

Diggle Stars

Amelia Beach – For a positive and confident attitude in class

All of Class 3 – from Mrs Rawson and Mrs McGregor for their help and hard work last week when Mrs Spencer was on her courses.

Isla Smith – For being responsible and respectful at all times.

Charlotte Heydon – for always contributing in class and helping others when needed.



The Diggle Star



Friday 20th March

Dates for your diary

PLEASE REMEMBER TO ONLY LOOK AT THE TERM DATES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE - DIGGLEPRIMARY.CO.UK

New dates in RED

Today we close the school to the majority of children.

All diary dates are cancelled until we return.

We will endeavour to send out a newsletter in some form each Friday to help us all stay united as a community.

We will ask the teachers to share some of the pictures of work you are sending them. If your child does something particularly nice or you have something you would like to share with everyone, please email your child's teacher. We will not be able to include everything, however we would like to help keep children and parents feel connected during this challenging time

What have we learnt?

Class R In Reception, this week we have finished lots of projects. We made cards for our mum's and talked about what our mum's were great at. We have learnt about split digraphs in Phonics and how the letters were split up for talking too much. In Maths, we worked on subtraction. Why not ask your child another word for subtract? Finally, we have also talked about our home learning and what it will be, the children were excited out a yummy menu of learning.

Class 1 Class 1 have finished reading our Dogger story and have completed a fortune graph for Dogger, considered whether or not the little girl should have been allowed to keep Dogger and drawn our own story maps. In Maths we have been learning about position and direction using the vocabulary of above, below, left, right, between, next to, in front and behind. We have also learnt about full, half, quarter and 3 quarter turns. In Forest school we had fun designing and building our own Dens.

Class 2 In English this week we have made our own story board labelled with noun phrases and then used it to write our own retell of 'Fee Fi Fo Fum'. We worked hard and showed good stamina for writing. In Maths we have worked on our Maths Whizz assessments and basic skills. In reading we enjoyed listening to and reading Rumpelstiltskin and Jack and the Beanstalk, we had fun doing all the voices to make the story more interesting.

Class 3 This week Class 3 have been preparing for the school closure by looking at the various learning platforms we will be using. We have changed our reading books and made a card with a photo on so we can look at it when we are not altogether. In theme we completed our mosaic pictures and had a busy science afternoon learning about light, shiny objects and how they react to light and dark. In maths we have been working on tenths and adding fractions to make 1.

We are all looking forward to being back together, but until then we will keep in contact via e-mails and photos. Keep safe-Keep learning. 😊

Class 4 Class 4 have continued to practice Hoodwinked this week, and hope they can perform it when we return. In theme we have enjoyed learning about Roman Gods. We talked about some of the most famous ones and played a variety of games to discover more facts. We have worked on symmetry in maths.

Class 5 In class 5 this week we have drawn portraits of queen Victoria using a grid drawing method to try and break down the difficult picture into easier bite size chunks. In maths we have been converting mixed numbers and improper fractions. In English we have been writing poems inspired by Victorians poems that we have read.

Class 6 In maths this week, we have worked on rounding and begun to tackle algebra. Although a little apprehensive about this to begin with, we actually found that is wasn't as tricky as we first thought. In English, we have finished and edited our balanced arguments on whether Victorian children should be made to work. We used our research to put forward arguments for and against. We also had a session of Commando Joe's in which a team of Gestapo had to create and hide secret messages and the 'armies' had to hunt for them.

Head teacher's Comment

While the school building closes to the vast majority of you as of this evening, learning continues. I am very proud to lead Team Diggle who are hardworking, caring and thoughtful professionals. They have really pulled out the stops this week to prepare to continue to support your children's learning from a distance. I would also like to thank all the parents who have sent kind words of support and thanks to both myself and the staff.

We look forward to seeing you all again in school when it is safe to do so, but in the meantime, we hope you all stay safe and well. Keep in contact with your class teachers, and support each other with a text or a phone call. These are unprecedented times but by working together I know we will come out the other side stronger.



Dear Circus Ticketholders,

In light of the developing situation with Coronavirus, **The Circus Comes to Saddleworth event has been cancelled.**

Friends of Diggle School and Happy's Circus take the health and well-being of our volunteers, ticket holders, staff and community seriously and although disappointing we feel that this is the right decision based on the current information we have available. Sadly we haven't been able to reschedule the circus for later this year but please see our Facebook page for details. For those of you who bought tickets direct, these have been refunded in full via cheque which we have sent out in book bags today.

If you would like to forgo your refund and treat this as a donation to FODS to cover our event expenses then please let us know by emailing friendsofdiggleschool@gmail.com before Monday, we would be delighted.

If you have any questions then please email friendsofdiggleschool@gmail.com with your booking details.

Thank you for your support and we hope to see you for circus fun in the Big Top at a later date!

Friends of Diggle School

Notices

Parent Pay

The process for refunds for cancelled events has been initiated, and will be completed during next week. Due to the volume of refunds Parent Pay are processing, they have changed the arrangements and Immediate refunds are no longer available. I am hopeful that the refund process will be completed by the end of next week, however please be patient with us if it takes a little longer.

As per the latest letter, please don't panic if your child is charged a dinner or BASC session on Monday or Tuesday next week – all will be corrected and no-one will be paying for meals or BASC sessions not taken. Please have a little patience while we sort these systems out to reflect the closure.

Provision of work resources

If you have been away from school, and have not yet called in for your child's resources pack, please can you drop us a email over the weekend and let us know whether you are able to come to school to collect them yourself, or whether they need to be delivered / posted to you. If you are in household or self-isolation due to illness, please do not come to school. We can get these resources to you as long as we know.

Please keep up to date on the Government website for updated guidance going forward and take care of yourselves.

Online Safety

Year 6 received the annual "Cyber Talk" this week, where they discussed staying safe online, age appropriate apps, who does what with their data, cyber bullying and the law. Rather than just share the handouts with year 6 parents, we have attached 2 additional documents with this newsletter which *all* parents may find useful. (Year 3 and 4 parents, you have already received them earlier in the term, but no harm in refreshing your memory!)

Some children will be spending a lot more time online over the coming weeks. Please continue to be vigilant regarding your child's online activity.

Latest Covid-19 Guidance

The government has asked parents to keep their children at home, wherever possible, and asked schools to remain open only for those children who absolutely need to attend. It is important to underline that schools, colleges and other educational establishments remain safe places for children. But the fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society.

Schools are, therefore, being asked to continue to provide care for a limited number of children - children who are vulnerable and children whose parents are critical to the Covid-19 response and cannot be safely cared for at home. We know that schools will also want to support other children facing social difficulties and we will support head teachers to do so.

Parents whose work is critical to the COVID-19 response include those who work in health and social care and in other key sectors have been outlined by the Government but they make it clear, many parents working in these sectors may be able to ensure their child is kept at home. And every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

Please, therefore, follow these key principles:

1. If it is at all possible for children to be at home, then they should be.
2. If a child needs specialist support, is vulnerable or has a parent who is a critical worker, then educational provision will be available for them.
3. Parents should not rely for childcare upon those who are advised to be in the stringent social distancing category such as grandparents, friends, or family members with underlying conditions.
4. Parents should also do everything they can to ensure children are not mixing socially in a way which can continue to spread the virus. They should observe the same social distancing principles as adults.
5. Residential special schools, boarding schools and special settings continue to care for children wherever possible.

If your work is critical to the COVID-19 response, or you work in one of the critical sectors listed below, and you cannot keep your child safe at home then your children will be prioritised for education provision.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

The teachers have been busy this week making preparations for supporting your children's learning while school is closed. Some of this provision will be using online platforms which the children have been using in school.

While the first point of contact for issues with the learning are the class teachers, one of our parents, Mr Edmondson, has very kindly offered to support any parents who are struggling with supporting their children with the technology side of things.

Jamie Edmondson - Subject Matter Expert (SME) - National Centre for Computing Education Programme - STEM Learning Ltd
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FODS update

As this is the last Diggle Star for a few weeks, FODS wanted to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their support at our events so far this year. From penny wars to elf school we've had lots of fun and raised all important money for the school.

Unfortunately, due to the recent COVID-19 issues FODS has had to review the events that it is running over the coming months. The circus which was scheduled for May has been cancelled - we were unable to find a suitable replacement date and so full refunds for tickets will be made. You should have received an email with details about this if you have bought tickets.

Similarly we feel that the scarecrow trail will also have to be postponed, although the good news here is that this will be rescheduled as soon as possible when the current restrictions have been lifted and things start to return to normal.

We realise that this is disappointing for everyone involved, including those FODS members who have spent so long organising these events, but we hope everyone understands in these unprecedented circumstances.

On a more upbeat note, FODS are pleased to confirm that we will be funding the year 6 leaver books and will be donating £150 towards the leavers party or hoodies - whichever is their preference! And continuing with some good news we had over 40 entries in our ice cream flavour competition and after shortlisting by Mrs Newton, the children have voted for which flavour they like the most from the top 5. We can now the winner is "Diggle Brass Cornet" Full details over the page!

That's all for now - FODS hopes that you and your family all stay safe and well over the coming weeks and we promise to be back with some amazing events as soon as we can!!!!



Diggle School Ice-Cream Competition

The circus may be cancelled, and we won't be going out for ice-cream any time soon, but we've completed the ice-cream design competition anyway. The designs were anonymised, and Mrs Newton shortlisted 6 different flavours for the children to vote on. You may have seen on facebook, the children all voted with a raffle ticket into the jar of their favourite flavor after Thursday's assembly.

And the winner is 'Diggle Brass Cornet' with 60 votes. Well done Felicity Drake

Finalists -

Canal Boat Float – 37 votes - Jack Ellis

6 R's - 33 votes - Ella Derbyshire

Blackberry and Apple Crumble – 17 votes - Paige Harris and Charlie Ellis (exact same entry!)

Diggle's Greatest Show – 11 votes - Evie Boon

Thankyou to everyone who entered – we have some very creative children and some future Heston Blumenthal's in the making!

Class R - Stanley, Lottie, Harry, Etta

Class 1 – Joseph, Scarlett

Class 2 - Sam, Thomas, Finley, Eleanor, Beatrice

Class 3 - Olly, Matilda, Frankie, Dylan, Cara, Florence, Edward, James

Class 4 - Harley, Scarlett, Hannah, Cassidy, Jenny, Seren, Evie, Kai, Amelia

Class 5 - Grace

Class 6 - Erin, Mia, Erin, Lizzy

All the children who took part have been given a goodie bag today by FODS as a thankyou.