

Celebrating Learning during Lockdown

Lower Key Stage Two – Years 3 & 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

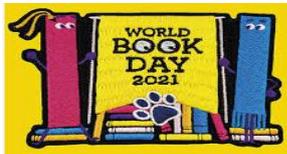
We hope you have all had a fantastic break from school work and managed to do some enjoyable and relaxing things over the half term week. It has been lovely to hear all about what the children have been up to over half term.

We are aware of the enormous pressure that this lockdown has brought to many of our families. No one should underestimate the effects of juggling work demands, home schooling and all the further complications of living in a pandemic. We would like to thank parents and carers for the fantastic job that you are doing in supporting and teaching your children. Please remember to look after yourselves as parents and carers. Obviously, the wellbeing of our children is uppermost in our minds but the adults need to give themselves time as well. I would encourage all of us to stop each day and do something that will restore our energy and resilience. You have been superheroes throughout lockdown and we feel very lucky to have such an amazing school community.

Superhero Day - Thursday 4 March

All our pupils have risen to the occasion during lockdown with their remote learning and we feel they have been absolute superheroes throughout this lockdown so we are planning on celebrating this and acknowledging all the pupils' amazing work, resilience, positivity and commitment to their learning by holding a Superhero Day in Year 3

and Year 4! This will be held on Thursday 4 March and will involve the children dressing like a superhero for the day! They could wear a superhero t-shirt, put a coat over their shoulders as a cape, make a mask in their favourite colour or even wear pants over their trousers! Even their super hero adults can join in... the more the merrier! This day will be for all those at home and in school and we hope that you will join us in celebrating the efforts ALL OF YOU superheroes have gone to in the past few weeks. We are so proud of you all!



World Book Day - Thursday 4 March

On Thursday 4 March, it is World Book Day. During the day there will be fun and engaging reading themed tasks for the children to have a go at. More details will be provided next week for World Book Day via Google Classroom. We would love to hear how World Book Day is being celebrated at home so please do encourage your children to send us any details of what they have been reading or doing to enjoy the day.

Screen Free Day - Friday 5 March

On Friday 5 March we will be having a screen free day where there will be no live lessons for any classes. Teachers will be setting work on Thursday that will cover two days of learning for the children. This will enable staff to be in school preparing the classrooms ready for us to fully reopen to all children on Monday 8 March.



We are all very excited to be welcoming the children back and look forward to seeing them all!

PE afternoons

PE lessons are on a Wednesday and Friday afternoon for both Year 3 and Year 4. There will not be a reflection session at the end for these days. The PE activities for your child's year group can be found on Google Classroom.

Behaviour for Learning expectations

We continue to be impressed with the positive attitude to learning, the children's resilience and the GREAT Behaviour for learning we have seen across the phase both in school and at home. Below is a reminder of the expectations for all children.

Remote Behaviour for Learning expectations:

- You will all remain muted unless you are asked to unmute to answer a question or your teacher unmutes you.
- Everyone is listening and tracking the teacher while they are talking
- You can only private message the teacher.
- If behaviour expectations are not being followed, your teacher will give you a warning. If the behaviour has not improved you will be moved into the waiting room to reflect on what changes you are going to make when you are invited back in.

Learning covered this week in school and online

Year 3

Firstly, we would like to say how excited we are to have the news that you will all be returning to school on Monday 8 March. We know that you will be excited and may be a bit nervous about coming back, but we will all be here for you to support you and get you settled back into school life. We have all missed you.

During lockdown, we have been completely astounded by your commitment to your learning, which is a great example of meeting our expectations for learning in the Great Hollands way. Your resilience throughout this online learning experience has been fabulous, even when you have faced difficulties and challenges, you have not given up. You have all faced this using the power of yet...'I don't know how to go onto Zoom...yet' 'I don't know how online learning will work...yet' these are just two examples of how you have been resilient and used the power of yet.



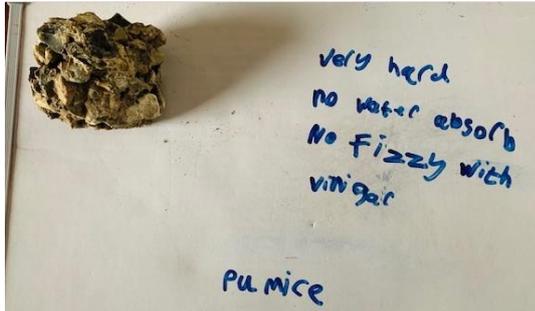
This week you have all worked hard in maths, where we have been learning about money and value, we have also had lots of you saying that you have enjoyed music this week too, where we have been exploring beats within music. In writing this week we have been exploring different types of poetry and it's features and some of us have done this by creating a lockdown journal where we have also explored what we have done during lockdown and our feelings about what things have been like for the last few weeks. Many of you have enjoyed our computing afternoons, learning new skills working with documents and IT tools.

We hope that you enjoy our photos of the learning from the past few weeks:

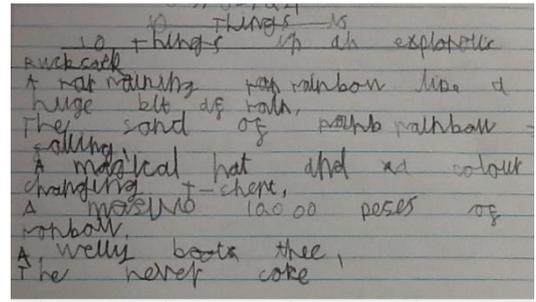


Leighton - amazing ammonite art

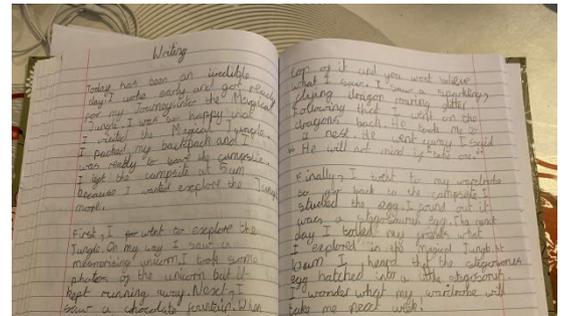
Reg - fabulous poetry



Nicholas - brilliant in-depth scientific rock study



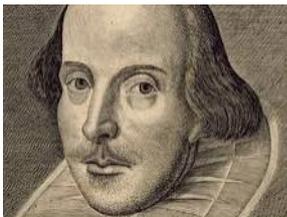
Igor - fantastic end of week writing



Year 4

Welcome back, we hope you have had a relaxing week off, and you have all had a chance to recharge your batteries. From the Government's announcement there is now light at the end of the tunnel, and we are really looking forward to welcoming all the children back on 8 March. We thank you again, for all your hard work and commitment in continuing with remote learning, and a massive thank you from us for all the positivity and support you have given us. It is as always greatly appreciated.

This week, Year 4 have started to investigate area of a shape. The children are building on their learning of perimeter before half term and are using that to help them create strategies to calculate the area of rectangles, squares, and compound shapes.



During our writing sessions we have started to identify the features of a playscript. The children have had the opportunity to become actors and read from extracts and lines from William Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*. Through the stage directions the children have been identifying adverbs. Using their spelling rule to support the grammar focus by creating sentences and explaining what an adverb is and how we use it to improve our writing.

Our Spelling focus this week has been adding the suffix -ly. The children have been learning that for adjectives ending in a y to use the rule 'swap the y for an i and add -ly or words ending in -ic (such as dramatic) to add al, then ly.

During PSHE the children have been learning about how we can keep ourselves safe whilst we are online. Focussing on keeping their identities safe and who can be a stranger online. The children have been discussing the online platforms they use and how they can ensure they are keeping themselves safe, as well as who to talk to if they are unsure about something which happens online.

The children have also begun their historical investigations into the Ancient Greeks, creating a timeline and discovering the mini states of Athens and Sparta. The children have been comparing the states and how each contributed to the increase of the empire.



This week the children have also become more resilient learners and we would like to say WELL DONE to all of the children who keep coming back and persevering with their online lessons! You're all amazing!

Thank you for your support and please remember school is always here to help you.

Kind regards

Mrs N Watson
Assistant Headteacher & LKS2 Phase Leader