

12.2.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have come to the end of a half term like no other I have experienced in 18 years of working in education. The amount of change in the way we are educating the children and working with families has been incredible. Over the course of the last 6 weeks, children have learnt to access live lessons and worked more independently than ever before. They've done this at the same time as being away from some or all of their friends. The children have been amazingly resilient – as a school, we feel very proud of how well they are doing both in school and at home.

As parents, you must have found it tough at times and we can only thank you for your support and positivity each week. We have been really impressed with the engagement of so many of the children who have been remote learning and this is in no large part down to how you are supporting your children at home while trying to work and keeping your households running.

Over the last three weeks, our whole school assemblies have focused on our school Vision and Mission statements:

- Vision – *“Safe, respected and ready to step out into the world.”*
- Mission Statement – *“Setting no limits on what we can achieve with a positive attitude to life.”*

As a community, we really have set no limits on what we can achieve and we will come out the other side of this stronger together.

In today's assembly, I talked about how getting into good habits encourages wellbeing and a positive attitude. This message applies to adults as well as children. It's the ABC of habit forming. **ANCHOR** what you are trying to achieve to an activity or time of day, set a small target for the new **BEHAVIOUR** and remember to **CELEBRATE** at the end of it. The positive emotional response linked with achieving your target every time helps to embed those positive habits.

After half term, we are expecting a roadmap for schools from Boris Johnson. We are hoping that with falling numbers of positive cases and COVID deaths in England that children will be back at school sometime sooner rather than later. As a school, we will keep you up to date with any changes as they happen and hope to see more children returning to school in the not too distant future.

## Contact Tracing in the holiday

We will be monitoring the admin email address over the half term holiday. Please email us if your child has been attending school and tests positive over the holiday. Anyone who has had contact with a positive case at school may need to self-isolate. We will be calling families if advised to do so by Public Health England.

**SAFE, RESPECTED AND READY TO STEP OUT INTO THE WORLD**

Belong

Creative

Sustainability

Curious

Empowered



## Half Term Activities

Eat that Frog are offering fun online cookery/craft sessions on 16<sup>th</sup> February. These are ideal for anyone who is feeling a bit 'out of it' during lockdown and would like to join in for a stress-busting activity! Topics will be decided depending on customer demand, but they are likely to be starting with pancake making with Mary!

Please call 01803 551551 to book a place.

## Train to Teach

Teach South-West are holding an online event for anyone interested in training to become a teacher. The event is Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 9am. Register at [www.teachsw.co.uk](http://www.teachsw.co.uk)

The week after half term will see us back teaching children at school and at home through remote learning. Should your circumstances change during half term or you need support in any way, please don't hesitate to contact us. We look forward to seeing you and the children again soon.

Have a great week and take care,

Eddie Brown

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WESTCOUNTRY  
SCHOOLS TRUST