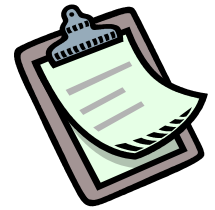




Learning to Live, Living to Love, Loving to Learn



Kildwick Church of England Primary School

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Newsletter 12th June 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

We welcome three new children into our virtual school community this week. I have read lots of introductions within the Google Classrooms and I can see that these children are already settling in even though we cannot welcome them physically.

We are moving forward with our planned phased opening, commencing on the 15th June. In light of the government's announcement that it will now not be possible for all year groups to return to school before the summer, there will be a group of governors that will be meeting regularly to review, explore and plan in terms of our arrangements in school. We are eagerly awaiting further government advice!

The letter below was sent by Canon Andrew Teale, former Headteacher, and now Diocesan Director of Education for Herefordshire. I personally found this message very powerful and probably the best thing I have read during this scary, unprecedented time. Like Andrew, I too want to publicly thank our dedicated staff team who continue to work tirelessly for both the children and parents in our wonderful Kildwick community! I also want to thank all our parents for your continued support!

Have a great weekend
Mr Tim Whitehead
Headteacher

The old testament reading during morning prayer today speaks of 'oracles' and the New Testament reading is from Luke 8 26-39, which describes Jesus' encounters a man of the city of Gerasenes who 'had demons' and is clearly tormented by the many voices in his head. When leaders face difficult and complex decisions, they too will hear many voices, arguing for different decisions to be made. The clear voice of an oracle would be perhaps be welcomed by anyone in school leadership when things are uncertain. In many cases, it is perfectly possible to construct reasonable and strong arguments for multiple very different courses of action. Now is one of those moments, as we consider how and when to expand the reopening of our schools. There are strong and reasonable arguments both for bringing more children back to schools next week, just as there are strong and reasonable arguments for not doing so quite yet.

We have been exploring the public footpaths around our house during our regular walks, throughout the lockdown period. One field near our house is called 'The Riddle, on the OS map, presumably because it contains many footpaths leading away in four or five different directions. The riddle is, in choosing the best pathway to take.

Different schools are choosing different pathways though the coming weeks. They are considering their own contexts and using their own judgment and are coming to different decisions. Children from some year groups will be returning to some schools next week. Some schools have chosen to continue to offer places just for children of key workers, and wait for another week or two.

Anxiety bubbles up, when you know you have taken a different pathway from others. Have they all made the right choice, while you have made the wrong one? In most cases, it just isn't that simple.

Most of our local authorities have made the choice that individual schools and connected groups of schools, are best placed to decide exactly how to proceed in the coming weeks. They have put faith in school leaders, to make a carefully considered judgement about how to respond to the government's request to extend the opening of schools. This was the right approach, in my view, but it does inevitably mean that lots of different pathways will be taken as everyone comes up with their own answers to the riddle. In fact, it is beginning to look as if there are almost as many pathways, as there are schools.

Unfortunately, the downside of this welcome autonomy, is that our school communities, including parents and staff, may feel puzzled and uncertain, as they look towards the schools who seem to be travelling in a slightly different direction. It means our school decision makers are more exposed as they select and reveal their chosen path.

Every headteacher, governing body and trust board, are looking at the complex information in front of them and choosing a pathway. I have spoken to numerous headteachers in recent days and weeks and have yet to meet one who isn't struggling, to some extent, with the decision about which pathway to take. There are no easy or straightforward choices, at present. The added difficulty is that, in reassuring our school communities that we have taken the 'correct' pathway, we naturally state the case for that particular choice and provide evidence, as to why our this chosen pathway is the best one to have chosen. This makes perfect sense, but will also serve to make everyone, who is travelling on a different path to question their route more.

I have discovered over several walks, that most of the pathways from 'The Riddle' end up bringing the traveller to the same place. I see every headteacher planning a carefully considered route for their school and their children, as we all seek to get children back into schools.

I want to thank our school leaders and governing bodies from across the diocese, as they take these difficult decisions, and plan a way forward for their school communities, whichever pathway they have chosen. We have incredible teams of dedicated staff in our schools who have been and will continue to work wonders for the children of this diocese. They are all in our thoughts and our prayers as we enter the final half term of this unique academic year.

Jesus saved the man and silenced his tormented inner voices. Comforted and filled with gratitude, he subsequently wanted to stay alongside Jesus, but Jesus sent him to tell others of what had happened to him.



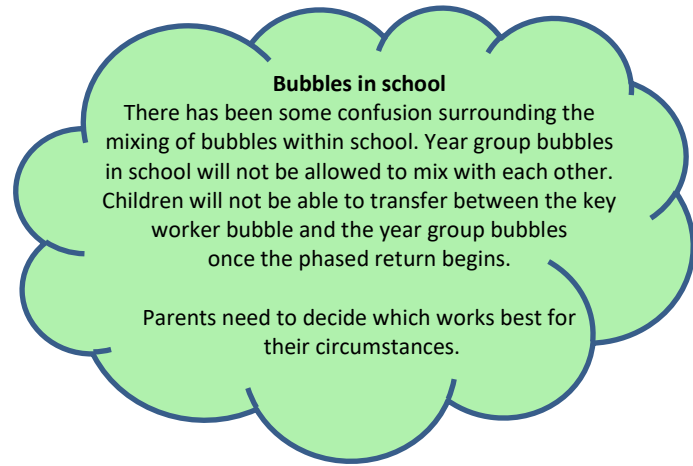
Hand Wash Challenge

!!COMPETITION TIME!!

Medicspot is calling all Kildwick School children to share their creative ideas to help encourage frequent hand washing.

Find out how you can enter and win £500 for Kildwick Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School here: www.medicspot.co.uk/handwash

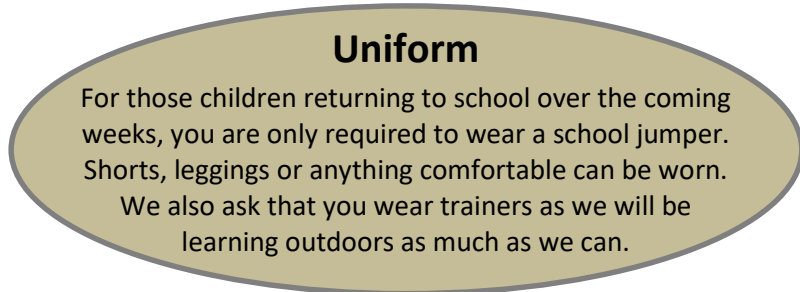
We have already had some entries to this and a video has been posted on Google Classroom from one of our new pupils. Well done Georgina & Rosie! Here is the [link](#).



Bubbles in school

There has been some confusion surrounding the mixing of bubbles within school. Year group bubbles in school will not be allowed to mix with each other. Children will not be able to transfer between the key worker bubble and the year group bubbles once the phased return begins.

Parents need to decide which works best for their circumstances.



Uniform


For those children returning to school over the coming weeks, you are only required to wear a school jumper. Shorts, leggings or anything comfortable can be worn. We also ask that you wear trainers as we will be learning outdoors as much as we can.



Kildwick's Got Talent!

We will announce this in the Classroom's this week. We know that all of our children are unique and have so many varying talents. We will be asking children to upload a video of their talent onto Google Classroom. The list is endless but examples could be; singing, dancing, joke telling, acting, poetry or story reading, showing models they have made, yoga, exercises.

We (independent selectors) will be choosing a finalist from each year group to go forward to a grand final (details to follow) Please upload your videos **before Friday 19th June**.



Time Capsule

Thank you so much for all your marvellous lock down accounts. As well as adding them to the time capsule, I will be making a book of all your wonderful writing.

Strategic School Development Plan

The first core function of the governing body is to ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction for the school. The School Strategic Development Plan outlines how it enables the delivery of our school vision. It is divided into three sections – Learning to Live, Living to Love and Loving to Learn. We are currently in the process of reviewing our Strategic School Development Plan in readiness for the new academic year 20/21. Our priorities on promoting mental and physical wellbeing and keeping ourselves safe are even more important moving forward. We are seeking your input with this process. If you have ideas that you would like to be included for consideration under the broad themes of Learning to Live, Living to Love, Loving to Learn then we would warmly welcome them. **Please email them in before Friday 19th June.**

Peggy's Garden & Grow Area

The garden and grow area is looking fantastic at the moment. I do know that some gardening fairies have been tending over the last few weeks. Thanks very much for this. There are some edible treats that need picking and eating. If you are passing, please do call in and pick some. Please make sure this is after or before school hours.



Awards this Week

Class 1

- Star of the week: **Rosie for already feeling like part of Class One and offering to make friendship bracelets for us all and Harris for amazing learning about Oceans.**
- Achievement award: **Teddy S for always completing lots of work VERY quickly! Max for working so hard every week in lockdown.**
- Home learner award: **Primrose for working really hard on the Maths work and sending a lovely letter to Miss Akrigg and Mrs Stoney. Ivy for working really hard at the same time as being a super big sister to her new brother.**
- Best Contribution to the Stream: **George L and Rex for always sharing their fun learning with the class on the stream.**

Class 2

- Star of the week: **Georgia because her time capsule work was fantastic and because she always writes lovely comments on the stream to other members of the class.**
- Achievement award: **Esmae because she has been doing lots of reading and she managed to save a bee!**
- Home learner award: **Matheo because he has been working really hard since the start of home learning in all areas!**
- Best Contribution to the Stream: **George has produced some fantastic videos this week which he has posted on the stream. I think everyone has enjoyed watching them! He also comments to other members of the class.**

Class 3

- Star of the week: **Emmie for taking on every challenge that she faces**
- Achievement award: **Max for working hard on learning his times tables during lock down**
- Home learner award: **Esme for completing work to a great attitude and determination.**
- Best Contribution to the Stream: **Eliza for always contributing and having a positive word to say to everyone**

Class 4

- Star of the week: **Oliver for his brilliant writing about lockdown.**
- Achievement award: **Harry for great grammar and wonderful writing for the time capsule.**
- Home learner award: **Zach B for excellent work on chapter 5 of our class book. Cracking comprehension, well done**
- Best Contribution to the Stream: **Gabriel for his amazing chick hatching video!**

Class 5

- Star of the week: **Lily for her excellent time capsule piece of writing.**
- Achievement award: **Lewis for submitting lots of work on our classroom.**
- Home learner award: **Stella for her continued efforts with work at home and improving her presentation.**
- Best Contribution to the Stream: **Sophie for showing off her brilliant sewing projects.**