



Kidmore End CE Primary School

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11th March 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back! It seems very strange to be saying this in mid-March, but we are so pleased to see all our children back in school this week. The smiling faces at the gate were simply a delight to see on Monday morning and playground duty was a joy as the sun shone and children played together happily. Thank you to all of you for your support in the small adaptations to our routines at drop off and pick up and for making every effort to maintain distance from other adults. I would ask you to continue to be mindful of this point from yesterday's government update email:

"England is still in a national lockdown. You must stay at home, leaving only where permitted by law, and follow the rules in the national lockdown: stay at home guidance."

Thank you.

Parents' Evening

We will be sending out emails early next week inviting you to make appointments on the School Cloud system for Parents' Evening in the week beginning 22nd March. This is a video call system which many of you will be familiar with having used it with older siblings. My experience as a parent was that it was very straightforward to use.

Turn on the Subtitles

One of our parents is involved in this campaign to improve children's reading which you may have seen in the media over the past weeks.

We wanted to share this brilliantly simple idea – turning on the subtitles can double the chances of a child becoming good at reading. Incredible - isn't it?

So the next time your child is watching TV or the tablet, there could actually be an opportunity to improve their reading skills at the same time! In fact research has shown that it can double the chance of your child leaving school as a proficient reader. You can turn them on for the whole family or most streaming services will now allow you to do it just for individual children if you like.

Find out more by visiting the Turn on the Subtitles website at <https://turnonthesubtitles.org/parents/>

World Book Day

I hope the World Book Day vouchers found their way home on Monday, and that you are able to make use of them. Many bookshops are currently running Click

and Collect services, including our friends at the Wallingford Bookshop. It was lovely to see so much enjoyment of books and stories on Google Classroom last Thursday – thank you to those who sent in photographs of favourite bedtime reads, extreme reading and reading dens. If you would like to send in a photograph of your child from World Book Day there is still lots of space on the Spring Term section of my photo display board – please email them to your child's class teacher or to the school office.

Greener Henley

Greener Henley are looking for children's ideas, pictures and words to make an internet exhibition.

Children can choose from one of three activities. Entries in the form of photographs or scanned drawings can be submitted up to **29th March** and can be submitted by email to the School Office with the title **Greener Henley**.

1. *Be a garden detective*

Take a look under stones or logs in your garden and think about what wildlife would need to live well there. Draw a picture or diagram of a creature you saw or would like to have seen in your garden. You could take a photo and write a caption to go with it.

2. *How to help our wildlife*

Do you know that bees and other insects are struggling to find enough pollen and nectar? Or that hedgehogs are really good for our gardens but fences prevent hedgehogs from travelling easily etc.? Can you design a poster with instructions to help people encourage wildlife in our gardens and parks – you could describe how to make a nectar café or a bee hotel, or explain why ponds are so important.

3. *The A-Z of helping British Wildlife*

This activity could involve a bit of research. Think about wildlife that used to be common in our gardens and wild areas but are struggling with loss of habitat, food sources, pesticides etc. What could be done to bring that wildlife back to our gardens? Your artwork should include some information, pictures and decorations. You could concentrate on just one letter of the alphabet to focus your ideas.

Year Six Desks

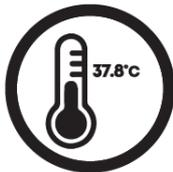
We still have two wooden desks and six chairs available if someone would like to give them a good home in return for a donation to school funds. Please contact Mrs Hawker via the School Office if you are interested.

And finally...

Whilst we welcome children back to school, we have also said a goodbye for now to our lovely, lovely Mr Shaw who has decided the time has come for a bit of relaxation in retirement. When you look around our school building and grounds you will see many things that Mr Shaw has designed, built, repaired or painted for us over his years at our school. He has endless patience in listening to my madcap ideas and the children have always really enjoyed watching him work. He will be very much missed, and we will be advertising for someone to take on some of his maintenance duties soon, whilst knowing that Mr Shaw's talents are irreplaceable. Thank you, Mr Shaw – we are so grateful for all you have done in our school and hope you keep in touch.

With best wishes,

Linda Hull
Headteacher



DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY, OR ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS OR IF THEY HAVE BEEN TOLD TO ISOLATE BY TEST AND TRACE.



GET YOUR CHILD AND HOUSEHOLD TESTED IF THEY DEVELOP SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS.



DROP OFF AND COLLECT AT THE RIGHT TIME USING THE ALLOCATED ENTRANCE AND EXIT GATE.



ONLY ONE PARENT SHOULD COME TO THE SITE AND SHOULD KEEP THEIR DISTANCE FROM OTHER PEOPLE.



OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD TO FOLLOW THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT ADVICE TO AVOID BRINGING THE VIRUS INTO SCHOOL.



PARENTS

Community News

Next Thing Technology Camps

NEXT THING EDUCATION CAMPS PRESENTS

Easter Holiday Camp

29 March -16 April

Monday **Tuesday** **Wednesday** **Thursday** **Friday**

Clever Coding **Intelligent Inventions** **Amazing Experiments** **Engineering Lab** **Tech Fun Madness**

Movie Making | Video Game Design | Robot Coding | STEM Experiments | Engineering

Open every holiday!
Providing safe, fun, educational and essential childcare across all tiers

Parents Love Us
★★★★★
"My sons 3rd visit and he'll be returning!
Enough said?"
Jane Baker (Hemdsan House School)

We are in your area!

We have more than 50 camps running this Easter with one located near you. Find your local camp on our website.

Reduced numbers. Limited Spaces. Book Now!

W: WWW.NEXTTHING.EDUCATION
E: INFO@NEXTTHING.EDUCATION
T: 01442 873150

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Active Leaders Activities

Penny and Amanda are on a mission to get as many people moving as possible this Summer in the Kidmore End and Sonning Common community. Your feedback is essential to make sure that the right activities are provided – so they would be very grateful if as many people as possible could complete their short survey which can be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8VYN8CN>