

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to get back into school and our Year 6's and key worker children have had a good first week back. Thank you for making this possible by respecting social distancing when dropping off or picking up your chil/ren.

We look forward to welcoming back to school our Reception and Year 1 children on Monday 8th June. The Reception children will have a shorter session of 9:15-11:15a.m to familiarise themselves with being back in school.

Following updated guidelines on 1st June 2020, I have been in touch with the Local Authority. Whilst we are planning for the other year groups, not listed in the guidance, to return in the coming weeks **we are not allowed to confirm this until it is announced by government**. We have attached the list of key workers, as if you are currently working in any of these roles, your child is able to return to school even if they are not in Reception, Year 1 or 6.

We are quite disappointed that we can't confirm our return for children in Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 as we feel we have capacity. We will let you know as soon as we do, if we are able to confirm the dates sent out in our letter over half term or whether their return will be delayed to a later date. If you do currently work in any of the roles in the information attached and would like your child to return to school either now or at the time we had planned for their year group, then please let the school office know. **(Please see attached list)**

GOLDEN BOOK

Congratulations to the following children, who have been mentioned in our Golden Book.

Cherry - **Levon** and **Beau** for an amazing start to our new topic and some fantastic research into different types of bear.

Beech - **Lily & Ollie H** for coming back to school being positive, calm and amazing.

Buzzy - a really thoughtful tree of life.

Holly - **Fergus** for incredible attention to detail with both his design and making of his avatar

Esther - For great interpretation of hidden meaning / metaphors with the English work

THE 100 ACRE WOOD

We have our new topic 'Deep in 100 Acre Wood' which is being followed by all classes across our Federation. You will receive you child's topic web by Monday with their class learning objectives related to this theme.



NATIONAL BIKE WEEK 6TH -14TH JUNE

The Bikeability Trust are sharing one of the general **Just for Fun** family resources to keep kids occupied during lockdown and have asked us to share it with you. It includes educational activities relating to cycle training as well as some fun puzzles and facts, see attached.

They also have a timetable of cycling activities for families to try next week and these can be found on the following website

Dates for Your Diary

June

6th-14th National Bike week

8th Yr 1 return and Reception children have morning sessions

15th Reception children return

22nd If confirmed by government then Yr5 and 4 return

22nd-26th Arts week- 'Enchanted Woodland'

29th If confirmed by government then Yr3 and 2 return

July

3rd Year 6 Virtual Patina

21st End of term

We are in discussion regarding other events that would happen this term to see how we can do them differently in the current situation. Further details to follow

<https://www.cyclinguk.org/bikeweek>

SHORT FILM TO SHARE

Reaching Families, are a West Sussex charity supporting families of children with SEND. They have produced a lovely 6 minute animation called Coronavirus and the new normal. The film is designed as a tool to help parents and teachers explain the lockdown and our current circumstances - including returning to school/work, stresses at home and expressing feelings. The film is suitable for sharing with all children. Please use the link below.

<http://www.reachingfamilies.org.uk/animations.html#covid19>

Thoughts from our Year 6

Ellie: At school it's been great (better than I thought). I thought it would be hard and no fun but I was wrong. We have to wash our hands a lot and social distance but that's fine - we still play things like giant chess and hoola hoops.

With work, we're not going straight into hard work - instead we're easing into it. This week Holly class have been making avatars for Patina because we can do the parade, so they're going to make a video of our puppets instead.

So overall, school is great and not much has changed.

Esther: On the first day, I came to school not really knowing what was going to happen, but now that we've been here a few days it's good because it's more of a routine.

Eden: I thought everything would be the same as it was before, but it's actually quite different. Everyone has to keep their distance and there is less furniture, but we have loved making our avatars!



Fergus: It's weird but at least we're all together - playing chess and making avatars has been great fun.

Iliana: I've enjoyed coming back to school and I really like the seating arrangements. Making avatars is really good fun, and it was very amusing when someone got a hoola hoop stuck in a tree!

Year 6 Measuring Height

MONTY M LOCKDOWN WRITING

For the last 9 weeks, countries all over the world have been self-isolating due to a Covid-19 pandemic. At first, I thought it was fun - no school, just a nice long holiday. But no one knew then, how it would affect people. At first it was quite alright, it was not lockdown and we didn't have to socially distance. It was not yet a big deal. We could still drive around and go shopping without having to queue up. We could go in other people's houses. Then the schools closed. I had left a day early because mum was getting worried. We started learning from home and at first it was fun because I didn't have to get up early to go to school, but it felt weird because we couldn't see anybody, and we had to stay at home.

Then came Easter and on the day after Easter Sunday we got chicks! We named them all: my brother named one De'quinious, my sister named two and called them Pickles and Waddles, my Dad named one Boudicea (or for short Boo,) my mum named one Rocky and I named one Fowler.

On my bike I climbed Firle Bostal in one go, when I got to the top I felt very proud of myself because my Dad thought I wouldn't be able to. It was very boring not seeing anybody, but I got to play with my brother and sister a lot more.

I started doing Zoom and seeing all of my friends online. At first it felt a bit strange, but I got used to it.

After a few weeks I had got into a routine: in the morning I did Joe Wicks, then maths, then I had break time, then at 11 o'clock I did English, then it was lunch, in the afternoon I did French or watched Planet Earth, or I did guitar and history.

As time passed I had got used to home schooling and had started using Zoom a lot more, but home schooling was not very fun. I had started doing Oak Tree Academy. At first I found it fun, but it slowly started getting a lot more boring. At home there was not a lot of new things to do and I couldn't go to my friends' or cousins' houses. The chickens were getting a lot bigger and almost had all of their feathers.

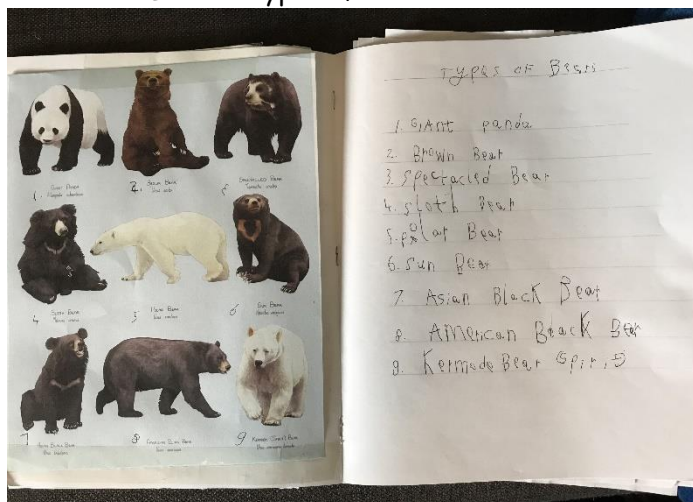
Now I'm now teaching my dog Dexter new tricks; I'm trying to teach him table manners but it's proving difficult!

I can now see some people and it's a lot more fun, but I have to stay outside. I have only seen my cousins so far since lockdown, but their garden is a massive field so it's fine. Soon I might be able to go back to school (but I'm not sure). I hope I do go back to school because I don't like home schooling anymore!

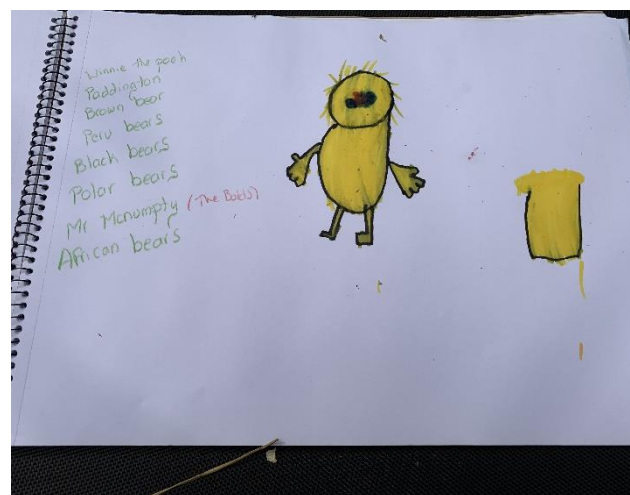
By Monty M

CHERRY CLASS

Levon's Types of Bears



Beau's Bears



BEECH CLASS

Our new display board with trees sent in from home as well as some created at school.



Logo made for a class band that has been formed called 'The Untamed Beasts' it is made of 7 children and lots of instruments and has been organised completely by the children themselves.



Lily and Ollie doing P.E

Preparing Your Child For the First Day Back in School

As schools begin to open to more children, parents and children may well be feeling anxious. Here's some ideas of how best to prepare.

Be Calm.

Your child will take their lead from you and be reassured if you are steady and matter of fact.



Be Curious.

These are strange times and their imagination may run away with them. Listen, and try not to dismiss or minimise their fears but validate how they are feeling – “it’s completely fine to feel like that at the moment” or ‘I can really understand why you would feel like that’



Be Positive.

Remind them of all the ways they have learnt to keep themselves safe: washing their hands regularly, sneezing and coughing into their elbow, not hugging others and staying in their own space.



Be Thankful.

Help your child think of things they are looking forward to: being with their friends, seeing their teacher, favourite activities but be mindful some of these may not be available for them



Be Supportive

Younger children particularly may struggle with separation anxiety and may become tearful, clingy or act out. Reassure them that you will miss them too and think of them through out the day. It might be helpful to draw a little heart on their wrist and one on yours too. You can call it the hug button and when they find they are missing you they can press the heart and know that you will be doing the same at home. Sometimes having a little object to remind them of you through the day helps but please check this out with your school first.



Be Prepared.

Support your child to be aware of changes that may have happened to their classroom environment since they were there last and rehearse any new routines that school may have shared. Rehearse and practice your ‘goodbye’ routine and create a ‘hello’ greeting for the end of the day for them to look forward to.

