

Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School

Weekly Update: 25th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this finds you well. Thank you for continuing to support our beginning and end of day procedures. We have been analysing attendance figures and have some good news: across the 233 schools in Somerset, we have been ranked 33rd with an attendance rate of 97.4%. Of course, aspects of attendance at this time are out of a school's control if there are COVID cases within the school community or within households. However, this high level of attendance demonstrates the way we have worked together to ensure there is confidence in Curry Rivel Primary School's risk assessments and safety measures. I can assure you that I am not taking anything for granted and we continue to review, refine and adjust measures. I receive regular advice and updates from both the DfE and the Local Authority, and we have access to a primary adviser when we have questions.

Collective Worship

Your children may have mentioned that they 'attend' daily collective worship through on-line channels. I 'broadcast' from my office or from one classroom. Sometimes there have been technical issues (and bad hair days on my part- my aspirations for TV presenting dashed!). We sadly aren't singing at the moment (In-line with COVID guidance) but we enjoy stories, films, reflections and prayer. This week the theme has been 'flourishing' and who supports us in our lives to help us to develop and grow. We have learned about Jesus being the 'Good Shepherd'. We have wondered how the sheep flourish because of the care of the good shepherd; we have considered who helps us to flourish at home and at school and in the activities we do. Connected to this week's well-being focus on building resilience, we have also enjoyed learning about 'Growth Mindset' and the 'Power of Yet'- this is the idea that when we can't do something, we just 'can't do it yet' and it is with practice, perseverance and support that we can learn to do new things. The children have enjoyed this video about the 'Power of Yet':

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XLeUvZvuvAs>

If you want to learn more about 'Growth Mindset', please see this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyIF5VUOJc0>

Harvest

The harvest season is upon us again, as we are reminded at this time of year when we can get stuck behind tractors and trailers as we travel around the local area. At Curry Rivel Primary School, we celebrate harvest and focus on the values of thankfulness and generosity through our Harvest Festival Service. This will be held on **Tuesday 6th October**. Rev Patterson will be leading worship with the children through an on-line platform. We are supporting the work of the local Curry Rivel Area Foodbank, and donations of dried and tinned food are welcomed- the children will present their gifts during the service as they receive Rev Paterson's broadcast in their classrooms.

Reading

Reading is the most important aspect of homework, and indeed learning. Assessments have been completed and reading books started to come home last week. As our reading system is completely new, please bear with us as we embed these new systems. As you can imagine, we have to carefully co-ordinate access to book areas, to ensure children's bubbles don't mix; we have to ensure iPads etc are wiped regularly for quizzing- all of these COVID related measures do slow systems slightly. We are getting more efficient as each day goes by. For those of you whose children have Accelerated Reader books, you will receive a letter today giving further guidance as well as the detailed Star Reader report, which summarises your child's initial assessment.

Homework Policy

Thank you to those of you who have completed the survey. If you have had problems accessing the survey, I have checked the settings so here is the link again:

<https://forms.gle/VGWegXopma1VKQwc8>

I have extended the closing date to Monday 28th September.

Home-Learning/Blended Learning

Once staff have received training, we hope to launch 'Google Classrooms' in the second week of October with you and the children (Reception children will continue to use 'Tapestry'). The initial phase will be very much about ensuring log-

ins work and you learn the basics of how it operates. We are planning to use this platform to set homework- this ensures we are all familiar with it in normal times, and then it should be an easier transition in a lockdown/bubble isolation situation. If a lockdown/bubble isolation occurs before we have launched the system, we plan to induct parents, carers and pupils through on line videos and email etc. We are working as fast as we can on this.

Uniform

Thank you for supporting our uniform policy- the children look really smart. On PE days, children are also wearing the proper PE uniform which is important. On PE days children can wear plain black/navy jogging bottoms/sweaters. Sports trainers are acceptable for PE if you find 'daps' are not comfortable for your child. Wearing PE kit to school, is working well, as it is increasing the amount of the time the children are active in their PE lessons. A few children are wearing trainers to school on non-PE days- please send in a note if there is a reason for this.

SEND weekly newsletter

This week's SEND weekly newsletter, which shares some information about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 0-25, is available by clicking here.

<https://choices.somerset.gov.uk/025/send-news/>

Award winners for this week

Class cup;

Pippin: Rebecca

Maigold: Arya

Gala: James

Discovery: Mia

Camelot: James

Blenheim: Karl

Lunchtime awards:

Pippin: George

Maigold: Freddie

Gala: Elsie

Discovery: Rupert
Camelot: Ashleigh-Marie
Blenheim: May

Head teacher awards:

Akaisha (Discovery)
Harry D (Camelot)

Wellbeing Tip of the Week

Focus on 3 things each day that you have achieved, rather than dwelling on the things you haven't.

I wish you a restful weekend in the autumn sunshine.

Ali Pook

Head Teacher