independent writing sessions has been great with children including a range of different sentence structures, figurative language, and rhetorical questions. In Art, History and Geography the quality of work has also been excellent. We have had some detailed thematic maps showing types of produce sold in South American countries and the children have made some double page spreads on the Andes mountains. Most importantly though, the children have still managed to maintain their positive attitudes during the sessions. We have had dancing, singing, puppy stories, quizzes and even a joke of the day.

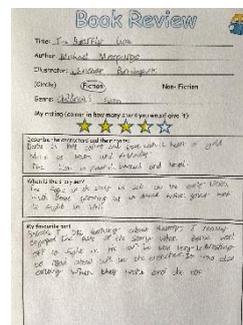
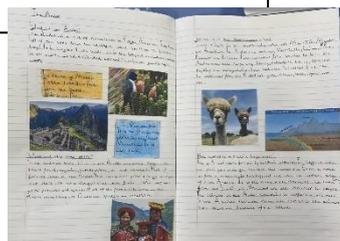
**Mayan's Homes**  
The Mayan houses were made from mud and stone which they painted red using a natural pigment made from iron ore. The roofs on the houses were made from grass and palm. These houses didn't have any windows just one door.

**Clothing**  
The Mayans wore lincloths made from cotton but in the warmer seasons, then they would make double lined a material for when the weather came in. The poor Mayans wore white basic cloths and only the rich got to wear brightly colored cloth. The poor would make their bright colored clothing by using fruits, flowers and ochre to dye them.

**Women**  
The Mayan women worked very hard as well because they would prepare meals, get dressed and water. They would also dry beans, corn and other things for the winter. They would also make clothes, blankets and coils.



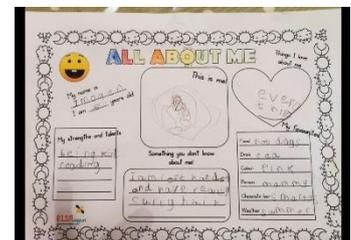
**Year 4** have thoroughly enjoyed their work on 'The Butterfly Lion' by Michael Morpurgo and completed the novel this week. They have completed some fantastic book reviews. They were really surprised by the 'twist' in the story - but we won't spoil it! Children have also loved completing activities for Children's Mental Health week. They have thought about the things that make them happy, created collages of their perfect day and completed some self-portraits.



It is lovely to continue to see so many faces in our Reception Zoom sessions. This week, as part of Children's Mental Health Week, we've enjoyed talking about our feelings and expressing ourselves. I was extremely impressed to see everyone's dress to express hats. We love sharing everyone's learning on Tapestry. As well as maths and phonics, we have been exploring and investigating Earth, ice and floating and sinking as part of our Winter Topic.



Our lovely **Year 1** children have been learning about their emotions this week, expressing themselves in a number of ways. Through drawing, making cakes and making worry dolls. In maths they have especially enjoyed looking at counting in 10s and ones, using coins, counters and tens frames.



### Year 2

It's been another busy few weeks in Year 2 and there is so much going on! Children are continuing to work really hard and a big thanks to the adults at home who are supporting learning too. We have had a great mental health week and lots of us have found different ways to express ourselves. Whether it be through poetry, music, photography or sport so many children have challenged themselves in different ways. Let's have one final push next week during our Rights Respecting week and see if we can end the half term as well as we started it!

This week in **Nursery** we have spent time to get to know each other. We have created amazing hats and showcased them in our Friday Zoom meeting. Our hats are all different, just like us!

We loved having fun in the snow, we have worked together to build a snowman and lots of snow angels.

The children have worked hard to create a class volcano using junk modelling, paper mache and paint. We are hoping for a Friday afternoon eruption!

