



18<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Audlem St James CE Primary School

Well, England football have given us some hope in that, you never know, 2021 could be a good year in the end. We will see tonight when we play Scotland and hopefully win that game.

It's great news that Year 6 will be back with us on Monday after self-isolating after their online learning over the last week. The news on Monday is that the 21<sup>st</sup> June will not happen and looks like it will be postponed for at least another 4 weeks. I believe that this is the correct decision as the letters I sent out last week are suggesting that numbers are going up and we do need to be careful.

Unfortunately, we are still in very uncertain times as we have an increase in different variants in the Cheshire East area. This means that we will not be able to have parents to events in school e.g. Sports Day and maybe even Leavers Assembly. I know that this is disappointing for you as parents but it's also upsetting for us and the children as we would have hoped that these could have happened.

The COVID Update - locally

As you all know numbers of Delta variant case numbers in the area are rising. As more people have the vaccine it feels like it is being squeezed into the schools where once in, it is proving hard to move out. Delta variant is far more transmissible so spreads quickly.

Cheshire East has moved into an 'enhanced support' category since Monday and that means there is a travel ban in and out of the area but it also means we can get more help if cases break out with 'swab squads' available to undertake mass testing in an area and greater push on vaccinations.

Testing

Huge thanks to every parent who has rung, checked or asked about testing and that 'what do I do now?' question. To each person who has said 'I'm in doubt so I'm keeping them out'. We thank-you. Your caution helps reduce risk. The main question school is getting is around testing - this is the advice we follow:

Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs) - freely available from the Boots chemist in the village and to order on line;

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Are for families to use if they have **NO SYMPTOMS**. They stop the asymptomatic carriers from wandering around unknowingly spreading COVID. You need to use these twice a week to keep a check on your status - all staff at school test a minimum of twice a week using LFTs.

If you or your child have ANY symptoms that may relate to COVID (see list below), go immediately and book for a PCR test - <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

**If you have symptoms an LFT could show as negative and be inaccurate.**

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- A runny nose or sore throat are now starting to emerge too as potential Delta variant symptoms

We know it's a minefield and we, like most of you, are not medically trained but we will always try to help. If in doubt ring or email, we will get back to you as soon as we can. In an emergency contact me directly:

[head@stjamesaudlem.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@stjamesaudlem.cheshire.sch.uk)

Vaccines

Finally if you are intending on taking up your vaccine offer the age dropped to 21 on Wednesday morning, click here to book: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Thought of the Week



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Joab, in 2 Samuel 10:12 "Be of good courage, and let us be courageous for our people, and for the cities of our God, and may the LORD do what seems good to him." He recognised the need to step out in faith, with the desire to see change and the very best for those he cared for and that it was God's gift to bless him with success and nothing of his own doing.



At the current time, all we can do is keep to the advice given by the Government that we must wash hands, wear face masks and ensure we give people space.

**Praise Book Children**

This week's Praise Book children are:

**Mrs Maughan and Mrs Burgess' Class** - Jaxon Colley for working hard in Maths sharing food for teddies

**Mrs Kemp and Mrs Hayward's Class** - Anna Hyncica for amazing work in Maths

**Mrs Richardson and Mrs Smith's Class** - Caleb Bowen Jones for excellent reading with fluency and expression

**Mr Davies' Class** - Max Bunseedhun for setting a great example to his peers throughout the week

**Miss Morris's Class** - Lottie Le Grice for phenomenal work in Maths and outstanding presentation in her work all in the first two weeks of her joining the class!

**Mr Blenkinsop's Class** - Katy Entwisle for doing a great job roleplaying as a teacher and guiding her group through the reasoning problem they had as a cloud.

**Mrs Bird's Class** - Lincoln Howell for showing kindness to others during Bikeability

You are all amazing Shining Stars!





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### The 5 'R's

As a school we are concentrating on the 5 'R's - **resilience, reflectiveness, responsibility, resourcefulness and readiness to learn**. These are the children who have shown such qualities this week:

**Resilience:** Joshua Copson for showing resilience when sounding out new words; William Rowe for continuing to challenge himself and not giving up; Joe Hassall, Bella Roberts and Charlie Stretch for showing a resilient attitude throughout the week when things have been difficult; Finlay Dinsdale for super engagement with his online learning, making sure all tasks are completed

**Reflectiveness:** Lillie Tudor who worked independently to develop her pull robot and improved her algorithm; Jack Bryan for considering how other children may feel in different situations and acting on his findings; Florence Hockenhull-Campbell for coming up with a clever way to remember how to spell one of our '-ent' words from this week; Bella New for engaging with her online lessons and reflecting on what she has learned

**Responsibility:** Heidi Boyle for demonstrating a mature sense of responsibility by resolving an argument between two friends at playtime; Rose Carter for offering a helping hand when a friend hurt; Seth Minshall, Larnah Murfin & Alfie Brooks taking responsibility for their own learning when arriving in the morning; Jack Tilley for being present for all of his online lessons.

**Resourcefulness:** Lily Satchi and Lucy Brennan effectively created a pull-robot and developed a simple program to make it run; Ed Whittaker for making a sensible decision which enabled him to complete his work without disturbing the rest of the class; Ollie Binns for turning to the thesaurus in order to improve his vocabulary choices; Harry Stockton for a creative video.

**Readiness to Learn:** Austin Wright and Oliver Meadows were keen and eager to meet the challenge set to build and program a pull robot that can move a heavy load.; Ben Mellor for being ready for his online lessons and offering thoughtful answers

### School

**Amethyst Class** This week in Amethyst class we read more of the story "Supertato" and labelled food for the supermarket. We also wrote speech bubbles and thought of other ways the story might end. In maths, we shared objects into two groups, then had a Teddy Bears' Picnic and shared the snacks equally between the teddies. We read the story "The Door Bell Rings" by Pat Hutchins and explored patterns when the door bell rings and more teddies arrive. We also enjoyed making a trap for the evil pea using junk modelling.

**Sapphire Class** This week the children were really excited to finally get to construct their bikes for our classroom friend, Charlie Nibble. The children used a variety of skills to build their bikes using recycled materials. In maths, the children have been learning about arrays and making doubles. In phonics, the children have wowed us with their understanding of split digraphs.

**Pearl Class** The children in Pearl Class built a Pull-robot using the Lego WeDo kit and then they created simple programs to make the robot move. The challenge was to pull an object over a short distance. The children recognised that the plastic wheels did not grip the table. They hypothesised that adding the wider tyres with tread would help the robot to pull a heavier load over a longer distance. The children created algorithms and debugged to improve their programs. In Science the planted sunflowers and they evaluated their experiment to discover if seeds would germinate if they were kept in a dark cupboard or on a window sill in the light. In Maths, we have been learning about equal and unequal parts and we have introduced fractions including half. In Year 2, we are excited to read our new story The Last Wolf by Mini Grey. The children have spotted that it has a familiar character in the story but with subtle differences.

**Amber Class** Amber class have continued looking at Zeraffa Giraffa this week and have used the story as inspiration to write blessings, expand our vocabulary and to create a dramatization of a trip down the River Nile. In Maths we have looked at perpendicular and parallel lines and have made and drawn 3D shapes. Our reading this week has looked at the adventures of the main character of the film Up! We have discussed how Carl is a fantastic (or is he terrible?) explorer and used his experiences to extend our vocabulary.

**Emerald Class** This week in Emerald class we have worked on using the distributive law in maths where the children have partitioned numbers to make them easier to divide. The children have also done a practice run of the national



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multiplication check. In English we have completed some writing conference work: retelling the story of Escape to Pompeii. The children have used a variety of tenses and a variety of conjunctions. We learned about the kind of person The Prophet Muhammad was in R.E. and the children compared his qualities to other famous figures who have changed the world such as Jeff Bezos. In Geography, the class revised the seven continents and used computing skills to research and place mountain ranges on world maps.

**Ruby Class** In maths this week, Ruby Class have begun to work on how decimals and fractions are related. We have written story openings and poems related to 'Arthur and the Golden Rope', and performed these, with accompanying freeze frames, while Mr Blenkiron and Miss Moore judged the children on their expression, clarity and volume. In RE, we have discussed different theories about the afterlife, drawing from some well-known religious conceptions as well as the children's own ideas. We have been composing bars of rhythm, in music, using crotchets, quavers, semiquavers and the occasional minim. We used pondlife animals to help us remember the rhythms before challenging each other to a drum duel where rhythms had to be repeated back to the challenger in order to stay in the game. The children used oil pastels and a pointillism style to create river scenes for their topic book front covers, and on Friday we will be learning about the journey of a river from source to sea.

**Diamond Class** This week in Year 6, we have been learning remotely although we have had live maths lessons, PE lessons, assemblies and quizzes. We have been revising our maths with Mrs Bird and have been learning all about the circulatory and digestive systems in Science. We have also been learning about money and about stereotypes in the world of work and have been making videos about what attributes and skills are needed for particular jobs. We have learned about healthy lifestyles and have written letters and posters to persuade others to lead a balanced life.

#### **Finally**

It is important that our newsletter and all other forms of communication we send out to parents and carers, give you a clear and detailed picture of our work in school, so that you are kept up to date with events in school and our community. If you have any ideas, comments or suggestions about the content of newsletters please get in touch with me.

A. Perry.