



Coombe Bissett Primary

Newsletter 9 (end of Term 3)



CELEBRATION

Dear Parents,

We just want to celebrate with all of you – celebrate the amazing support you have given the school and the amazing learning of all children. The home learning from so many of you has been absolutely terrific and we have been so proud of all that you have achieved. Please remember that we do not expect you to be doing all the learning we set – focusing on the Reading Spine, Maths, English, Spelling / Phonics, daily maths fluency is the key, anything else is a bonus! Please remember that your mental health, and the mental health of your child is even more important – please build in time each week to relax and look after yourselves.

Thank you so much and enjoy your half term break.

On the production of this newsletter schools have not been provided any further information as to the return to the classroom for all children. The date of 8th March was suggested as the earliest date by the Prime Minister, but no information has been shared with schools as to what year groups / what numbers / etc. Rest assured, as soon as we are informed, we will pass on this information to parents. However, we will continue to provide the high quality home learning and additional parental support and advice that you have been so kind to say that you have appreciated.

You will notice that we are beginning to develop ‘learning walls’ in our Google Classroom – a place where we can share the wonderful learning being produced at home and in school. Celebrating every child’s unique abilities and talents is central to our ethos and we do hope that you will find this a lovely additional provision.

We are delighted to announce that we have been successful in our grant application for additional musical instruments to support our Music Curriculum. To complement the instrumental teaching in Elm (Ocarina) and Fir (Recorder) we will soon be teaching Ash the Ukulele. It will be so exciting!

To further celebrate our commitment to the Arts – we have also invested staff training into ‘Body Percussion’ for teaching music. This is in the style of ‘STOMP’ and we will teach it in Term 5. The children will love it!

Finally, we are also thrilled that Miss Gray has been successfully granted nationally funded STEM training on Science in Primary Schools. It is our vision that Science becomes a passion for our children - as much as they love reading, maths and the arts. We look forward to exciting Science developments in the Summer term and beyond.

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VALUE FOR LIFE

This term our Value for Life has been COMMITMENT. The children have enjoyed learning about how to be committed to their own learning, their friendships, and their respectful relationships with others. It has been so wonderful to see so much commitment to home learning from the vast majority – indeed the commitment has been completely inspiring. The support from parents, the lovely work from the children, the chance to work 1:1 and in small groups to see our amazing children has lifted the spirits of the staff.

The two key bible stories that we have focused on are the four friends who take their friend to see Jesus and the Lost sheep. Reverend Jenny has suggested that the children might enjoy reading these at home together, even acting them out, or drawing pictures of them. If you do we would love to see these, so please email them to community@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk

We would love to see some reflections from home. Furthermore, if anyone would like to create something to do with Commitment – a piece of artwork, a sculpture, a poem, a cake, or to send us some pictures of committing to something at home such as tidying the house or garden, learning to do a new skill, etc - then please email these in to community@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk

Next term our Value for Life will be BRAVERY and the children will be thinking about:

- Do the right thing
- Be bold, be strong, act courageous
- Let justice roll on like an ever flowing river
- Act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly
- Notice a need...and come to the rescue

CALLING ALL ARTISTS

With our core values in mind we would love as many pupils of CBPS to join in and enter the Young Artists Summer Show. Be brave and take part in this exhibition, we know you will let your brilliance shine through and we believe each of you can do it. All you need to do is commit your time, take care with your composition and let your creativity flow. I cannot wait to see what you achieve.

This exhibition and competition was brought to our attention by Mrs Sartin-Hunt, Mummy of Edward in Oak Class. We know Edward will be taking part as he has such beautiful artistic flair with his artwork and drawings. Follow this link. <https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/artworks>

I have registered our school. Submit artwork by photographing pieces to that website not to the school and make sure to add your child's name and school. It's the taking part that counts and I can't wait to log back into the site and see artwork as it is submitted.

Mrs Bowers

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FUN PE CHALLENGES

Thank you to those who have enjoyed the PH Sports Lockdown Olympics PE activities for home learners. This week the focus was 'Sock Putt' – throwing rolled up socks at targeted steps on the stairs. Some of the children in school had great fun replicating this on floor targets and we 'registered' their scores on the PH Sports website. There is still time to have a go this weekend at home. It would be great to climb up the school tables standings as we love sport so much at Coombe Bissett. Follow the weblink: <http://phsports.co.uk/lockdown-olympics/>

Wiltshire also run a Virtual School Games. Again, there are opportunities to climb up the schools table and also opportunities for your photos to appear in their magazine and on their website. Please see the message below from the organisers:

Here are the details for the Term 4 challenges. The theme is FITNESS.

<https://www.wiltssport.org/get-informed/news/2999-fitness-challenges>

They include 3 games that can be played by families so we have released them in time for half-term.

In addition to the games 2 videos will be released on Monday 22nd February – aerobics and circuit training.

If you are at home, please complete the score sheet and upload onto our website as it will count towards the school participation league table.

WORLD BOOK DAY

World Book Day is Thursday 4th March. The staff have decided the activities for that day will focus on books and that, to enable the 'class community' to thrive the focus will be class based rather than whole school. As such, individual teachers will be issuing the focus and approach for their own class – please look out for their message in the first week back. There might be dressing up (I certainly will be!) or there might be 'give us a clue' as has been done so successfully before. We are all looking forward to a fun day to celebrate the success of our approach to reading at Coombe Bissett – and to continue to cherish that love of reading our children have. We look forward to seeing your pictures of the activities that day.

HALF-TERM 'HOMEWORK'

We do not normally send out homework over half-term, and we are continuing to commit to this approach especially at this time to allow parents to have a break from the challenges of home learning.

However, if some parents would like some activities to do over half term here are some lovely options:

- Create something to show 'commitment' - such as a painting, a sculpture, a poem, a cake, etc then email a photo of it (or send it in) to the school on community@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk
- Re-read the story from the bible of the 4 friends or the lost sheep. Re-enact it, or paint a picture of it and send the school a photo of it by email on community@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk
- Make a shoebox setting piece of art to go with the story you have worked on in English or to go with the Reading Spine book from this term. We would love to see these creations so do please email us a picture on community@coombebissett.wilts.sch.uk
- There are lots of activities on the school website from Lockdown 1 that are still relevant.

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LENT – DAY BY DAY BOOKLETS

Following on from the success of the Advent Day by Day booklets we have issued a Lent Day by Day booklet for every child. There is a very small page per day for the children to explore – there are some lovely ideas in it and we do hope that you and your children enjoy using them at home.

The period of Lent lasts for 40 days and begins on Wednesday 17th of February.

LEARNING PACKS FOR WEEK BEGINNING 22ND FEBRUARY

So that home learning can continue in full flow on Monday 22nd February, home learning packs have been issued this week. These contain the next Reading Spine text, reading scheme books for KS1, and other resources to support the learning for the week beginning 22nd February. Please put these aside until that time.

LAPTOP LOAN

We still have a small number of laptops available to loan to families who do not have enough devices to support remote learning. Please contact the school office if you need to borrow one giving the details of the reason why (so we can prioritize if there are more requests than laptops available). A loan agreement will need to be signed before issue.

TERM 4 – REMOTE LEARNING AND RETURN TO FULL SCHOOLING

We will be continuing with our current provision for home learners from the very start of Term 4 onwards. We want to be confident that, when the children do return to the classroom they have continued to engage with the home learning right from the start. Please continue to ensure:

- Your child attends the twice weekly 1:1 face to face and the weekly small group sessions (Y1 to 6) – this personalized provision really does help your child and really help the teacher to know where your child is at in their learning.
 - Your child comes to these 1:1 and small group sessions prepared to show their learning from that week and can share – as a reminder the focus for these sessions is on the child and supporting their learning to progress.
 - You return the requested pieces of work each week for Maths and English – these are used by the teacher to assess the learning of your child. Of course we would be more than happy to receive more than these pieces of work as many of you have in-fact been sending through already – it is delightful to see their work and it really does help the teacher to assess your child even though we do not formally provide feedback on this additional pieces.
 - Your child responds to the feedback from the teacher, making the edits and ‘next steps’ suggested by the teacher. This is called ‘response to marking’ and is an excellent method of learning.
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We will also be looking to further develop our provision for SEN and Pupil Premium Children who are home learning but of course we continue to fully encourage these children to be in school as this is their entitlement and would highly benefit them in their learning.

We also hope to be able to build in some 'say hello' remote sessions year group by year group for home learners to see each other led by Mr Basinger-Adams in the build-up to full return, just to enable them to begin to re-build contact with their peers. We continually encourage you to set up face-time / zoom sessions for your children and their friends – this is something far more easily done by parents.

On return to full schooling we will be carrying out formal assessments of the children as a 'new baseline'. This will provide us with another part of the picture when assessing your child so that we can then plan the delivery of the aspects your child will need.

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