



7th May

School news Update

Our church school creates a firm foundation where together, with God's help and with the help of others, we learn for life, achieve our best and grow in faith.

Summer term week 3!



It is a short school week this week as the Bank Holiday was moved to tomorrow to celebrate Victory in Europe (VE) day. This year marks 75 years since the guns fell silent at the end of the war in Europe. The BBC will be broadcasting the recorded speech by Prime Minister Churchill at 3pm on Friday and families are being encouraged to stand during this and undertake the Nation's Toast to toast the heroes of WWII, using the words, "To those who gave so much, we thank you." I

know that lots of families have been preparing for lockdown picnics and children have been making flags and designing VE day teacups etc. as part of their Home Learning this week. We hope you have a good day and hope you can enjoy some of the sunshine whilst remembering the sacrifice made by so many during war time.

School reopening

I just wanted to pre-empt possible queries and questions about schools re-opening as there is a great deal of speculation about what the Government may announce in the next few days. Firstly, I would like to reassure parents that we are working very closely with the Local Authority who in turn works very closely with the Department for Education. There is a great deal of planning relating to re-opening and a great many questions and concerns which we are working through together. Please be assured that our priority will be on well-being and safety and as a result it is likely that the school will look and feel a little different for a while. Please also be assured that when we are able, we will share our reopening plans with you. However, the key message is one of reassurance and we thank you once again for your support and patience at this time.

Video calls with teachers

As a staff, we have had opportunities to meet 'virtually' and we would love to give your children the same opportunity. We miss seeing them and I'm sure they miss their teachers and class mates too!! Therefore, next week we will be emailing all families with a link and password to a 'Zoom' meeting. This will be a year group or small group at a time (not whole class - depending on numbers) as we would like to give all children a chance to talk. A few minutes before the allocated time of the meeting, click on the link and if you already have Zoom as an APP it will take you to the

'meeting' automatically. If you don't have the APP, it will prompt you to download it. If you don't want to download the APP, it will ask if you wish to open it in your browser and it will take you to a web version.

For safeguarding reasons, we have some guidelines that we expect all families to follow:

- It must just be the child who is on the screen for others to see and no one else.
- Your child must be supervised by you, in the same room, for the duration of the zoom meeting.
- Your child must be dressed appropriately – imagine you are coming to school on a non-uniform day.
- Please do not screen shot the meeting in any way – these would be images in people's homes and would not be appropriate to share with others.
- Please discuss expectations about conduct with your child – they should conduct themselves in the same way that they do in school. They will each be given a turn to share something that they have been doing and must listen to others when it isn't their turn.

Of course, if you would prefer not to take part or you are unable to join the meeting for some reason, please do not worry. If this is successful, and we do not have too many technical hitches, we will try to give other opportunities to do this!

Online Leading Learners

This week our worthy winners are:

Picasso class

Harry (Yr6) – For writing and publishing an amazing information leaflet about Heraklion, the capital of Crete. Great content and super presentation. Great work Harry!

Reuben (Yr 6) – For a consistently high level of Home Learning throughout the weeks and for using his initiative when online learning is not always possible to access! Well done Reuben!

Kandinsky class

Harvey (Yr4) – For his really informative non-chronological report, which he completed on the Book Creator App. He also did a second report in his own time this week– this one was all about polar bears! Well done!

Harry (Yr5) – For his effort level which is 100% for every task that he does. We have really enjoyed seeing all the work that he uploads – keep up the fantastic work!

Monet class

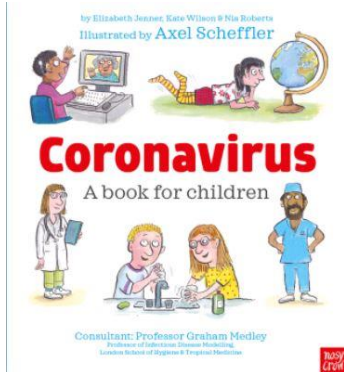
Alice (Yr3) - For showing increasing commitment to her home learning. Work is completed with great care and thoughtful presentation; the Science work has been amazing. Congratulations, you are on a roll!

Jackson (Yr2) – For showing increasing commitment to home learning and challenging himself to complete the most complex of tasks set and to submit them promptly. We love that you have been honing your skills as a beat boxer in Music lessons too!

Van Gogh class

Oliver B (Yr1) - For an amazing investigation into how to filter dirty water and make it clean. Through trial and error, he eventually came up with the best way of making the water clean. Well done Oliver!

Annabel (Yr1) - For always being so enthusiastic about the learning and for having a go at all the tasks. You have been an amazing mathematician especially this week counting in groups of 2.5 and 10.



Support for all

Talking to children about the Coronavirus and the current situation can be challenging but there are some brilliant resources to support parents. One is a free information book explaining the coronavirus to children, illustrated by Gruffalo illustrator Axel Scheffler and it can be found [here](#). With this newsletter we have also included 2 fantastic documents that have been produced by the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Team in County. One is for children and young people and the other is for parents and carers. There are a great many links

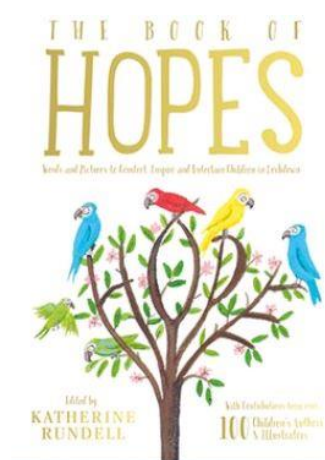
within these documents some of which you may find helpful in supporting you, your family and children at this time.

The Book of Hopes: Words and Pictures to Comfort, Inspire and Entertain Children in Lockdown

The Literacy Trust has produced the most amazing book and it is completely free for all children and families. The extraordinary collection of short stories, poems, essays and pictures has contributions from more than 110 children's writers and illustrators, including Lauren Child, Anthony Horowitz, Greg James and Chris Smith, Michael Morpurgo, Liz Pichon, Axel Scheffler, Francesca Simon and Jacqueline Wilson.

The collection, published by Bloomsbury, is dedicated to the doctors, nurses, carers, porters, cleaners and everyone currently working in hospitals.

The Book of Hopes is currently available to read online only but Bloomsbury intends to publish a gift book based on the project in the Autumn in support of NHS Charities Together. To access this wonderful book click [here](#).



GENR8 Collective Worship

In our end of term newsletter we told you about a Christian worship group, GENR8, who visit schools to deliver Collective Worship. GenR8 have put together some resources for a weekly Collective Worship and this week the focus is on the miracle of the feeding of the 5000. Each Collective Worship includes puppets, bible stories and songs and aims to address some of the particular challenges that children will be facing at this time. The video for the feeding of the 5000 can be found [here](#). The children really do enjoy our GENR8 visits so please do show them this collective worship if you can! They have also asked for feedback so if you have any, please do let us know what your child/children thought!



Letters of Creation

With this newsletter we have sent you information about a project by The Church of England which we are hoping some families may take part in. The information tells you where to send your letters/videos etc but we would be delighted to receive a copy in school too so please do share with us. The information will be uploaded to your child's class learning platform too so that they know about it!

Acts of kindness

We have not received any information about Acts of Kindness for the newsletter this week; we know this isn't because we are not being kind in our communities and families but that you have forgotten to share with us! Hope to see some next week!

Year 5/6 residential trip

Many of you will be aware that a group of our Year 5 and 6 children were due to have a residential trip from the 10th to 12th June. We have taken the difficult decision to cancel this trip given the many uncertainties surrounding it. I am delighted to let parents know that they will be receiving a full refund for this, including the non-refundable deposit! As we had made full payment already, we will wait for funds to be returned to us before making full refunds to parents.

Our School Prayer

Dear Lord,

All together we are Abbots Ripton School
Bless each one of us this day
Bring joy to our lives
Open our hearts to peace
Together we pray to you our Father
Stand by us as we grow

May we

Reflect your goodness
In all that we do
Protect the world around us and
Take care of your creation
Our family and friends we trust to your care
Now and forever we say

Amen