NEWSLETTER

29th January 2021

AIM HIGH TO BE THE BEST

Generosity is our Christian value this term

We have just come to the end of our 4th week of remote learning! The Government announced yesterday that schools will be closed until at least 8th March which means another 5 weeks before we can hopefully welcome you all back into school.

All the staff have worked extremely hard to adapt their teaching plans so that they are able to be delivered remotely as well as continuing to support our key worker children.

We have been really pleased with the number of children interacting with their learning on a daily basis and the quality of work they are producing.

Teachers will mark work handed in each day. If work is handed in late, it will be acknowledged but may not be marked unless there are special circumstances.

Please keep up the brilliant work you are doing with your children at home. If you feel like you are struggling with your child's learning, please remember that you are not alone. It is incredibly difficult to juggle teaching, parenting and jobs for those of you who are working from home AND remain patient at all times!

We have adapted our remote learning to give children the opportunity to see and speak to their teachers and others in the class on a Friday via Teams. As well as the class meetings Mrs Kemp will be holding a weekly Whole School Worship Assembly.

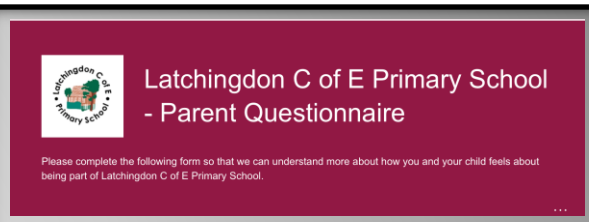
The links to join these virtual groups will be sent by the teachers via Seesaw and a Teams Help Guide is on our website for anyone who requires assistance.

Supporting & Maintaining Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health

(for more information please see the Essex County Council leaflet Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Support on our website)

Top tips for staying emotionally healthy: **5 ways of wellness:**

- **Stick to an active daily routine** (e.g. creating your own daily programme including three meals a day, activity time slots, self-care opportunities and bedtime routine)
- **Do light activity** - stretch and home workouts (e.g. yoga, dance, spring cleaning the house)
- **Keep up hobbies that keep you moving** (e.g. baking, reading, writing, making music, gardening etc)
- **Engage in creative activities** (e.g. art, scrap book making, junk modelling, restoring furniture, create music, redecorating)
- **Keep connected to others** (e.g. phones, email, skype, websites, helplines & online counselling)
- **Keep an active mind** (e.g. learning a new skill, research, brain training games, home learning using such free websites)
- **Try Meditation and relaxation** (e.g. Apps and free YouTube videos such as headspace)
- **Hot desk at home with planned short brain breaks**
- **Plan meals in advance**
- **Do things you enjoy doing** (e.g. watch a boxset, paint your nails, listen to podcasts, reading etc)
- **Keeping hydrated**
- **Self-care opportunities** (Self-care is any activity that we do deliberately in order to take care of our mental, emotional, and physical health. Although it's a simple concept in theory, it's something we very often overlook. Good self-care is key to improved mood and reduced anxiety)



Parent Questionnaire

Please could you complete our Parent Questionnaire so that we can understand more about how you and your child feel about being part of Latchingdon C of E Primary School.

You can access the Questionnaire on the front page of our website or via the following link: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=A3gsKI9LvU-jhBaC30fjraqJFk7qeEVPsGMQA3qCeGtUOTNJRU9NMFhJTVo0RjZXQjVaVFRQMDVCTi4u

Please complete by 12th February 2021.

Thank you for your feedback.

Get counting in The RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch – The World's largest wildlife survey. To download your free Big Garden Guide for everything you need to take part visit: https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/

If you take part please take some pictures and forward to us as homelearning.latchingdon@dcvst.org

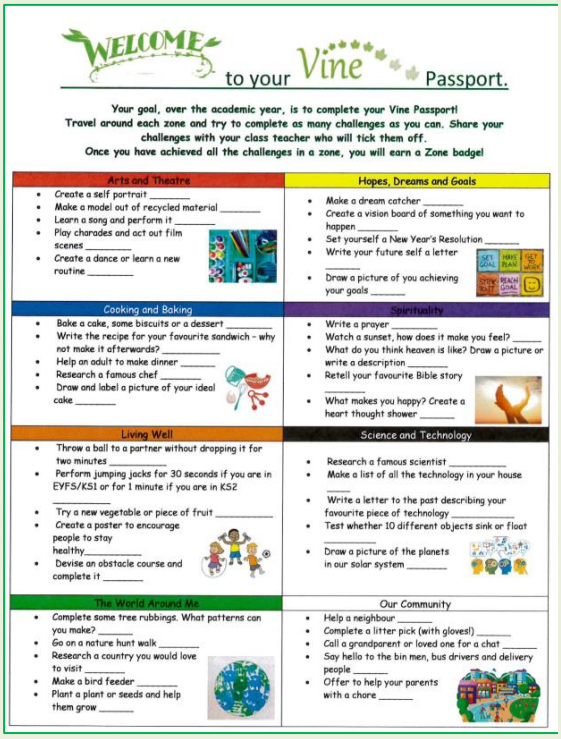
We would love to see what birds you have discovered in your garden!

Vine Trust Passport

If you would like additional activities to keep your child/ren busy during this lockdown period don't forget to have a go at some of the activities on the Vine Trust Passport.

If your child/ren do complete any work then please send us photos as evidence to homelearning.latchingdon@dcvst.org so the class teacher can tick them off.

If your child/ren complete a Zone then their badge and certificate will be issued once we return to school.



We look forward to receiving photos of all your learning activities during lockdown

EYFS and Key Stage 1 'Road Rangers' and Key Stage 2 'Safer Steps' Interactive Comics

During these current times, where walking is being encouraged, the Safer Essex Roads Partnership has two on-line Road Safety interactive comics, "Road Rangers" suitable for EYFS and all of Key stage 1, and "Safer Steps" suitable for all of Key stage 2.

Both on-line comics are free of charge for us for parents/carers to use with their children.

Road Rangers consists of a series of 5 stories and activities that parents can use to engage their young ones in the subject of road safety.

Safer Steps is suitable for all of key stage 2, as this is an ideal time to begin pedestrian training as pupils begin to travel more independently and they have also reached a developmental stage where they can begin to assess traffic and their surroundings. The stories in these on-line resources cover a different topic that is accessible directly through the website on a computer, mobile or tablet device.

These interactive comics are used in conjunction with our Pedestrian Training visits to Reception and Year 5 pupils and not as a substitute. However, due to the current circumstances please use these comics to introduce Road Safety and to reinforce pupils existing knowledge on this topic.

EYFS and KS1 Road Rangers Key points-

- Holding hands
- Wearing protective and bright clothing
- Importance of car seats.
- Advice for parents around teaching their children best practice for walking, scooting, car seats and also around parking on zigzag lines outside of schools.

KS2 Safer Steps Key Points-

Safer Steps follows Lilly, Dexter and Joel through a journey of discovery learning all about the green cross code, staying visible and different types of controlled crossings in a fun and interactive way.

This on-line comic can be used by years 3 and up but will also support the essential practical pedestrian training which we offer to all year 5 pupils.

The free on-line resources can be found at:

Road Rangers: https://theroadrangers.co.uk/

Safer Steps: https://safersteps.co.uk/

Username: **essex**

Password: **saferroads4all** (The same username and password will access both.)

Society for Storytelling

National Storytelling Week!

30th January to 6th February 2021

Starting on the 30th January it is National Story Telling week! Celebrate it with your family by taking it in turns to tell a story of your choice, be as creative as you like and bring those characters to life.

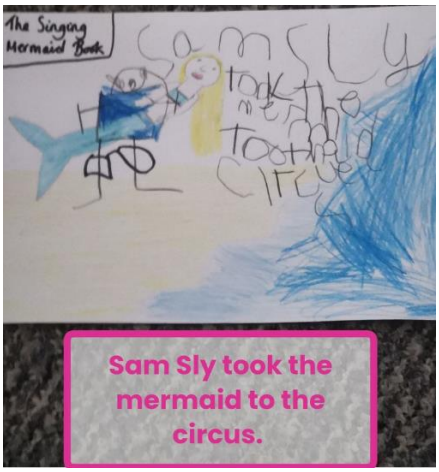
This is a great way for children to build confidence and to use their imagination but it can also strengthen that bond between parent and child. You could take it one step further and create your scene with a day of arts and crafts.

If you take part please take some pictures and forward to us as homelearning.latchingdon@dcvst.org

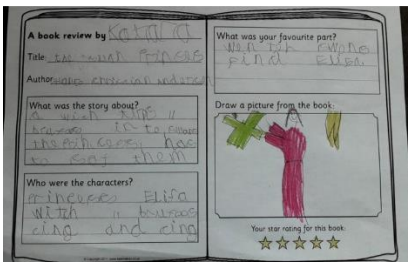
We would love to see which books you have been sharing!

RED SQUIRRELS

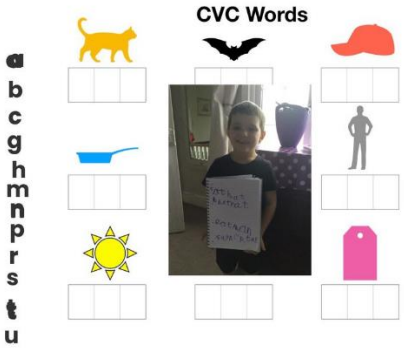
Ruby – has written a sentence about her favourite book



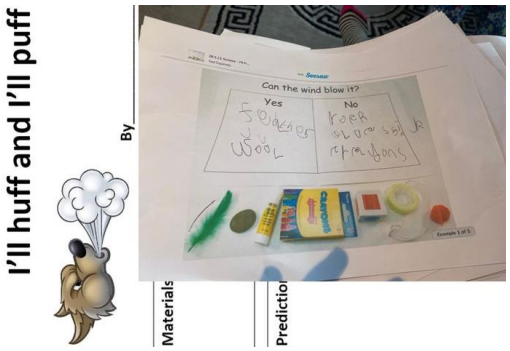
Katara – has written a lovely book review of "The Swan Princess"



James – has written some great 3 letter words



Bonnie-Lee – has been experimenting which materials the wolf would be able to blow down when he huffs & puffs



Sawyer – has made a lovely caterpillar

Isabelle – has been doing yoga

Abigail – has been sequencing the story "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"

Rhys – has made a healthy snack after reading "The Hungry Caterpillar"

FOXES

Amelia – created a pocket watch

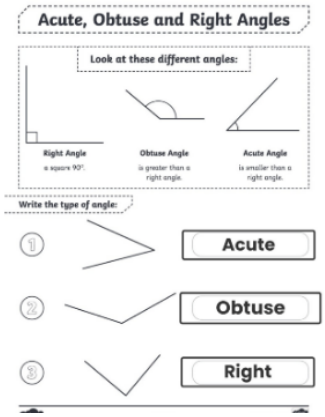
Ella-Mae – has baked a cake in the shape of a pocket watch

Henry – has created a mosque for RE

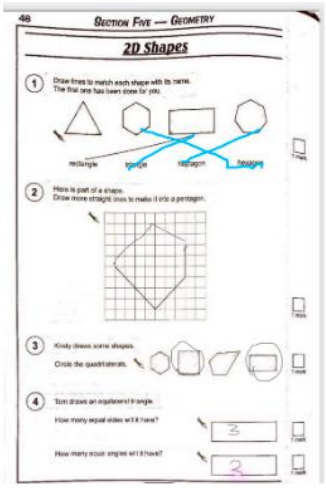
Mia – has sketched a Cheshire Cat

Ashley – has created the sandwich of his recipe for Alice in Wonderland's tea party

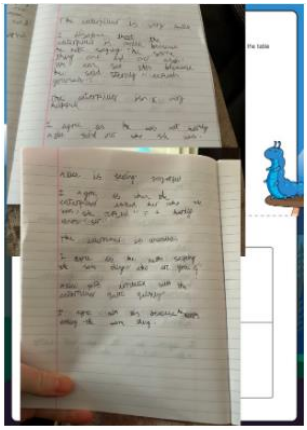
Archie – has been working on right, acute and obtuse angles in maths



Ted – has revised the 2D shapes in maths



Scarlett-Rose – has completed reading comprehension around Alice in Wonderland

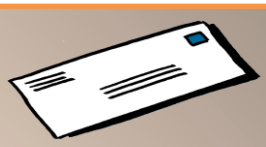


Some of our Key Worker children and the preschool children have made bird feeders and taken part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch

Some of our Key Worker children have created trees showing the four seasons

LEARNING Stars of the Week – w/e 29/1/21

Class	Names
Red Squirrels	Isla-Mae & Katara
Hedgehogs	Gowsh
Foxes	Henry
Otters	Thomas & Lillie
Badgers	Leo



Letters sent home / info on website for w/b 25th January 2021

The following letters have been sent out and/or put on the school website (under Key Information/ Information Hub/ Letters Home).

- ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL: Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Support for Recovery & Return
- Teams Help Guide
- ESSES CHILD & FAMILY WELLBEING SERVICE: Subject: Winter Wellness (Issue No,21 0 Feb 21)

School Office Opening Hours

The School Office staff will be available to take calls Monday to Friday between the following hours.

8.30am to 12.30pm
1 pm to 3.30 pm

The telephone number is:

01621 740328

PTFA
LATCHINGDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Amazon Smile APP

Please help the PTFA to raise funds for the school via the Amazon Smile APP.

If you shop at www.smile.amazon.co.uk and select Latchingdon School Parents, Teachers and Friends Association as your chosen charity you will be raising valuable funds for the school.

Every time you shop at smile.amazon they will donate to your selected charitable organisation, at no cost to you. It is the same products, same prices, same service but Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases.

If you have any queries then please contact one of the PTFA committee members.

smile.amazon.co.uk

If your child is unwell and is not able to complete the daily remote learning please can you telephone the school and leave a message on the absence line.

We will then know not to expect work to be completed that day.

Thank you for your co-operation in this

Accessing DB Primary from XBox or Playstation

Children are able to use an XBox or Playstation games console instead of a laptop or tablet to access DB Primary.

You can do this on the following devices: Xbox One, Xbox Series S, Xbox Series X, PlayStation 4, PlayStation 4 Pro or PlayStation 5.

You will just need a USB Keyboard to plug into that device to enable this function. It just needs to be a working USB Keyboard.

Further information can be found at: https://www.pocket-lint.com/apps/news/google/155204-how-to-use-google-classroom-on-xbox-and-playstation

Please see our website for full details of Dates to remember

SPRING TERM

February 2021
15th - 19th Feb - HALF TERM
March 2021
29th Mar - 9th April - EASTER HOLIDAY

SUMMER TERM

May 2021
3rd May - BANK HOLIDAY
31ST May - BANK HOLIDAY
June 2021
1st - 4th June - HALF TERM
7th June - NON-PUPIL DAY
July 2021
21st July - NON-PUPIL DAY