



Weekly Update: 5th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I think we have all been glad to see the back of January, and can now start enjoying slightly longer days. It is a real pleasure to drive to work across the beautiful Somerset Levels; now I can actually see this amazing landscape in the mornings- it certainly helps keep me going! What has lifted your heart when it all seems more draining than before? What have you done that has made you proud, that may have lifted the spirits of another through your care, your words, a simple observation or a random act of kindness? Maybe it's time to write your own poem, song or story, or indeed create a piece of artwork? Or perhaps it is just time to allow yourself to be inspired, to follow the advice of the great philosopher Winnie the Pooh and go somewhere 'Where poetry and hums can find you.' Or for some of us a glass of something and film on Netflix may be more realistic!

Improved communication about learning and progress

In my first months as head teacher of the school (Summer 2020) I surveyed parents, and one area you wanted to see improved was our sharing of information regarding learning and progress. This is something I am working hard to improve. We have introduced class curriculum newsletters and knowledge organisers to help you have a better understanding of what the children are learning. We have also provided detailed reports on reading with the sharing of Star Reading reports in the autumn term. From today (and early into next week) you will receive a short report on your child's attainment for the autumn term. Children achieve right across the curriculum and we celebrate that, however these reports do focus on reading and maths only at this stage. It is important to me that we are open with you regarding your children's attainment and progress and we will be developing this further. Currently the school is working on introducing an on-line tracking system which is new to the school and will eventually provide you with more information on your child's progress and targets. For now, I hope that the information you receive, although quite basic at this stage, is useful and also shows our genuine commitment to you to work together for the best outcomes for all of our children. We are all aware that the children have had their education disrupted, and therefore attainment may not be at the levels we would hope. Never-the-less, assessment helps inform the teachers of the next steps for their teaching. If you have any questions or queries, please contact us.

Design Technology Challenge

Next Wednesday or Thursday morning, teachers are phoning children at home (For those who have requested it through the Google Forms sent out earlier this week- see below). Therefore, it's a 'Pooky Challenge' morning, with a design technology focus. There will be a pre-recorded introduction and then the children can have a screen-free morning responding to the challenge I will set. Resources needed for this will vary depending on what you have available at home. Resources which could be useful:

Headteacher:
Curry Rivel C of E VC Primary School, Church Street, Curry Rivel, Langport, Somerset TA10 0HD
Telephone: 01458 251404
e-mail: curryrivelpriamry@educ.somerset.gov.uk website: www.curryrivelpriamry.co.uk



- Cardboard boxes/cereal boxes/tubes
- Scrap paper and card
- 'Junk'
- Lego
- Other construction toys E.g Bricks, blocks, K-nex

Please do not buy special resources for this task.

Inter-house Sports Competition

Watch out for Mr Bridgeman's video in Google Classroom where he launches out half term sports inter-house sports challenge, which will be taking place next week.

Safer Internet Day

On **Tuesday, 9 February 2021**, we will celebrate the 18th edition of **Safer Internet Day** with actions taking place right across the globe. With a theme once again of **"Together for a better internet"**, the day calls upon all stakeholders to join together to make the internet a safer and better place for all, and especially for children and young people. Teachers will be leading sessions 'in class' and I will be leading assemblies with Reception/KS1 and KS2.

Phonecalls and Live Sessions

If you haven't managed to book a phonecall from your teacher for your child, then please do so through the links below. These will be useful chance for the children learning from home to have a 'catch-up' with their teacher.

Blenheim - <https://forms.gle/xY2u2oVFRJtsgtNo8>

Camelot - <https://forms.gle/34ZKG1EUwasiQPai9>

Discovery - <https://forms.gle/sgsFQnU8HXmNzmcU7>

Gala - <https://forms.gle/HJoXY2h4iPh9PDX26>

Maigold - <https://forms.gle/pkiaijn3jMQzcid87>

Pippin - <https://forms.gle/WWNzhN7BwXcNxaTg7>

Live sessions have started in most classes this week and the feedback has been good so far. There is still a lot to learn and we are sharing good practice within school.



Competition

Proceeds to NHS Love Musgrove's Paediatric Ward : Win a Family Day Out

Working from home and homeschooling the little ones? We appreciate that many of you have the impossible on your hands during Lockdown #3, so we thought we'd give kids a fun activity to do in the aid of helping other children in the @LoveMusgrove Hospital, Taunton.

A family day out (worth £200) is up for grabs for the winner, something to look forward to once normality resumes.

We're asking children to draw their Dream Home - no idea is too big or too small! The winning drawing will be hung in the Paediatric ward of Musgrove Hospital to show our support to children who need it in present and future times.

How to enter ↓↓

Step 1: DONATE

We're suggesting entry from as little as £2 (per child/per entry), and you can win a family day out - destination TBA!

Step 2: LIKE & SHARE

Like our page and share this post.

Step 3: POST YOUR ENTRY

Finally, share to your page a picture of your child's drawing work with our hashtag on Facebook #TLFdreamhome and Facebook message us directly with your entry, too.

Competition is open NOW until 28th February at 11pm. We will be selecting 10 finalists, and YOUR VOTE will decide the winner!

GOOD LUCK. Please keep a hold of the original copy, as the winning picture will be needed in order to be framed and placed in the Paediatric ward of Musgrove Hospital.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/TLF>

Headteacher:
Mrs Ali Pook

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Somerset County Council
Children's Services - Inclusion Somerset
 B2 South, County Hall, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4DY
 Tel: 01823 357000



Educational Psychology Service (EPS)
Telephone Helpline for Parents and Carers

*** Reopening Monday 21st September ***



During these unprecedented times, we all find ourselves facing new challenges. For many, this will bring about new anxieties, for others, it may worsen existing worries.

Where children and young people are affected, you may notice that they react to uncomfortable feelings and thoughts by changing their behaviours and demonstrating behaviours you have not seen from them before. In turn, these behaviours can add to an already stressful home situation.

It is important to remember that self-isolation, does not equate to social isolation.

If you are a parent/carer of a child in Somerset and would like to speak to a Psychologist with any concerns arising for you, or your family during this time, then The Educational Psychology Service is here for you. We are able to offer an initial 30 minute telephone consultation (discussion) and a potential follow up call, of another 30 minutes if appropriate.

Calls will be offered Monday-Friday, during usual working hours.

Unless the Psychologist feels that you, or someone else is in danger of harm, then full confidentiality will be respected. In order to offer the best possible service, a brief summary of the discussion will be recorded, which may be shared with colleagues from other services. If you do not wish for a record to be taken, then please make this clear to the psychologist during your call and they will only record the name of the school. For further details of our privacy notice, please follow this [link](#)

If you would like to access this service, then please email EPSHelpline@somerset.gov.uk with the following information:

- Your name
- The name of your child's school (or 'EHE' if Electively Home Educated)
- Times and dates that you are not available for consultation

If email is not possible, then call 01823 357000. Please understand that we are likely to be slower to respond to phone calls. Our aim is to offer a consultation within 5 working days of receipt of email.

INSET Day

The half-term break is 15th-19th February. Monday 22nd February is a staff-training day, so please be aware that school does not reopen until **Tuesday 23rd February.**

Little Pips

The government is expecting nurseries to be fully open. Little Pips Nursery has been working towards full opening with a phased approach, building up the numbers of children gradually. Please note that, confusingly, the advice to nurseries is **different** to that being given to schools. Schools still remain 'closed', only opening to children of critical workers and vulnerable pupils. As you know, our school is at capacity and if there is any further pressure on numbers, we will move to our priority criteria system if required.



SEND

Find out about the latest news in regard to SEND:

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

Award winners for this week

Class cup:

Pippin: George

Maigold: Seth

Gala: Paige

Discovery: Jasper

Camelot: Xander

Blenheim: James P

Lunchtime awards:

Gala/Discovery: Summer

Camelot/Blenheim: Noah

Headteacher awards:

Sophia E (Camelot): Outstanding writing

50 Merit Certificates:

Pippin: Jason

Maigold: George, Riley, Lexi-Mae, Alex

Gala: Elcie, Freddie, Toby W

Camelot: Leo, Hugo

Well being tip for the week

Be like Winnie the Pooh! Find somewhere where poetry and hums can get you. Give yourself a break to enjoy or create some of your favourite music, poems, walks or food.

Have a restful weekend.

Mrs Ali Pook
Head Teacher



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Mrs Ali Pook

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