



# 13th November

Autumn Term 2020

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.

## We will remember them

We thought we would share with you how we marked Remembrance Day this year across the school as this is an important learning opportunity for all children.



Some children in Van Gogh developed their own Remembrance Service following the whole school service led virtually by Rev'd Mandy. It included prayers for those that had died and a silence. One child said, *'We need to remember the people who died years ago. We need to be silent. They were precious.'* This is incredibly touching given that the child is only 4 years.



Before making their own poppies, Monet class discussed the meaning and importance of wearing poppies and why we commemorate Remembrance Day. The children spent time in the reflection area which currently has a remembrance theme and they discussed why the poppy was chosen as the symbol of remembrance. We made poppies in class and some children went home that night and made their own poppies to wear on 11th November – our thanks to parents who supported with this. One child made a purple poppy to remember the animals who lost their lives in battle too.

During this week we have shared books with a remembrance theme such as War Game, The Poppy Field and the poem, In Flanders Fields.



On Remembrance Day, the whole school watched a special Remembrance Service delivered by Rev'd Mandy and the whole school observed the 2 minutes silence. Some of our older children were pre-recorded to take part in this service and if you would like to watch the service, it can be found [here](#).



## Exciting news!

Miss Slater and her partner, Matt, are delighted that they are expecting identical twins in April! This is fantastic news and I am sure that you will join us in wishing her well. The children in Picasso class have been told today and they are very excited too! We are currently formulating plans for Miss Slater's maternity cover and will share this with you later in the year.



## Children in Need



Thank you to everyone who came dressed in their pyjamas or onesies today! The total on the just giving page is currently £245! Thank you so much. If you haven't donated yet and wish to do so then please click the link [here](#). Alternatively, please use the QR code to direct you straight to our page.



## Class sharing assemblies

Every term we invite parents to a sharing assembly led by their child's class. This year we are going to continue this but via Zoom! Next week we have the class assembly for:

**Van Gogh – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 1.30pm**

**Kandinsky – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November at 1.30pm**

Invites with the Zoom link have been sent via email today to parents of each class. If you have not received this then please do let the school office know via email so we can ensure that you do not miss it. For safeguarding reasons, we ask that you do not share the Zoom links and we ask that your camera is turned on so that we can verify who is on the call. We also ask that you are on mute; we will all unmute for a round of applause at the end!

Picasso and Monet sharing assemblies are week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> November and links for these will be sent out next Friday. Please see the dates in the diary section for more information.

## Parking



Please can we request again that cars are **not parked along the road** at pick up or drop off times, unless collecting from an after school club. With the staggered times that we have in place there is always room in the car park so there is no need to park along the road. This includes parking at the entrance of the car park as this is dangerous and limits visibility for parents trying to pull out on to the road. We are so fortunate to have a school car park as many schools don't and as such it is important that we make use of it to limit the impact on local residents. Thank you for your support with this.

## Childcare Bubbles and Advice for Separated Families

The Government has published [guidance](#) for parents on how to form a childcare bubble for children aged 13 or under with friends and family that they do not live with. A childcare bubble is where **one household links with one other household** to provide informal childcare to a child or children aged 13 or under. They can provide the childcare in either or both of the homes from the 2 households. We are aware that some of our children are going home with several other families and as such we ask that this guidance is followed.

The government have also issued [a briefing](#) in response to some key questions regarding the impact of the coronavirus outbreak on separated families, maintenance arrangements and access to children.

## Updated guidance for parents and carers

The Government has also updated their guidance for parents and carers on [what they need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#). This update provides information on the national restrictions that came into force on the 5<sup>th</sup> November, the latest advice for clinically extremely vulnerable children and young people and advice on the use of face coverings in education settings.

## Term dates 2021/22

Following the announcement this week of a special four-day Bank Holiday weekend to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, we have amended our term dates slightly as one of our Professional days fell on this new bank holiday. Please see revised version attached.



STARS have some wonderful (virtual) events planned for this half term, look out for the posters coming soon.

## Jam Jar Tombola

We are going to make the Jam Jar Tombola work in spite of lockdown / social distancing as we know ALL the children love the Jam Jar Tombola! For the uninitiated, we are looking for donations of filled jars. Please find an empty jar at home and fill it with anything you think the children will enjoy; sweets, little toys and gadgets, lego, pennies, hair bobbles etc. We would be very grateful for any donations. Usually, these donations are put on a tombola stall, however this year we will arrange for payment to be made online and the jars will be given as children leave the school in more of a lucky dip style. Averil can collect any donations in the car park so that these do not need to go into the school. Prior to being distributed they will not be handled for 72 hours. Please make any donations by the end of November. Thank you so much!"

## Wreath Making Event



In previous years we have held wreath making workshops which have been hugely popular. The STARS team have worked very hard to ensure that, even in these difficult times, they are able to offer this. Please find attached a flyer with booking information on how you can make your own wreath by purchasing a wreath kit containing everything you will need including a live online tutorial on 1<sup>st</sup> December at 7pm!



## **Diary Dates**

Please see below the diary dates for the Autumn term 2020

***Any new dates are added in bold italics***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> November	Van Gogh Sharing Assembly via Zoom 1:30pm
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Kandinsky Sharing Assembly via Zoom 1:30pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Picasso Sharing Assembly via Zoom 1:30pm
25 <sup>th</sup> November	Monet Sharing Assembly via Zoom 1:30pm
30 <sup>th</sup> November	Flu Vaccinations for all children
1 <sup>st</sup> December	STARS Virtual Wreath making workshop 7pm (buy your kit by 20 <sup>th</sup> November)
<b><i>14<sup>th</sup> December</i></b>	<b><i>Virtual Christingle Service held at Ely Cathedral 1:30pm – more details to follow</i></b>
<b><i>16<sup>th</sup> December</i></b>	<b><i>Christmas dinner day – wear a Christmas jumper – more details to follow</i></b>
<b><i>18<sup>th</sup> December</i></b>	<b><i>End of term service led by Rev'd Mandy 1:15pm Van Gogh and Monet, 2pm Kandinsky and 2:45pm Picasso Zoom link to be shared with parents to join virtually</i></b>
18 <sup>th</sup> December	End of Term
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec to 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Christmas Holiday
4 <sup>th</sup> January	Training day – School Closed
5 <sup>th</sup> January	Spring term begins
15 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
26 <sup>th</sup> March	End of Term
27 <sup>th</sup> Mar – 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr	Easter Holiday

## **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