



Friday 12th February 2021

LOCKDOWN 3 NEWSLETTER 5

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached half term and we are sure that we all feel like we need it! For us, it has been six weeks of rethinking how we deliver our curriculum, planning tasks that can be completed at home with minimum resources whilst at the same time motivating our learners and keeping them engaged. There is no doubt in any of our minds that time spent in school, with the support of teaching teams and classmates, is precious. We have heard from children and families at home who just want to be back at school - and we agree, we can't wait to have you all back. We will never take that normal school day for granted again. And when parents ask 'What have you done today?' and the answer is 'Nothing', we can all give ourselves a knowing smile.

Reporting a COVID case over half term.

If your child was in school on Thursday 11th or Friday 12th February and tests positive within 48 hours of being at school (ie, Sat 13th or Sun 14th February), please inform school by emailing us at this address: covid19@prescotprimary.org.uk

COMING UP...

One of the best days of the year for us in school is **World Book Day** and this year we will try to celebrate it together even if we are apart - so get ready for **Thurs 4th March!**

The official website has lots of great ideas, activities and even book videos so that the children can watch their favourite stories. It's certainly worth a look.

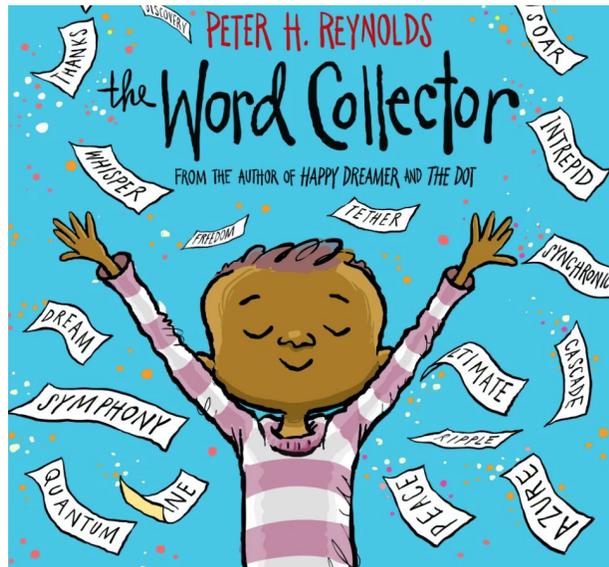
<https://www.worldbookday.com/>

We thought you will appreciate some advanced notice of the events we have planned.

1. On the day (whether at home or at school) we are inviting the children to '**Dress as a word**' and we can try to guess what word they are dressed in. We aim to increase the children's vocabulary everyday and in all different subjects so it would be great for them to dress up as a word that they didn't know before. And there are plenty to choose from! How about 'illuminate', 'dazzle' 'explosion' 'meander' 'turquoise' or 'tyrant'? Of course, there are other simpler words such as colours, job roles or objects.
2. **BOOK OF THE WEEK:** The Word Collector by Peter H. Reynolds.
3. We will be holding a **competition** for all children to complete at home if they wish. We would like them to create a book character - or setting - made out of recycled or reused materials. They can take a photograph or video and send it to school via Parent Share (EYFS) or Google Classroom. More details to follow but get your thinking caps on - this could be a great half term activity!



4. Read, read and read some more. Maybe make a **Book Nook** at home in which your children can read on World Book Day?



HOME LEARNING

EYFS

We have finished our amazing half term of home learning adventures with a mini zoom party. It was great to get our party clothes or fancy dress on and have a little boogie! We had mums and dads joining in and some nannies too... it was the best party we'd all had in a while and it was a lovely way to celebrate everyone's hard work this half term. We cannot thank you enough for all your enthusiasm for the home learning activities we have shared daily and for giving us so many reasons to smile when you have used Evidence Me to share them with us - home / school partnership at its best - THANK YOU.

We'd also like to say well done to our key worker children for coming in and settling under different routines and rotas. You have all taken it in your stride, well done. Thanks to those parents who are keeping days to a minimum and supporting us in keeping our EYFS bubble safe. Hopefully we will all be back together again soon!

But for now, all of the EYFS team think you all deserve a little break from home learning, although we've now seen how good you have all become at utilising any learning opportunity during play, that we are sure it will continue. Have fun and enjoy some cold, outdoor adventures!



KS1 & 2

We have loved watching the week's learning unfold. Our Y1 Penguins have been busy making dinosaur sock puppets. Our Y2 Tigers have been making paper Chinese dragons and some of the children even made a dragon that reached from the front door to the back door of their house! Imagine that! Tigers and Dragons in the same house! Our Y3 Kangaroos have travelled back in time to get to know their key monarch - Henry VIII - a little better. We also had a reading winner in Y3. Well done to the raffle winner, Michael Valentine!

Our Y4 Dragons have started to design their treasure maps, we can't wait to see the final products full of detail and imagination! Our Y5 Unicorns have investigated the mummification process,,, with tomatoes! Such a great enquiry process. And our fabulous Y6 Wolves have been learning how to keep their bodies and minds healthy.

Well done everyone, you've earned a rest!

KEY WORKER PROVISION

There's no doubt that this has been one of the coldest weeks we have had in a long time but our school-based children have still come into school with a smile. When we stand on the gate in the morning, there's no better sight than our children running in with a happy morning greeting.

Thank you for booking your child's place in advance, it really helps us to plan staffing accordingly. We would also ask that if you do not need your child's place on a particular day, please let us know as soon as you can.

FOLLOW THE RULES

We have overheard a couple of children talking about visiting friend's houses or seeing their cousins during this period of lockdown. This of course, may be a memory from long ago or a complete misunderstanding but we would like to remind you that **we expect all families to follow the lockdown rules of staying at home unless it is for an essential reason.**

Over half term, we expect our school community to continue to abide by the rules of this lockdown. We do not expect to hear about children mixing with other families outside of school. This would clearly compromise the safety of our class bubbles and put staff and children at risk of transmission.

COMMUNICATION

This school year we have launched two new Apps, the **Arbor app and Parentapp**. We use both of these apps to communicate regularly with parents and carers, especially at the moment during these uncertain times. Currently we have 90% of parents/carers using the Arbor app and 80% of parents/carers using the Parentapp. If you have not downloaded the apps please check your



emails as you will have received invitations for both. If you have changed your email address recently please contact the school office on admin@prescotprimary.org.uk and we can re send the invitations.

Did you know you can use our Apps to:-

Report your child's absence

Send us an in App message

Pay for school dinners

Book and pay for clubs

Receive important/urgent communication

It is so important that we can communicate with all of our parents by the apps, as messages are received instantly. **Please sign up now!**

Thank you once again for supporting your children with their learning at home and to those of you who are bringing your children into school with a smile. For most of us, it has been a tough 6 weeks and everything you have done to keep your children safe and happy is much appreciated.

Brighter days are coming.

Try to enjoy the break and we will hopefully see you all again, in school or at home, on Mon 22nd February.



Charlie Mackesy

Kindest regards,

Mr George and Mrs Seddon

Headteacher - Mr S.George

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