



15th 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 4!

We hope that you enjoyed the Bank Holiday last week – thanks to those who shared their VE Day pictures – looks like some families really celebrated in style! Since the last newsletter we have had further guidance on schools re-opening and we have issued a survey to our families with children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 to seek their views on sending their children back to school if we do re-open to those year groups on 1st June. Our thanks to those who have returned the survey already; many families are saying that they will not send their children back to school on 1st June and I wanted to reassure parents that the Local Authority have confirmed that they will not be issuing any penalty notices for non-attendance for the remainder of this academic year in order to support parents with this difficult decision. We will keep everyone informed of plans and what actions we are taking as a school. Once again, we do really appreciate your support and patience at this time.

Video calls with teachers

Over the last few days we have seen almost 90 children via Zoom with their teachers which has been so lovely. Our thanks to you as parents for supporting with the technology which can sometimes be a little tricky! The view from the children was overwhelmingly positive and so we will organise this again for your children in the next few weeks. Staff were thrilled to see your children – it was the highlight of their week!

From us to you video!

You may have seen some examples of school staff creating videos to share with their families (and vice versa) during lockdown. Staff at our wonderful school have risen to the challenge and our very clever Mrs Nixon (and her son!) have created a video which is sent to our community with love! To view the video please click [here](#). We hope you enjoy it!

Online Leading Learners

This week our worthy winners are:

Picasso class

Austin (Yr6) – For maintaining an exceptional standard of Home Learning over the past weeks and for being able to give constructive feedback on how your own learning is going. 'Well done' and 'Thank you!' Austin!

Jake (Yr6) – For consistent, conscientious and creative learning at all times! Incredibly proud of you Jake...well done!

Kandinsky class

Hannah C (Yr4) - For her wonderful, creative images that she created when completing the Land Art challenge. Well done Hannah!

Luke (Yr5) - For his very thoughtful words when composing a Christian prayer as part of a home learning task. Thank you Luke!

Monet class

Charlotte (Yr2) - For showing amazing work on her self-portrait and also her Science diagrams. She has shown attention to detail in both Science and writing. Well done. We are also delighted by her effort and enthusiasm all round.

Felicity (Yr2) - For showing what a confident learner she is with an incredibly positive attitude to all tasks. She completes her work with great thought and careful presentation. In her English lessons this week her comprehension and use of descriptive language was superb.

Van Gogh class

Joshua W (Yr1) - This week Van Gogh have had a focus on handwriting, and Joshua's handwriting is now fully joined and looking very tidy! His Year 2 teacher is going to be very pleased in September!

Freddy (Yr1) - For playing the piano so beautifully in our zoom call meeting; showing us this new skill that he has learnt during lockdown.

Kindness assembly



We have been contacted by the Mental Health Officer for Cambridge United Community Trust about Mental Health Awareness Week next week. This year's theme is 'kindness'. Cambridge United are offering a special live assembly, delivered via YouTube for primary school children and their families next Thursday 21st May at 10am. This assembly will focus on kindness, mental health & wellbeing, and all whilst inspiring children to partake in their own acts of kindness. There is a need to sign up for this assembly which you can do by clicking [here](#) and we have sent a flier with more details with this newsletter.

GENR8 Collective Worship

As mentioned in the last newsletter, GENR8 are producing weekly Collective Worship videos. Below is the link to the second video which follows a similar pattern to the first by including puppets, a bible story and song and aims to address some of the challenges that children will be facing at this time. Again there are some questions for reflection at the end and we have included a few activities that could be used as follow-up along with this newsletter.

The title of this Collective Worship is, 'The parable of the Good Samaritan - the man who helped a stranger' and can be found [here](#).

GENR8 would love some feedback so if you do share this with your children, please do let us know.



Letters of Creation

Don't forget to take part in this project by The Church of England. Your letters/videos etc. should be sent directly, but we would be delighted to receive a copy in school too so please do share with us.

Acts of kindness

We loved hearing about Henry and Freddy who have been busy baking cakes and cookies for all the people that come to their house during lockdown – this includes the refuse collectors and postal workers. They also support their Mummy to go to work and whilst she does shopping for a lady in their village who can't get to the shops herself.

Department for Education



Department
for Education

As mentioned previously, the DfE has continued to update its guidance document for parents and carers. The most recent version from the 11th May can be found [here](#).

Pastoral support

Our wonderful vicar, Rev'd Mandy is still available to provide any kind of support that she can to the whole school community; parents, children, staff and Governors. She is happy to be contacted by phone on 01480 896541 or by email on rector@norleigh.org.uk

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