



# 5th June

## 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.*

### **Week 1!**

The school has been a hive of activity this week. The children have been amazing and have taken to some of their new routines with ease. They have loved seeing their friends and their teachers and many have 'skipped' in each day with a bounce in their step. Having said that, some of them have ended the week exhausted and we have heard tales of children falling asleep in the car on the journey home! Bless them!

I have also loved seeing the children in their bubbles via Zoom. To see them looking so happy and sharing their stories is so rewarding. We had some technical issues but it was also lovely for the bubbles to see one another too as they don't see each other at all in school.

### **Bubble structure**

As you are aware we currently have a 3 bubble structure; a Reception and Year 1 bubble, a Year 6 bubble and a bubble for the children of key workers. At present the guidance states that no bubble can be bigger than 15 children and therefore our **Reception/Year 1 bubble is now full**. All parents who have already requested a place for their child have been offered a place. However, if we receive any further requests from Reception and/or Year 1 then we will need to open a fourth bubble. This will mean that your child may not be taught by Mrs Wilcock and may not be taught in the Van Gogh classroom area. We have begun to make these plans, just in case there is a need, but I wanted to let parents know, in order to support them with their decisions about whether to send their child/children back to school in the coming weeks.

### **Home learning**

As I'm sure you are aware, many of our staff members are now back in school and we are hoping that this isn't having a negative impact on the experience of our learners at home. It is a very difficult balance but if you have any feedback that you'd like to share, or suggestions for improvements, please do as it would be useful to know your thoughts. Many thanks

### **30 day challenge**

Well done and thank you to all our families who took part in the Hunts Sports 30 day challenge. Attached with the newsletter are some great photos of families taking part.

## Leading Learners

This week our worthy winners are:



### **Picasso class**

By Monday we will have all of our Year 6 learners back at school which is fantastic – they will be celebrating as a group each week but for this week a HUGE well done to you all for your focus and engagement. You have come back to school as dedicated, hard-working learners and we're so proud of you all.

### **Kandinsky class**

Abigail (Yr4) - For always working so hard with tasks set and across all areas of the curriculum. Well done Abigail!

Amiya (Yr5) - For her commitment and dedication to completing the home learning tasks set and for showing excellent effort.

### **Monet class**

George (Yr3) - For a keen sense of fun and imagination in his learning. He is always surprising us with his amazing ideas and his English work has been amazing this week. Way to go, George!

Zac (Yr2) - For really applying himself to his learning. We are so pleased about the brilliant journey that he has been on with both his English and Maths. Thank you for your super thinking and your hard work Zac - we are so proud of you!

### **Van Gogh class**

Layla (YrR) - For her super sharing of objects this week and for coming up with a very inventive way of eating a rainbow - a rainbow cheese sandwich- which she said was food for unicorns!

Eleanor (YrR) - For some fantastic writing and spelling this week in the neatest handwriting! You described Evil Pea so well in your Wanted poster Eleanor – well done!

### **Reminders/new information for families with children in school**

- We have trialled the use of plastic cups this week to avoid having water bottles passing between home and school. However, this has proved difficult to manage so we are now requesting that each child has a bottle of water every Monday. We will label these and rinse them in school, refilling them each day. We will then throw away the bottles each Friday.
- Please could all children have a waterproof coat – in the mornings it may not be possible to send the children straight to class if it is raining so they may be waiting for a few minutes in the rain.
- We are starting with a packed lunch menu from the school kitchen next week but from week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> June we will be offering hot meals. All meals will be served in disposable containers and the children will eat with disposable cutlery. This will avoid any sharing of crockery etc. Meals will also be delivered to classrooms and eaten in classrooms to avoid any unnecessary movement around the school. A booking email and menu will be sent separately.

### **Advice for parents during coronavirus**

We have been asked to share the information below and the poster attached with this email regarding illness in children at this time:

*Whilst it is extremely important to follow Government advice to stay at home during this period, it can be confusing to know what to do when your child is unwell or injured. Remember that NHS 111, GPs and hospitals are still providing the same safe care that they have always done.*

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> June can be found [here](#).

## National Bike week 6-14th June

Cycling has been a great release for many families during the pandemic and we hope you'll continue to enjoy cycling and celebrate by taking part in the Bike Week festivities between 6<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> June. It's your chance to celebrate all that's great about cycling.



The latest Government rules say although we have to maintain our social distancing and be at home where we can, unlimited exercise is now permitted.

To help keep families active during this time, Cambridgeshire Road Safety Officers are promoting Cycling UK's free Bike Week resource pack with indoor and outdoor activities you can do as a family. From cooking to colouring, to bike challenges. All information can be found [here](#).

## Acts of kindness



Such an exciting Act of Kindness to report this week! Felicity & Ethan's Daddy rescued a Peregrine Falcon on Wednesday! The bird's first flight didn't go too well and he plummeted to the ground. Felicity and Ethan then met the bird at the Raptor Foundation. What great photos and well done to Daddy!



## Getting Back to School campaign

**GETTING  
BACK TO  
SCHOOL**

The safety and wellbeing of your children will always be our number one priority.

Our schools will be safe spaces.



Many professionals across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have been working on a campaign to help parents feel supported in preparing their children for the return to school. It is aimed at primary and secondary aged children, and offers advice and support around seven key themes; emotional health, anxiety and wellbeing, use of IT, sleep support, routines and boundaries, healthy eating and sustainable travel. The aim is to focus on one theme each week so we plan to share these with you each week in our newsletters when they start next week.

## **COVID19 and Free School Meal Eligibility**

If your financial circumstances have been affected by the COVID 19 crisis you could now be entitled to Benefit Related Free School Meals.

The Covid19 crisis has also highlighted the difference between Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) and Benefit Related Free School Meals (FSM). The government can only offer help to those who are in receipt of Benefit Related Free School Meals so we encourage applications from all year groups.

To find out if you are eligible please fill out the simple online application form at [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals) where you will receive an instant response as to your eligibility status. If you are eligible your child's school will be informed within 3 days.

### **FSM Criteria**

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (unless you're also entitled to Working Tax Credit, and earn no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop receiving Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400)

If you have any queries regarding this information, please call the Education Welfare Benefits team on 01223 703200 or email [ewb.fsm@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:ewb.fsm@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or look at the website [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

## **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