



Ardleigh St. Mary's Church of England Primary School (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School



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Our Christian Value for the Summer Term 2020 is Hope



HOME LEARNING

Home Learning

After messages and conversations with parents, we are increasingly aware that there is some confusion and anxiety about what is expected from you in terms of posts about home learning. We apologise if there has been a lack of clarity but, as we're sure you are aware, the situation we find ourselves in is unlike any before and we are all learning as we go along!

Firstly, we would like to emphasise that from everything we have seen, you are doing a fantastic job with your children - this is obvious from the smiles we see in the photographs and videos that you are posting. Secondly, we would like to say that we love seeing what you have been up to at home. We were very sad when we had to close our doors to the majority of the children at school because it is working with the children that is the best part of our job. Seeing your posts genuinely makes us smile so thank you for that! However, we are increasingly concerned that some of you are putting far too much pressure on yourselves in terms of the sheer number of posts you are uploading each day and, when we see that some of you are doing this late into the night, we worry that you are not being as kind to yourselves as you should. Everybody needs downtime and that includes all of you. We are also concerned that if we have a huge number of Tapestry or ClassDojo posts then we cannot respond in the way that we would like. We want to be able to spend time looking at each and every one of your posts and to be able to comment in a meaningful way. We want to show your children that we value what they are doing and sharing with us.

In order to allay our concerns we are going to ask you all to limit your Tapestry or ClassDojo posts to a **MAXIMUM OF 4** a day. This is in no way because we are not interested in everything you are doing but it is a way to make it manageable and meaningful for everybody involved. You can get the children involved in this too - which things would they like to share today? Which are they most proud of? What would they like to tell us about the activity? If you do the same activity every day (e.g. Joe Wicks' P.E.) then maybe just post about this at the end of the week and get your child to tell you what they have enjoyed most about it. If you do phonics every day, then you could also put this into one post (e.g. This week we have looked at the graphemes ee, ai, igh and oa. My child could recall all of the sounds except 'igh'). When it comes to selecting photographs or videos try choosing ones that demonstrate things that your child is most proud of, or that demonstrates what they found difficult so we can give praise where it's due and advice on how to help them when needed.

Once again, we want to emphasise that we appreciate everything that you are doing but we also want to make sure that you are looking after yourselves too.

We hope that this is helpful for everybody and makes things seem a little easier for you all.

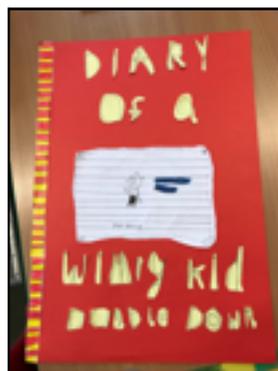
Many thanks for your amazing efforts!

Reading Den

Decorating the Reading Den



This week in school, we have been celebrating the wonderful new reading den by creating some story-based artwork to decorate its interior. The children chose their favourite story book characters and then either drew a picture of them or recreated the book cover. They have done a wonderful job but we would love to see more from all of you at home. Please be sure to upload pictures of your work (or post them if you would like) so that we can fill the reading den with your fabulous artwork. We can't wait to see your pictures and share the brilliant new reading den with everybody!



Esther Barry



Harry Partridge



Sonia Hurloj



Jacob Partridge

Mrs McKenna and family have also decorated letters to give our Reading Den a name!



There will also be a fun competition linked to the Reading Den so keep your eyes peeled on ClassDojo as more information will be coming soon

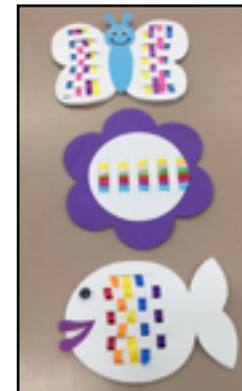
Acorn Village News



The children who are attending school at the moment have been writing poems, letters and creating pictures and art work to send to Acorn Village to help cheer up the residents who live there.

Ms Mutimer has taken what has been created so far to Acorn Village and was met by one of the residents and their carer. They were very excited to show the other residents and said thank you very much.

The children are enjoying participating in these activities and are making additional items for the Acorn Village Residents.



Plant to Plate

We now have 2444 tokens for the Plant to Plate Scheme.

If you have any more at home, please keep hold of them - do not throw them away - as the deadline has now been extended until the end of September 2020.

Thank you.
Ms Mutimer



Church News



Attached to the newsletter is the next weekly edition of 'Church Chimes' - the newsletter sent out by Reverend Antony with items relating to St Mary's Church and other relevant information.



I was able to make contact with all of you this week and it was lovely to be able to talk with you and find out how you are all doing.



Please remember that we are here for you if you need us. Either contact us on the school phone number, via an email or via Class Dojo.

We have sent out Spring Term Reports this week for Class 1, Class 2 and Class 3. Class 4 reports will be sent out next week. If you did not receive your child's report please let the school office know.

We wish you and your families continued good health in the difficult weeks ahead.
Please stay safe.

Take care - From all at Ardleigh St. Mary's.