



### STARS OF THE WEEK

Emmie Rowell  
Lacey Hunter  
Cora Cooper  
Rhys Biggs  
Nina Baxter  
Charlie Fannon

### DOODLEMATHS

Percentage of pupils working in their green zone based on engagement over the last 7 days.  
(data from this morning)



Jellyfish 96%  
Puffins 85%  
Turtles 78%  
Sharks 77%  
Penguins 65%

### 2021 SCHOOL DIARY

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Friday 12th February | School Closes for Spring Half Term *                                  |
| Monday 22nd February | School Reopens for Spring Half Term 2 for children already attending. |
| Monday 19th April    | Rescheduled Y4 residential visit to Robinwood—TBC                     |

### HALF TERM

It has been confirmed by government this week that schools will close as usual over February half-term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week. It has also been confirmed that schools will not be providing lunch parcels or vouchers to those entitled to free school meals during half term.

### STAFF COVID TESTING

This week, our school staff began to take their twice weekly lateral flow tests as part of the national programme to test school staff for Covid-19 even if they are not showing any symptoms. The test process is not a pleasant experience but will hopefully provide a degree of reassurance that staff members are unlikely to be infectious with Covid-19 at the time of taking the test. We are hopeful that school staff will also be prioritised for receiving the vaccine as soon as possible as they are in the position of mixing with children from many different households each day despite us currently being in a lockdown.

Parents are asked to ensure that they provide school with a working email address that is checked regularly as this is how we will inform you if a class bubble needs to be closed.

### STAY ALERT!

Although increasing numbers of the population receiving the vaccine is very positive news, it is essential that we all continue to stay alert and follow government rules about what we can and can't do. In school, we have many measures in place to reduce the risk of infection by keeping consistent class bubbles, enhanced cleaning, procedures, and social distancing.

Parents are asked to continue to stay alert to the measures we have in place at drop off and pick up times by ensuring that face coverings are worn, children stay with their supervising adult, social distancing between households is maintained and the one way system is followed. As well as reassuring other parents to see that procedures are being followed, it also helps to reassure the school staff who are required to work closely with the children each day.

### KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE

Whilst there are huge benefits to being online in order to stay connected to family and friends during this period, the government recognises many parents may feel concerned about the activities and content their children are accessing. [This guidance](#) outlines some of the resources available to help keep children safe from different risks online.

The [KEEPING SAFE](#) section of the school website also has lots of links to a range of information that parents may find useful. Next week, as part of their learning, the children will also be asked to complete an online safety video lesson which will be sent through to them using the normal channels. Please take some time to discuss staying safe online with your children.

We continue to hold a weekly awards assembly in school at which all classes can see each other via webcams and we announce weekly award winners. For those children at home who receive awards, Mr Heeley will aim to get those delivered at some point on a Friday and get photos onto Facebook. We're really looking forward to getting back to our Friday assemblies with a full hall again but don't think that will be too soon.

### RETURN TO SCHOOL?

Earlier in the week the Prime Minister announced that it will not be possible to resume face to face learning immediately after the February half term break. And instead hopes it will be safe to commence the re-opening of schools from Monday March 8th. We have also been told that schools and parents will be given at least two weeks notice to prepare for a return to face-to-face education.

Although this is a positive step forward, there seem to be very few certainties about these dates and many other factors will need to be taken into consideration.

Although we currently know as much as anyone else, there is the possibility that reopening may be staggered for different year groups or on some form of rota basis. Please be assured that we will keep you up to date with information as soon as we know more.



Parents continue to do a great job in supporting the children with their online learning. Look

out for feedback from teachers—on Google Classroom you'll need to go back into the lesson to see this. We're continuing to trial a weekly video meeting with our Y4 children who are at home so Mrs Oliver can talk with them about some key learning points for the week and any general issues we have noticed the children may need support with. If this is successful we will consider how we might be able to roll this out to more children. Don't forget to get the children onto Doodle Maths each day too—earning around 15 stars every day should easily keep children in the green zone!