

Newsletter 17 - Thursday 14th January 2021

Dear Families,

This week seems to have flown by with lots of live lessons, technical hitches, fab learning and everyone doing their best! We completely appreciate how challenging the Remote Learning can be and it's just brilliant to see the commitment we are seeing from all our families, especially those parents that are still having to work around this situation. It's also amazing to see just how creative our children are being under your watch and it's great that you are taking some of the suggested learning and taking it off in different directions! We love seeing what the children have produced.

We are definitely having more successes with the technology but there is the odd blip! Thank you for your patience. It was great to see so many on both of our assemblies this week and it really helps give that sense of community still even though we can't be together right now. There's nothing that cheers me and the staff up more than seeing the children's happy, smiling faces on the laptop!

Live lessons: Just a note about this. The live lessons are dependent on our teaching staff being well and able to deliver them. In the event that they have to self-isolate as a result of having been identified as having had contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID19, they will endeavour to continue teaching their lessons from home but there may be some slight disruption to the timetable whilst we provide them with the necessary resources. In the instance that they themselves are unwell, our aim is that the live lesson will be taught by a replacement teacher, but again there may be a disruption to the timetable whilst we make arrangements. There will however, always be work set on Teams, Tapestry or Seesaw for the children to do, it will just be the live lesson element that may be disrupted. We ask that you bear with us as you have been doing so far. We are doing our very best to continue providing good quality lessons in challenging circumstances.

Recording of live lessons: REACh2, our Academy Trust, have given us additional guidance around this and we will be sending consent forms home for you to sign to confirm that you are happy for your child to be recorded while on a live lesson. If you do not wish your child to be recorded, you can just turn your camera off, which some of you are already doing. The live lessons are only available in the secure Team area and are not shared with anyone by school.

Seesaw: This is an App that we have been trialling in Year 2 and it has worked really well. We will therefore be rolling it out to our Year 1 parents shortly. More information to follow. It is not as relevant to our Nursery and Reception parents so they will continue with Tapestry and Teams.

Parent Survey on Remote Learning: A link to a survey can be found in the body of the email for the newsletter this week. We are very keen to hear your views about what has been provided so far. We have tried to provide a balance of live lessons and other tasks that the children can do in their own time and at their own speed. We have also been mindful of families with more than one child and parents that have to support both with their learning. Please let us know in the survey how you have found it so far and we will do our best to respond to feedback.

Newsletter 17 - Thursday 14th January 2021

Devices for Remote Learning: We still have some laptops that we can loan out to anyone that might need them. Please do call the office and we will be happy to sort one out for you. Miss Pollitt also came across this You Tube clip that shows how you can access Microsoft Teams on the X-box, Play Station or a Smart TV!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiNzN8QxIRI&fbclid=IwAR2Wfkabrg-v7Ug2fyWsNF9LZCy_2_6ohaalTA6uAqBJ7J1bV-4g4cvqBs

Children of Critical workers: Please check your emails for a letter sent out today. We are asking critical worker parents to please consider if you have the option for your child/children to learn from home, instead of them coming in to school. We will be better able to protect our community and play our part in reducing the spread of the virus with the smallest number of children in school as possible.

If your child is coming into school, please ensure that they are well and do be extra cautious if they feel ill in anyway. We want to do our best to reduce the spread of COVID19 and this is massively helped by not sending anyone into school that may display any of the very long list of symptoms. If in doubt, please do not send your child in. We also have a duty of care to all of our staff but especially to two members of our staff who are classed as critically vulnerable. Both Miss Jack (who is 24 weeks pregnant) and Miss Elliott, who has an underlying health condition, come into this category. Please help us ensure they are kept as safe as possible by not sending your child into school if they are feeling in anyway unwell. Thank you for your support with this.

Harrier Award: The Harrier Value for this half term is Responsibility. Read on to find out who was given the Harrier Award this morning in our virtual assembly.

Congratulations to the following children:

Class	Name	Reason
Nursery	Habeeb	For being very responsible and making his own lunch (supervised of course) and sharing his mini cookery show on Tapestry!
Reception	Violet	For being responsible for her learning. During Class Time on Tuesday, Violet volunteered to retell our story of Goldilocks and The Three Bears, doing a fantastic job! She got lots of applause from her friends who were listening.
	Mariam	Has been really dedicated and focused with her home learning, she's been trying so hard and we are so happy with what she is producing! Well done Mariam!
Year 1	Esmé	Has shown a great sense of responsibility through her home learning, particularly in Project where she has become quite the Geographer!
Year 2	Esmé	For her excellent contributions to home learning. She has completed her activities in a range of creative ways which has been brilliant to see!

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I look forward to seeing you on Monday in our virtual assembly and on the live lessons in the coming week.

Wishing you a lovely weekend. Please stay safe.

With best wishes

Mrs Hopkins & The Henhurst Ridge Primary Academy Family



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RIDGE

PRIMARY ACADEMY

PROVIDING THE ROOTS TO GROW AND THE WINGS TO FLY

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