



Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of a somewhat challenging half term (was that really only six weeks?) we are pleased to be having a weeks break to reset our energies and remain hopeful that it will not be too long before it is safe for the children to return to school. I continue to be in awe of parents who are managing to teach their children alongside managing their own workload; our teaching staff who are spending each and every day in front of a computer designing online lessons and problem solving children's difficulties; and of course our incredibly cheerful staff in school, who are putting themselves at risk of getting the virus. Thank you to our incredible Durley team of parents, staff and children.



Well done to all the children from Years 2 to 6 who have been working on Times Table Rock Stars this term. Despite a valiant effort from the boys who managed to take the lead at the beginning of this week, the girls rallied round and got their scores back up. I hope this has helped everyone to improve their multiplication tables. Watch out for Mr Male's next challenge.

Prayer Competition

Thank you to everyone who sent in prayers for our Prayer Competition. Rev. Richard Wharton (Assistant Priest) very kindly agreed to judge them and found it extremely difficult! We have a prize coming to everyone who entered, and a special gift for the winners. Rev. Wharton wrote a short piece about why he chose the winners, which I will put in full onto Google Classroom for everyone to see. The winners are:



Blue Class - He particularly liked the sentence 'Thank you for our teachers who help and guide us, forgiving our struggles'

Yellow Class - He liked the way the prayer related to the colours

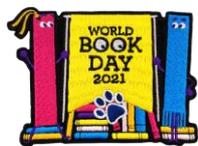
Red class – Thought was given about particular people in need of prayer at this time such as people in hospitals, key workers, people who are struggling with home-schooling.

Green Class –Thought was given of a creative ways to bring together the three school values asking for gifts to be the best person she can

Purple Class – He particularly liked the sentence 'as this candle shines through worship, we pray that you will shine a path in our lives.'

I look forward to seeing your dances for our dance video with Pharrell William's song 'Happy' as a backing track. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZbZSe6N_BXs. Thank you to those of you who have already sent in your video clips. The half term break is a great time to film it and I think I might be able to persuade some staff to take part!

World Book Day – Friday 5 March 2021



An enormous thank you to Mr Male and Mrs Cook for organising some very exciting, fun activities for World Book Day. The activities will run all day with the usual pre-recorded celebration worship at the end of the day. We have moved our activities from the National event on the Thursday to Friday 5 March to enable us all to have some time to get organised should the Government announce that any children will be returning to school on Monday 8 March. Teachers will not be responding to work turned in on that day. We would also be extremely grateful if parents are able to make other arrangements for their children if they are due to be in school on 5 March.

Red and Green Classes Science work

After the half term break, Red and Green classes will be studying plants for their science work. The first lesson will be on Tuesday 23 February in the afternoon. The lesson will need two seedlings which we have planted and hope they will have grown large enough by then for the science experiment. We will put the seedlings in the school hall for you to collect between 9:10-11:45 and 1:00-5:00pm from Monday 22 February.



School website

Last month we added a COVID-19 section to our school website, which holds all of our current information regarding COVID-19 including a link, which shows our remote learning provision as a school. I have also sent out a copy with this newsletter for your information.

INSET days 2021-2022

For those of you who are hopeful of future holidays, I have set next years staff training days when the school will be closed for pupils:

Thursday 2 September 2021

Friday 3 September 2021

Friday 3 December 2021

Monday 6 June 2022

Friday 22 July 2022

Please can I remind parents of children who have been in school over the past two weeks, that we need to be informed immediately over the coming half term week if your child tests positive to Covid-19. The best way to contact us is by email at adminoffice@durley.hants.sch.uk which is checked daily.

Wishing you all a safe and restful week.

Kirstie Baines

Headteacher