



Weekly Newsletter

FRIDAY 10th FEBRUARY 2023



Loving Learning Together



Latest News

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a particularly busy week here with Children's Mental Health Week activities as well as Safer Internet Day and a visit from WaterAid. There have been so many thought-provoking activities and the children have really shown their maturity in discussions.

Mental Health Week has been explored with a variety of online workshops, presented at an age-appropriate level. Children have been encouraged to talk about their worries, to look out for their friends and to be aware of what makes them happy as well as what might make them feel upset. These messages have been reinforced in Mrs O'Hanlon's Forest School afternoons—and she's finally had some sunshine for them as well!

On Monday, Year 3 and 4 were visited by Charlie, a volunteer with the charity **WaterAid**. The workshops were fun and interesting and really supported the children's learning this term—all about the importance of water. The classes now have WaterAid boxes to collect any loose change, which will go towards supporting their work to fund Clean Water, Decent Toilets and Good Hygiene for all. If you have any spare coins rattling about, please send them in!

Another feature of this week has been an outbreak of **chickenpox**, especially in Nursery and Reception. Please continue to look out for early symptoms—fever, headache, sore throat, or stomachache

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Children learn about online safety throughout the year, but this week we've celebrated **Safer Internet Day** with some special lessons and discussions. The internet and social media are such an important part of our lives now but we all need to be aware of the risks.

To help bring our learning together, Lydiate Learning Trust have organised a competition to design an Online Safety Superhero. Many of the children have had a go at it today. If they'd like to continue over the half-term break, please feel free to send entries into school when we get back and we'll send them off to the judges!

ONLINE SAFETY SUPERHERO DESIGN COMPETITION!

AS PART OF OUR SAFER INTERNET DAY 2023, WE ARE SEARCHING FOR A SUPERHERO! WE INVITE YEAR 5 & 6 CHILDREN TO CREATE A SUPERHERO WHO WILL HELP TO KEEP CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE.

WHAT SUPERPOWERS WILL YOUR DIGITAL SUPERHERO HAVE?

THE WINNING SUPERHERO WILL BE CREATED INTO A PLUSHIE DOLL THAT WILL HELP TO TEACH YOUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY ABOUT STAYING SAFE ONLINE, AND YOUR SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE A COLLECTION OF "ONLINE SAFETY" BOOKS!

GET CREATIVE AND WIN A SUPER PRIZE FOR YOUR SCHOOL! FLY YOUR SUPERHERO ENTRIES IN TO YOUR CLASS TEACHER BY MONDAY 6TH MARCH.

THE WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON THURSDAY 16TH MARCH 2023!

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ENGAGE. ENABLE. EMPOWER

The poster is a hand-drawn style announcement for an online safety superhero design competition. It features two cartoon superheroes: a male one in a blue suit with a red cape and a female one in a red suit with a blue cape. The text is arranged in speech bubbles and boxes. At the bottom left is the Lydiate Learning Trust logo and tagline. At the bottom right, there are images of 'Online Safety' books and a 'CHUNKY' brand shovel handle.

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Children's Mental Health Matters!

9 MENTAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES TO DO WITH YOUR CHILDREN



WORRY TIME



Set aside a time each day for your child to worry. Discuss with your child how long the worry time will be for. In this time your child can write down their worries, discuss them with you or problem solve to overcome them.

THOUGHT CHALLENGING

Help your child to write down any unhelpful thoughts they have experienced. Try to challenge them with your child and come up with more realistic and helpful ones.

BEING PRESENT



Help your child to be present and live in the moment. Go for a walk and see how many different things you can both take in with all your senses.

ACTIVITY PLANNING



Create an activity diary with your child and help them to schedule in some pleasurable and achievement related activities.

TALKING ABOUT FEELINGS

Why not create a time each week where your child can speak to you about their thoughts and feelings.

3 GOOD THINGS



Before bed spend some time with your child to identify and write down three good things they achieved from the day.

WELLBEING



Support your child to look after their wellbeing. Cook healthy meals with them, exercise or play sport with them and make sure they are getting enough sleep.

IMAGERY

Work with your child to imagine themselves in an imaginary future where everything has turned out in a positive way.

THOUGHT TESTING

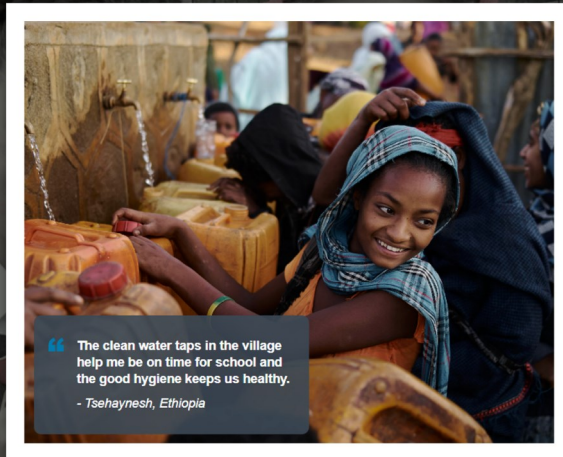
Try setting out some simple activities to help your child test out the validity of a thought.



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WaterAid



What Wateraid say about their charity work:

Clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene are basic human rights. They should be a normal part of daily life for everyone, everywhere – but they aren't. That's why we're here.

With the help of amazing people like you, we're working with our partners in some of the toughest places in the world. Together, we've already reached millions of people – since 1981, across 28 countries, we've reached 28.5 million with clean water, 29 million with decent toilets, and 27.8 million* with good hygiene (*the total number of people who received better facilities and/or behaviour change activities at least three times in a year). With these basics, entire communities have been able to unlock their potential, break free from poverty and change their lives for good.

And while installing taps and toilets is essential to our work, we do so much more.

We convince governments to change laws, link policy makers with people on the ground, pool knowledge and resources and rally support from people and organisations around the world, making lasting change happen on a massive scale.

More information at <https://www.wateraid.org/uk/>

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Internet Safety



BE SMART ONLINE 

S SAFE  Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.

M MEET  Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk

A ACCEPTING  Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.

R RELIABLE  You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found.

T TELL  Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline – 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk

BE SMART WITH A HEART  Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

WWW.CHILDNET.COM

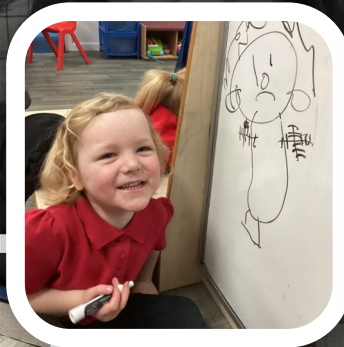
More information at: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/>
<https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>

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What have we been learning?

Nursery



This week in Nursery we have been learning how to draw ourselves. We looked in the mirror at different features and we drew our faces and our bodies.

In maths we have been learning all about day and night. We thought about all the things we do before we come to school in the morning and all the things we do when we go home from school in the evening.

We made moon rock with bicarbonate of soda, water and food colouring. then we squirted vinegar on the moon rocks to watch them fizz.

We made Valentine's cards for our lovely families.

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What have we been learning?

Reception



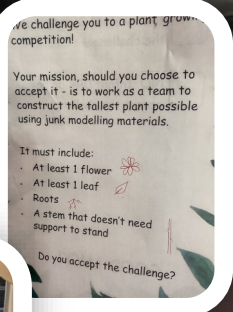
This week, Reception have had lots of time using their communication and language skills playing lots of games. They have also worked on their sharing skills and learning how to take turns. We also had a great time exploring lots of different apparatus in P.E. to build on our gross motor skills. We also continued with our Reading Explorers story of the week, 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers. We chose 3 special words to try and use this week – spluttered, flicker and feared. See if your child can remember these words and use them at home with you.

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What have we been learning?

Year 1



Year 1 have had a busy and exciting week.!

In maths, they have been learning how to solve simple addition problems by counting 1's and 10's. We have revisited place value to help us to do this. In English, they have continued to look at Handa's surprise. The children sequenced the story and wrote captions to match pictures. They also used their knowledge of adjectives to describe the fruits in the story. In PE the children have been working on their basketball skills including passing and dribbling. In Computing we have been using the VR's to experience different animals in their habitats. Spanish lessons have seen the children working on simple greetings like 'How are you'.

We were also challenged by our friends in the Infant and Junior DRB this week. We had to use junk modelling to create the tallest plant we possibly could. Let's just say some people are more competitive than others. Team B from Y1 won the challenge and Miss Jenkins was gracious in defeat and awarded the sweetie prizes.

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What have we been learning?

Year 2



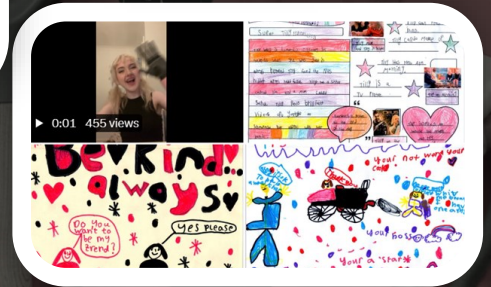
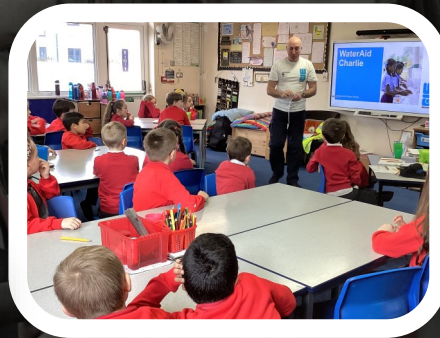
In Year 2 this week we have had a WOW week! In forest school we built dams, made dens and planted plants. We blew Mr Mills away with our own computer animations in Computing. We have learned how to stay safe when using technology and we have designed our own super hero to keep us safe online. We learned that Ramadan is a special time for Muslims. We learned how suffixes can be added to words in English and we wrote instructions to make our fruit kebabs and in Maths we used exchanging to help with tricky subtractions (phew). What an amazing week... now to have a restful and safe half term.

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What have we been learning?

Year 3



What an exciting final week of this half term we've had in Year 3! One highlight was our visit by volunteer Charlie from the charity Water Aid. He helped us to understand more about water inequality across the world and the important work Water Aid do to provide clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene. We even had a go at carrying water just like many children have to do when there is no access to water in their village - it was hard work! We are now thinking about how we could raise money to say thank you and help Charlie's charity. This week's Science investigation was great fun - we followed instructions to make our very own butter and bread with Year 4! We watched the cream turn from liquid to solid as well as learning how the yeast gas bubbles form the holes in our bread. The results were delicious! We've also enjoyed activities for Children's Mental Health Week such as Yoga Bugs and talked about how to be SMART online for Safer Internet Day. Finally, we were thrilled to receive a personal video message from Tilly Lockey @GiveTillyaHand who was an inspirational role model for our studies on valuing diversity last term. She replied individually to all the questions we asked her in our letters and loved all our work. What a jam-packed week!

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What have we been learning?

Year 4



This week has been an absolute belter! We have had a very exciting time indeed. The highlight for sure was making our very own bread and butter. We did this to explore our science topic of solids, liquids and gas. We shook double cream in a jar until it turned to butter and even made our bread from scratch, learning how yeast releases gases as it cooks. It was so fun and led to Ms Wilson now being dubbed as "Dough Wilson", what she cannot make with dough isn't worth creating! Year 4 and 3 also got a reply to their letter that we sent to Tilly Lockey! We've worked very hard and I'm sure the children are ready for their break!

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What have we been learning?

Year 5



As it is Mental Health Week, the children have taken part in many different live sessions such as Yoga Bugs and one with the LFC foundation. We have talked about our mental well-being and how this can change. Each child made their own fortune teller which gave advice to people on how to cope with different feelings and emotions. It has also been Safer Internet Day this week, we have looked at the importance of keeping yourself safe online and not sharing personal information with anyone. The children also watched a video of a book being read called 'Webster's Email' which discussed how an image shared online can be very difficult, if not impossible, to remove if it has been posted or shared with others. During our reading sessions, we have explored different extracts from Peter Pan and used the text to justify our answers. In Maths we have been consolidating our understanding of mixed number fractions by ordering them and looking at how we would place these fractions on a number line. We have finally completed our Book World Cup, where the children chose 'Just Call me Spaghetti Hoop Boy' as their winner by Lara Williamson. We have started reading the book this week and all the children are enjoying it so far. In Spanish, we have been learning how to say the names of sports and whether they like or dislike them. We played a fun game of bingo to help consolidate this knowledge. During PE, we practised some basketball skills and had a go at shooting some hoops. From all the staff in Year 5, we hope you all have a lovely, well rested half term and are looking forward to welcoming you all back after the break.

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What have we been learning?

Year 6



Year 6 have worked so hard throughout the Spring 1 term and they have certainly earned a break! This week we have been weaving Internet Safety education and also Mental Health week activities into our regular learning schedule. For internet safety, we discussed how to avoid some of the most common pitfalls and dangers online and we also designed Internet Safety Superheroes! They were so inventive - we have 'The FlameThrower' (he can throw a firewall from his flaming fingers); Freezite who freezes scam websites, or how about 'DigiGirl' and her sidekick 'The TechnoPuppy' - they were all so cool and clever.

In Science this week, reinforcing our study of light and the anatomy of the eye, the children described the journey of light through the eye, how it is focused by the lens, how the iris controls the amount of light and how the light sensitive cells in the retina decode the information ready to be sent to the brain. They also used their creative skills to construct a machine that uses light in some way, using LEGO, crocodile clip wires, batteries, lights, torches - whatever they needed. We had all sorts of crazy ideas and the children loved being able to be creative with manmade sources of light.

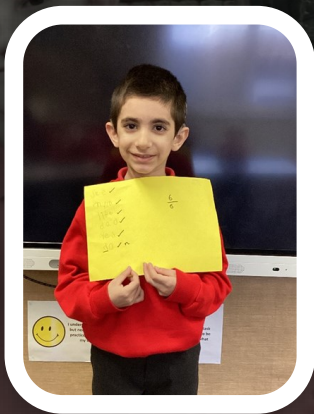
We hope you all have a lovely break and we'll be ready to get back to work in a week or so!

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What have we been learning?

DRB Key Stage 1



Another week of fun and active learning in KS1 DRB

Once again we have had super spelling results – thank you everyone who helped us learn our new words.

We have carried on with our work on nouns verbs and have started writing labels and sentences using our visual dictionaries to help us.

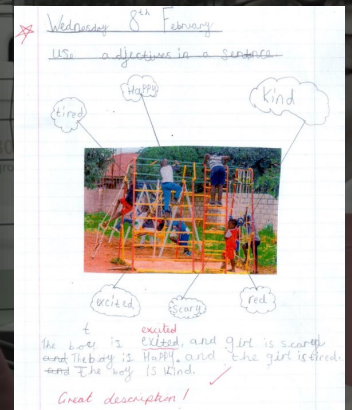
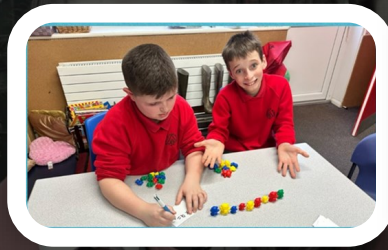
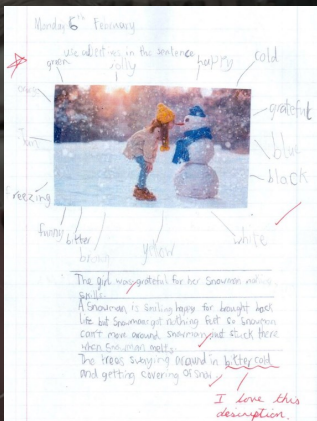
We accepted a flower 'growing' DT challenge and set to work using all our craft skills to make a huge flower. We were able to use all the new vocabulary we have been learning when we investigated and observed what plants need to grow in Science. We hope to grow a real sunflower just as tall as this when the weather gets a bit warmer.

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What have we been learning?

DRB Key Stage 2



In maths this week, Junior DRB, have been learning how to multiply numbers by using arrays. The children found the visuality of arrays a really helpful tool. The children created arrays by arranging counters in equal rows and columns. Once they were confident with using counters they moved onto drawing small dots or even visualized arrays in their head.

In our language lesson children have been finding adjectives to describe pictures. Initially, children labelled pictures and then created wonderful, descriptive sentences.

Monday was Safer Internet Day and with this year's theme being "Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online", Junior DRB took the opportunity to talk about when and how they use the Internet to communicate. Most of the children said they play online games and use live, online chats with their friends. We created a list of pros and cons to using online chat forums. We came to the conclusion that, with parental permission, observation and support it is possible to safely and happily communicate with people we know online.

As you will know, this week is Children's Mental Health Week and we know the importance of promoting Deaf children's positive mental health and wellbeing. On Tuesday, we were lucky enough to have a Deaf Mental Health Practitioner run a workshop. The focus of the session was 'Let's Connect' where the children identified family and friends and discussed how they connect/communicate with them.

What a busy week we've had!

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Attendance



Whole school attendance this week 91.6%

Class attendance winners Year 5 95.6%

Well done to all the children who were in school every day this week. Our lucky £10 winner in the attendance raffle was Amy from Year 5!



Term Dates and Events

Fri 10th Feb School finishes at 3:20pm for half-term

13th—17th February HALF TERM WEEK

Mon 20th Feb School reopens at 8:50am

23rd-24th Feb Y3&4 Residential trip to Hartington Hall

Fri 3rd Mar Revd Tom & friends assembly

13th-17th Mar Neurodiversity Celebration Week

27th Mar Teacher-Parent meetings this week

Fri 31st Mar Revd Tom & friends assembly

Fri 31st Mar School finishes at 1:30pm for Easter break

3rd—14th April EASTER BREAK

Mon 17th Apr School reopens at 8:50am

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Help and Advice

For a range of local services - info@localsolutions.org.uk

Parenting

Early Communications—a language enrichment group (Wednesday mornings) for 2-3 year-olds at Stoneycroft Children's Centre. www.stoneycroftchildrenscentre.co.uk/

There's a range of groups and activities available at Yew Tree Children's Centre for parents whose children are 0-5 years.

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/children-and-families/early-years-and-childcare/childrens-centres/yew-tree-childrens-centre/>

The Drive is a local community centre offering a range of activities for family members, old and young. They also run weekly food clubs and provide breakfast/lunch to families during school holidays. <https://www.the-drive.org/home>

Domestic Abuse

For support around domestic abuse - <https://worstkeptsecret.org.uk/>

You, Me Mum course (for women suffering domestic abuse) running 24th Jan to 28th March at Yew Tree Children's Centre (creche available) Call the Centre to book on 296 7950

For more advice and support, follow us on Twitter @Knotty_Families

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Winter Illness

Advice from NHS

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Coughs and colds

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.

Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

High temperature

If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.

Chickenpox

If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until ALL the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Sore throat

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.

Scarlet fever

If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks.

Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

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