



Audlem St. James C.E. Primary School

'Let your light shine'

Matthew 5:16



8th January 2021

Stay Connected
A New Week at Audlem St James CE Primary School

This wasn't the way I wanted to start my first newsletter of 2021 but unfortunately the lockdown was needed and we must adhere to the Tier 5 guidelines to ensure that the pandemic can be stopped.

These past days have been difficult due to the lack of time to ensure we get everything up and running within school and our Remote learning. However, I am exceptionally proud of the way our entire school community pulled together and responded.

The staff team, as you would expect, rose to the challenge again by producing a wide range of lessons to keep children's learning going through Remote Learning. As they did this, they also tried to keep school as normal as we could in the ever-evolving circumstances.

Again, our governors have provided support and words of encouragement which reassured us all that our plans were the right ones and our communication was clear and informative. A huge thank you to our parent body - for your appreciation of what we were dealing with; your patience and understanding. Your responses are much appreciated. Thank you!



Our priorities over the next few weeks include:

- Providing solutions to the issue of Free School Meals
- Monitoring and reviewing the arrangements we have made to care for the children of parents working in the critical services.
- To carry on ensuring that our Online Learning Platform is meeting the needs of all our children.
- Liaising with the DfE, Regional Schools' Commissioner, Cheshire East BC and local headteachers

At the current time, we don't know when we will return as a school - in the meantime take care, look after yourselves and remember, some of us are still in school if you need support, help or advice.

Clap for Heroes

Last night I stood with my family again at the front door and ensured that I clapped for all those amazing **Heroes** who keep the country running from food supplies to those amazing NHS staff who again put themselves on the frontline and save lives. I would also like to thank all those amazing teaching staff who again just keep on working and providing quality first education either at school or by remote learning. **I applaud you all and thank you from the bottom of my heart.**

Communication during the School Closure

Your child's teacher will carry on uploading timetables and work every week by using the website and Parentmail which will explain the work for the week. Please remember, if you do contact them via email they may be supervising children in school, looking after their own children or completing other aspects of a teacher's duties. They will aim to respond to e-mails within 24 hours.

PLEASE DO NOT ABUSE THIS

The school office will be open for 'phone calls between 9am and 3.30pm (*notice extension of time given on Tuesday's letter*) each day. This will primarily be for replies to our continued requests for information, but may also be useful if you need further help, advice or support. Mr Perry will also be on duty throughout the week. If you are struggling to print off work then please do get in contact via your class teacher and we will endeavour to help out



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Please use your Whatsapp groups to stay in touch with each other and check everyone is alright. If you discover an issue e.g. communication from school not getting through, please choose ONE member of your group to get in touch with school, so that we can help. If everyone tries to call, we become bogged down answering the 'phone and this takes us away from working on solutions.



This week's Praise Book children are:

Mrs Maughan and Mrs Burgess' Class - ALL children
Mrs Kemp and Mrs Hayward's Class - ALL children
Mrs Richardson and Mrs Smith's Class - ALL children
Mr Davies' Class - ALL children
Miss Morris's Class - ALL children
Mr Blenkiron's Class - ALL children
Mrs Bird's Class - ALL children
You are all amazing and Shining Stars!



Prayers to Share this week - We pray for everyone at home, school, local community and the wider world at these uncertain times to be safe and well.

Family Prayer

God be with our family,
From the youngest to the oldest,
Lighting up our relationships,
Sowing grace into our troubles.

God be with our family,
Weaving love into our work,
Our rest, and our play.

Amen.

www.lords-prayer-words.com

Assemblies

From next week I am hoping to start whole school assemblies via Zoom. These will ensure that we keep that amazing school community through the next few weeks and months. The assemblies will be every Tuesday and Friday at 1.30pm and Friday will be **Praise Assembly** so we can celebrate all the amazing achievements over the week.

Furlough Scheme

For parents that are struggling with childcare now schools have closed, more information on the extended furlough scheme can be found here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/explainers-52135342>



8th January 2021

Give a lap-top

Many children throughout the country do not have access to a laptop to complete online learning. With schools closed again due to the pandemic several charities are collecting used laptops to refurbish and distribute to schools. More details can be found here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/5SqHJMTKZx5sYhlltXJvB1Q/give-a-laptop>

Mr Perry's maths challenge of week

Every week I will be putting together a challenge for the family to work together on to solve. My first challenge relates to maths below:

Chocolate Puzzle nrich.maths.org

This challenge is about chocolate. You have to imagine (if necessary!) that everyone involved in this challenge enjoys chocolate and wants to have as much as possible.

There's a room in your school that has three tables in it with plenty of space for chairs to go round. Table 1 has one block of chocolate on it, table 2 has two blocks of chocolate on it and, guess what, table 3 has three blocks of chocolate on it.

Now ... outside the room is a class of children. Thirty of them all lined up ready to go in and eat the chocolate. These children are allowed to come in one at a time and can enter when the person in front of them has sat down. When a child enters the room they ask themselves this question:

"If the chocolate on the table I sit at is to be shared out equally when I sit down, which would be the best table to sit at?"



However, the chocolate is not shared out until all the children are in the room so as each one enters they have to ask themselves the same question. (Helpful hints are at the end of this newsletter.)

Finally

Take care and look after each other and ensure that we keep on talking and communicating to people that might not be able to get out. It's good to talk.

A.Perry



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Chocolate Challenge Possible Methods

It is fairly easy for the first few children to decide where to sit, but the question gets harder to answer, e.g.

It maybe that when child 9 comes into the room they see:

- 2 people at table 1
- 3 people at table 2
- 3 people at table 3

So, child 9 might think:

"If I go to:

- *table 1 there will be 3 people altogether, so one block of chocolate would be shared among three and I'll get one third.*
- *table 2 there will be 4 people altogether, so two blocks of chocolate would be shared among four and I'll get one half.*
- *table 3 , there will be 4 people altogether, so three blocks of chocolate would be shared among four and I'll get three quarters.*

Three quarters is the biggest share, so I'll go to table 3 ."

Go ahead and find out how much each child receives as they go to the "best table for them". As you write, draw and suggest ideas, try to keep a note of the different ideas, even if you get rid of some along the way.

If you are solving this with someone else, discuss your ideas and methods. Which do you think worked best?