

Head teacher's Comment

Well it has been a very strange week, but I want to say a huge thank you to the staff, parents and children for throwing themselves into this new online world. I would like to emphasise that anything your child can do in terms of the work set is great. In these challenging times please don't put too much pressure on yourselves or your children to complete every single activity set. We are very aware that at the moment parents are trying to juggle home learning, working from home, anxiety over relatives and where you can get your shopping from.

The staff are really enjoying the email contact so if you get a chance to share your child's work they would love to see it.

Easter Baking and Craft



You may recall we were going to have an Easter baking competition which was cancelled with us shutting ... a parent contacted us with a great idea about running this virtually, which we thought was lovely – We believe that this has already been communicated to you all in your parent What's App groups. The premise is that you bake something "eastery" that you would like to eat yourselves, take a picture of it and send it to your teacher.

There is an fee of £2 per entry to help raise funds for school, and a prize per class. Mrs Whitehead has put the competition entry fee on to Parent Pay and the teachers are all really looking forward to seeing your entries.

We have decided to extend the closing date until the Thursday before Good Friday to give you chance to pick up ingredients during your normal weekly shop now that we should all be restricting our visits to the shops. We hope to announce the results in the first newsletter back after Easter but we will have to hold off giving out the prizes until we return to school.

The teachers would also like to see any Easter craft you make, maybe if you are making a card or picture for a grandparent to cheer them up, you could take a picture of it and send it to your teacher

What have we learnt?

Class R This week, Class R have been choosing what learning they would like to do from a menu and Mrs Bradbury and Miss Leach have really enjoyed seeing all the hard work they are doing at home. We have been looking at the story the 'Elves and the Shoemaker' and the children have completed different activities linked to the story, like designing their own shoes, creating a shoe shop and writing story maps. Keep up the good learning!

Class 1 This week Class 1 have been continuing our learning about the story of Dogger. We have written about how Dogger ended up on the toy stall, written instructions about how to wash him and written thank you cards from Dave to Bella. In Maths we have been working hard on Maths Whizz and in Theme we have found out about how people used to wash clothes in the past. Lots of us have also managed to go on a Spring walk and spot some signs of Spring.

Class 2 This week Class 2 have been busy with their Home Learning activities. They have worked hard on Maths Whizz challenges and spelling skills using Purple Mash. They have also completed some Science work, designing sets of 1 minute exercises, testing them and recording the results. Both Miss Spivey and Mrs Rawson had a try – the side plank hold was challenging! They have also designed a healthy and well balance lunch and begun work on a poster to encourage people to stay healthy and fit. Lots of Class 2 have enjoyed working out with The Body Coach, Joe Wicks and we've had some photographs of children showing some impressive moves! They have also begun to work on a Project. Phew...a busy week. Well done Class 2!

Class 3 This week, as well as work around the Roman Baths, Class 3 have had fun with shadows. They have completed activities on Purple Mash linked to shadow work, drawn shadows made by 3D shapes in maths (some even followed the suggestion to make them in paper using nets), used their resourcefulness to produce 'Alien shadows' and even played 'Shadow Tig'. We made the most of the sunshine for our science theme 'Light' as it may be raining next week! We have begun to keep a diary so that future generations may learn about our experiences during this strange time, like we learn about 'The Plague' in history lessons from Samuel Pepys's diary. So far, we have done our introduction page, to introduce ourselves and our family, and our weekly entry which will now be every Friday. The 'Introductions' made very moving reading. I have really enjoyed staying in contact with the children and parents via email and photos sent to me so keep them coming please. Stay safe everyone and enjoy the weekend. :)

Class 4 We have been keeping sharp with regular Maths Whizz, Spelling Shed and TT Rockstars sessions. We have spent the rest of our time revisiting our science topic *Living Things and their Habitats* and really securing our sticky knowledge. We have made animal flashcards, designed posters based on the five vertebrates, sketched and labelled our favourite animals and finished by creating an animal boardgame. The class have worked superbly and I am very proud!

Class 5 We have worked hard this week producing work around the new class text 'The boy With One Name' We have been introduced to the main characters of the story and have learn that Jones is a monster hunter apprentice who travels around the country in the search for evil, hideous monsters. The children have designed their own monsters and camper vans, which they would travel around in when on a monster hunt!

Class 6 This week Class 6 have started reading the book 'The Girl of Ink and Stars' by Kiran Millwood Hargrave. They have been asked to make predictions and write character descriptions of the characters they have been introduced to so far. They also had to draw a map of the village based on the description given. Towards the end of the week, the children have been asked to write a news report about the discovery of a girl's body found in the orchard. Well done for working so hard this week and sending me some fantastic work. Take care of yourselves.

Class 2

It has been lovely to see all Year 2 busy with their home learning and it looks like they have been working hard but having fun too! Thank you for all the photographs and letting us see what you are up to.

1 minute exercises from Class 2 children.



These lucky children looked after some ducklings this week. They made a little book about their observations.

Here is some advice for parents and carers produced by Oldham Council's Educational and Child Psychology Service with some guidance on supporting children during the COVID-19 Pandemic which you may find useful.

OVERVIEW

- This is an unsettling and fast changing situation which may be confusing to children.
- It is likely that some children may experience greater feelings of anxiety at this time, particularly related to concerns about:
 - The virus and risks to the health of themselves and others.
 - Change and uncertainty.
 - Loss of social opportunities.
 - Missed learning and transitions (e.g. exams and moving schools / college).
- Anxiety may look different in each person.

HELPING YOUR CHILD TO MANAGE THEIR WORRIES

- Remember it's ok for children to feel anxious and want lots of reassurance; give them time to talk about their worries.
- Try and understand any specific anxieties/worries through listening and talking.
- Manage the information that is available to children (e.g. reduce access to news channels and social media).
- Keep a routine and provide structure to the day.
- Keep your child busy and active with a wide range of activities (including physical activity).
- Talk about the things we can and cannot control at the moment and make sure they are able to control some elements of their day, e.g. this task or this task
- Help them to stay connected to friends and family (such as video calling and writing letters).
- Consider relaxation activities (helpful links shared in the resources section of this booklet).

TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT COVID-19

- Be truthful and factual whilst being mindful of your child's developmental stage.
- Allow your child to ask questions.
- Give practical advice about how they can help prevent the spread of the virus.
- Provide lots of reassurance.
- Try as far as possible to manage your own worries.
- There are links to helpful resources explaining COVID-19 to children and young people at the end of this booklet.

'HOME-SCHOOLING' IN THE CURRENT CONTEXT

- Be a parent first and foremost; acknowledge that your relationship is not one of teacher-student.
- Primary focus should be on well-being and looking after your family relationships.
- Give each other time to get used to the changes.
- Avoid putting pressure on yourself to be a teacher or to follow the same curriculum as schools.
- Think of yourself as 'helping' rather than 'delivering' an education.
- Have a routine and structure to the day but stay flexible.

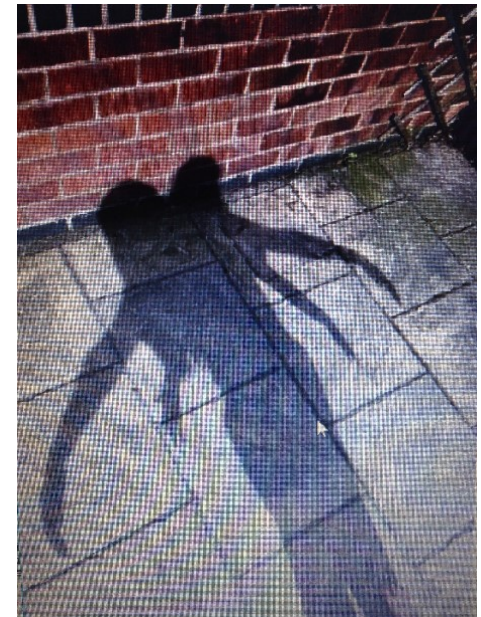
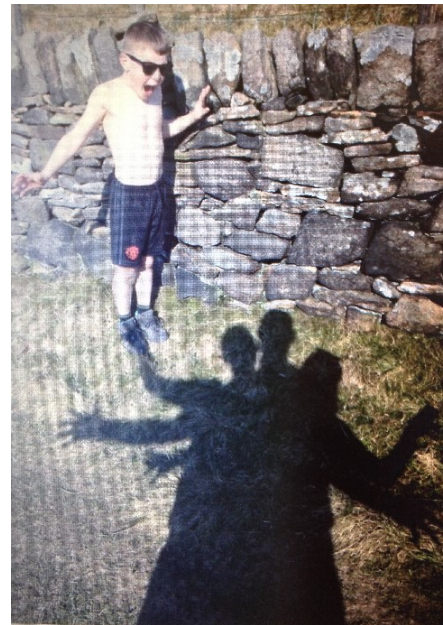
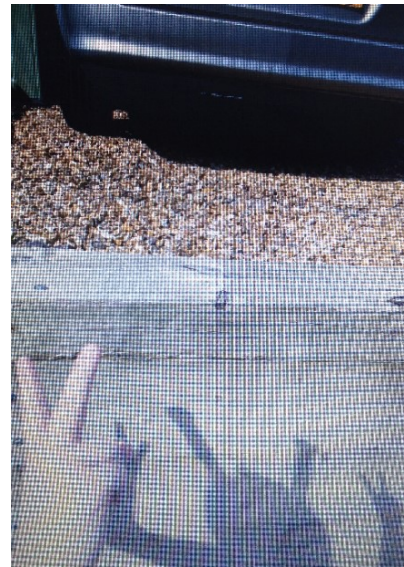
Reception

Here are some photographs of Reception children doing their Home Learning



Class 3

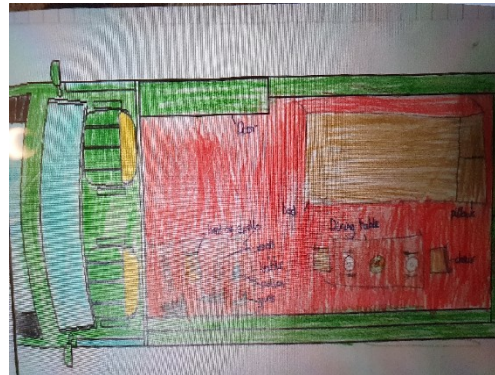
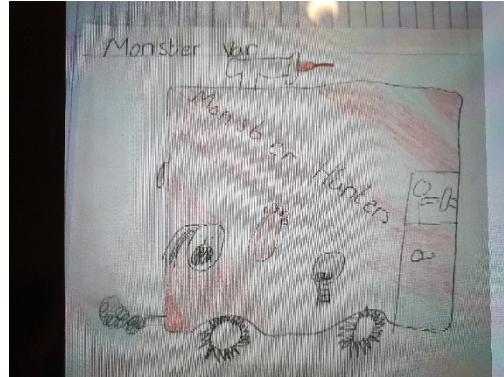
Here are some photos from Class 3 of their 'Alien shadows'.



Class 5

Here are just a few of the children's designs for camper vans to go monster hunting in

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... And they have created some very scary looking monsters too!

