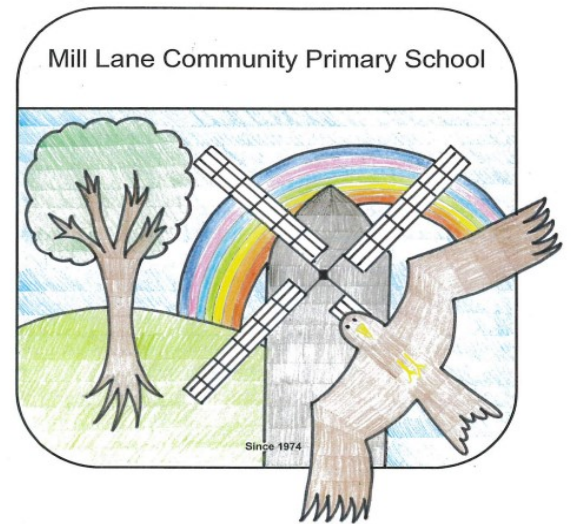


# Mill Lane miscellany!



*Keeping our school community connected*

*Issue 1: 27th March 2020*

## Welcome to our newsletter!

## Healthy Chicks!

Hello and welcome to our 'Miscellany' newsletter, which will be published each week during the Covid-19 school closure period. It is our intention to keep everyone in touch, share news and work, and hopefully amuse and entertain you. This newsletter (or perhaps newspaper, given its length) is made up entirely from contributions from the school community. Thank you to everyone who has contributed this week. We hope that many more of you will want to do so in the coming weeks and look forward to receiving your contributions. Please email items to: [Class4@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Class4@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk) Enjoy reading!

Windmill Nursery would like to say a huge thank you to Macy (class 2) for doing such a brilliant job looking after our 10 chicks last week. Macy had to clean out the brooder everyday, top up their food and give them fresh water. A light kept them warm but Macy made sure they didn't get too hot and turned it off if she noticed the chicks were staying away from it. Over the week, our chicks grew so fast. They learnt to jump, flap their wings and make a very big mess! Macy was kept very busy! The chicks were now too big for their brooder - they needed more space and so it was time for them to go back to the farm. Living Eggs came to collect them and were very pleased with how strong and healthy they were. Well done and thank you again, Macy!

To see photos and videos of our cheeky chicks, please see our Nursery website [www.windmillnurserychinnor.co.uk](http://www.windmillnurserychinnor.co.uk)

## Stars of the Week

Although the majority of us are away from the school buildings at the moment, we will still be awarding stars of the week. Here are this week's nominations:

Reception: Betsy H for excellent spelling work at home

Class 1: Charlie for excellent instruction writing and Calla for teaching mummy robot arms for phonics.

Class 2: Riley G for excellent online work

Class 3: Elliot for his writing and Lola for excellent science work

Class 4: Mally for excellent maths work at home and Jack for writing an adventure story

Class 5: Nicole for story writing and Joshua for online work

Class 6: Olivia for artwork and all who contributed to the Blog and have been emailing Mrs Carey with their news.

A special mention also must go to the children who have been attending at the school this week in very different circumstances to normal. You have all been great!

Well done everyone! Parents, don't forget to email in your stars from home for next week's newsletter!



*Macy with some of the chicks last week.*  
Thanks to Mrs Payne for this news item.

## Willow Hedge Planted



Our Tuesday group helped plant this amazing weaved-willow hedge next to the forest school area on the school field. The children have been helping water it throughout the week. What a great job they have done!

Here is a view of our beautiful school field– in case you are missing it! It is so sad that the children can't play there at the moment but we hope it won't be too long before we are all back and able to make the most of our grounds.



## Mini Spring Concert Goes Ahead



Undeterred by the school being closed, Sophie (Class 5) decided to hold her own Spring Concert on Wednesday in her living room. Her family were entertained by brilliant recorder and piano playing. Well done, Sophie!

## Supporting the Curriculum at Home

### Free Daily Resources For Children



#### PE with Joe Wicks On YouTube

Week days at 9am but you can visit any time on youtube to view the workout.



#### Wildlife With with Steve Backshall On Facebook

Every day at 9:30am for answering all your wildlife, biology, conservation, geography and exploration questions.



#### Science with Maddie Moate on YouTube

Weekdays 11am. Maddie & Greg chat about science and nature!



#### Dance with Oti Mabuse On Facebook

Every day at 11.30am but children can view the class at any time.



#### Maths With Carol Vorderman

Free access to the her maths website: [www.themathsfactor.com](http://www.themathsfactor.com)



#### Music with Myleene Klass on YouTube

Twice a week. Next one Friday 27 March 10am, but can view any time.



#### Storytime With David Walliams

Free story everyday at 11am on his website: [www.worldofdavidwalliams.com](http://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com)

### Coronavirus Update

In response to the ongoing situation, we have decided to make PhonicsPlay free to use during this period.

Children can use the site at home without their parents needing to subscribe. To access our resources all you need to do is log on using the following details.

**Username: march20**

**Password: home**

Our aim to ensure that existing subscribers aren't disadvantaged and will seek to make sure that after the school closures are over and the site returns to normal, that existing subscribers have additional time added to their subscription. If you haven't already discovered [www.phonicsplaycomics.co.uk](http://www.phonicsplaycomics.co.uk)

The educational company, 'Rosetta Stone' are offering their most popular language courses for children for free (the usual cost is £50.) French, German, Italian and Spanish are among the choices.

Explore further at:

[www.rosettastone.com/freeforstudents/](http://www.rosettastone.com/freeforstudents/)

With so many websites and celebrities offering free, educational activities online, there has never been a better time to explore what is available to support learning at home. It is more than likely that many more links will become available over the coming weeks so please keep us informed and we will publish them in the newsletter on a weekly basis.

*Thanks to Mrs Daniels for sending these suggestions in.*



# *Jasper's Big Adventure*

*a short story by Mollie M - Class 4*

There once was an Ant named Jasper and he was very bored in the Great Old Ant Hill. So one day Jasper decided he would go on an adventure! To be prepared, he packed the following: a sword, (for cutting the long green grass) a map of the garden, (for finding his way around so he doesn't get lost) a picnic, (in case he gets hungry) a shield (to protect himself from the 'smelly footed humans') and a first aid kit (just in case of any injuries)



The next day he woke to the sun beaming brightly through his window. In a rush he grabbed his things and fled out of the house. "This is a really good day for my adventure" said Jasper happily and off he marched. Suddenly, he came across the longest, thickest line of grass growing out of the ground. It was almost like a barrier blocking the path so no one could pass.

Curiously, Jasper examined the barrier, remembering he had packed his sword he took it out and swung it across his shoulder to cut the leafy barrier. "Ow, that's too hard to cut" gasped Jasper rubbing his now bent back elbow. "This isn't a very good start to my adventure" he muttered under his breath. Taking out his first aid kit, he straightened his arm and bandaged it up and then put it in a sling.

Jasper was wondering how he was going to get past this treacherous barrier, when all of a sudden Bert the Dung Beetle appeared out of nowhere rolling his big brown ball of dung. "Hey mate, are you alright there" shouted Bert, noticing Jasper bandaged arm. "Well I was, until I tried to cut my way through this thick barrier" exclaimed Jasper. "well I can help you with that mate, this is a dung plant and will only allow Beetles like me to pass, so hop on my back and I can get you through" replied Bert. Without any hesitation at all, Jasper climbed aboard.

Once through the barrier, Jasper hopped off of Bert's back and politely thanked him for the lift. So Bert went on his way rolling his dung ball, leaving Jasper waving goodbye.

Eventually, Jasper came to a nice cool shady spot. Suddenly, he heard a loud growling sound coming from inside him. "aah, that's my tummy telling me its lunch time" he said hungrily. So he sat down and took his picnic out of his bag and happily started eating. When he was done, he packed his things back into his bag and set off again.

Realising he had no clue where he was, Jasper took his map out of his bag and began looking for any landmarks that might indicate where he was. Looking up from the map, Jasper saw a garden gnome with a bright red hat and a pale pink nose. He looks like a friendly chap, thought Jasper glancing at the map again spotting where he was. He was very close to the area where the 'smelly footed humans' cooked their meaty food. Worryingly, Jasper then spotted a small 'smelly footed human' heading towards him, without thinking Jasper quickly whipped his shield out of his backpack then curled into a ball and held his shield over his head to protect himself. Once the 'smelly footed human' had passed, Jasper uncurled himself from his ball and placed the shield back in his bag. "Phew, that was a close one" Sighed Jasper with relief. "I think is best I go home, back to the safety of the Great Old Ant Hill" he murmured

Making sure he had got everything in his bag, he set off in the direction of home. After walking for what seemed like miles, he saw the Great Old Ant Hill coming into view. Lovingly, he stared at it for a while realising that even though adventures were fun, home is the best place to be.

## Keeping in Touch

Don't forget that parents can keep in touch with class teachers whilst school is closed using our designated class email addresses. Teachers will be happy to answer any questions you may have relating to home learning. You can also send in any work that the children have been doing at home.

Here is a reminder of the email addresses:

**Nursery:** [nursery@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)

**Reception:** [ClassR@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:ClassR@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)

**Class 1:** [Class1@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Class1@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)

**Class 2:** [Class2@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Class2@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)

**Class 3:** [Class3@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Class3@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)

**Class 4:** [Class4@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Class4@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)

**Class 5:** [Class5@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Class5@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)

**Class 6:** [Class6@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Class6@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk)

*Please send any newsletter contributions to Mr Thompson using the Class 4 email address, by next Thursday.*

## Attending School

As you will know, the government has asked schools to remain open for the children of critical workers, which we are doing. A request form will be sent out via ParentMail on a regular basis. Please remember that, even if you qualify as a Key Worker, **you should only be sending in your child if there is no other adult at home to look after them** in order to keep numbers in school low to minimise the risk of infection. Thank you.

## Free School Meals Service

If you are usually entitled to free school meals, we would like to remind you that packed lunches can be provided on school days and a weekly order form will be sent out. Lunches can then be collected on a daily basis after 10.30am. Please ensure that you do collect the food if you pre-order it.

# Art and Craft Gallery

*Not for nothing do we pride ourselves on being such a creative school...*



***Clockwise from top:** Rainbow by Sophie (class 4); Van Gogh inspired painting by Lacey (class 2); Rainbow by Lucas R (nursery); Biscuits by Tobi (reception) and Rowan (year 2); Easter egg by Katie (class 4); Pirate Ship by Joe H (class 2)*

***Centre:** Lucas F (class 4) learning wood-work skills.*



# More Arts and Crafts!



Left to right: Bee mobile made by Lucas (nursery); Painting by Rowan (class 2); Pirate ship model by Macy (class 2)

## *The Pig Who Was A Villain* a short story by Reggie - Year 3

In London there was a pig named Bertie and he was a villain. And he made people miserable all over London. He throw mud at people to make them miserable and sad. No one liked Bertie because he was so mean all the time but he has a partner in crime, Freddy the Fox. He could hurt people with his sharp claws and teeth and he had a secret attack with his bushy tail. When he swished his tail it would make people sad and unhappy.

The terrible two got together to think of a plan to take over the city and destroy it. Freddy Fox would begin by swishing his tail at as many people as possible to make them sad and stay at home while Bertie would throw mud at them. Splatting it all over them after he would laugh at them whilst they ran away.

They started at the East end of the city, destroying everything in their path and making every single person sad and miserable along their way. All that was left was a trail of mud and the sound of the pair cackling. Somebody had to stop them. This is a job for super dog. Super dog was all white but with one black ear, black nose and a blue cape.

*Continued...*

Super dog was on a mission to stop this madness. He was spying on them from high up in a tree where he was watching their every move, if they escaped he would have to do his job again so that it was very important he was not caught spying.

Super dog sees his moment to now catch them. He jumps from the tree with his net and scoops them up in one movement. Before they could escape he bundled them in his van and took them to prison.

Bertie and Freddy Fox where sorry for what they had done and promised to be good and even said they would clean up the city.

Another good job done by super dog!

The End

## *Time for a laugh?*

*A joke by Macy Hardstaff - Class 2*

Knock, knock!

*Who's there?*

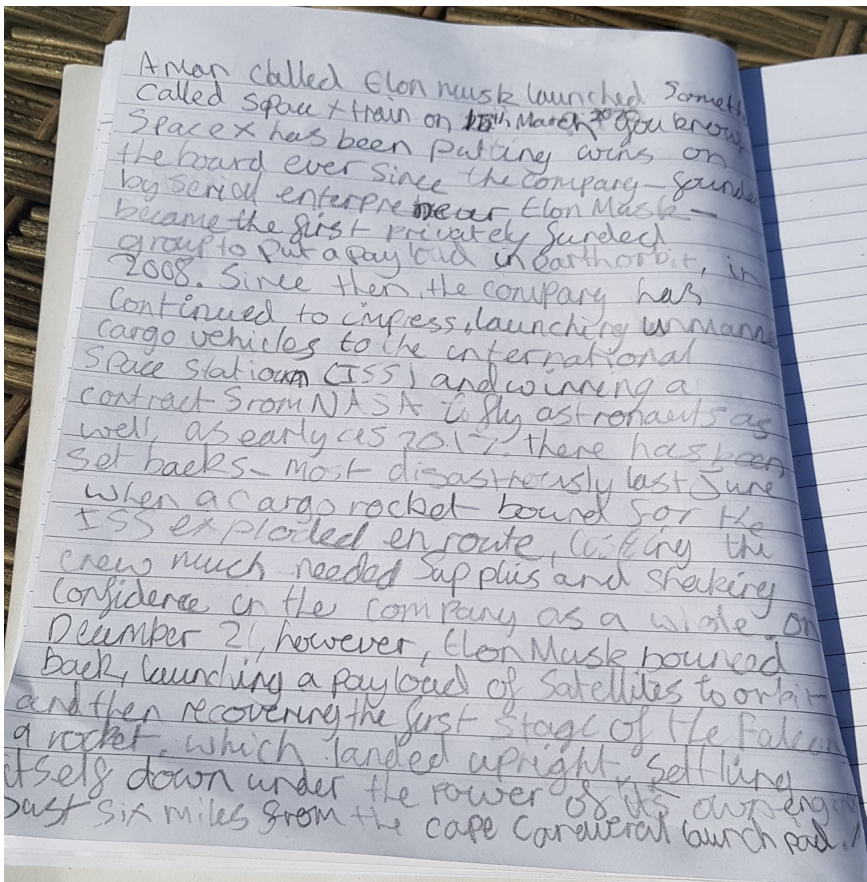
Turner

*Turner who?*

Turn around, there's a monster!!!



# More Home Learning



**Above Left:** Space writing by Rosie (class 5) based around the Space X starlink train that could be seen above the village on Wednesday night. **Above Right:** Shape exploration by Jamie R (class R) **Above:** Mally (class 4) baking bread.

Time	Plan of Work	Quality and safety checks
9.55am	Wash hands	Make surface is clean.
10.00am	Wash and peel the leeks and potatoes	Boil water for stock
10.10am	Chop veg into small chunks Make stock	And stock cube to 500ml of boiling water
10.20am	Place Veg in saucepan and add the stock	Make sure hob is turned <u>off</u> .
10.30am	Heat the stock and veg till boiling	Turn down the heat <u>and</u> simmer for 30mins or veg is soft.
10.40am	Set oven to gas mark 6 / 200c	
10.42am	Sieve the flour baking powder & Cayenne powder together in mixing bowl.	
10.50am	Stir in dry herbs	
10.52am	Add in the butter	Rub butter into mix until it looks like breadcrumbs
10.55am	Stir Mixture together and 3/4 of the cheese And put a <u>Well</u> in <u>mixture</u> and add milk.	Use wooden spoon till it looks like dough.
11.00am	Take of soup. <u>Knead</u> dough on floured worktop.	Shape then into a round shape 16-18cm diameter and 2cm thick.
11.10am	Grease baking tray	Place scone's on it
11.15am	Bake scones for 15-20mins	They should be spongy but no doughy in the middle. (check with skewer)
11.20am	Wash and clean up equipment and area	
11.30am	Remove scone's from oven	Place on wire rack
11.35am	Serve Warm with the soup	



**Above:** Leek and Potato soup and scone recipe by Lilly (class 6)

**Right:** Space-inspired artwork by Isla (class 4)



# In The Garden

Libby (Class 4) has been planting seeds this week

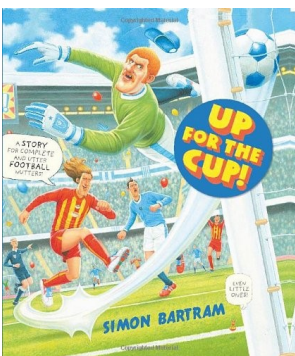


Libby has been busy planting different seeds this week ready to plant in the garden later this spring. She has made a graph to show the different kinds of seeds that have been planted. She will keep us updated with their progress.

Has anyone else been busy in their gardens this week? Hopefully the good weather has encouraged you all!

# Up For The Cup

A book review by Hayden - Class 3



I have read this book called Up for the cup! I liked it because it was about football. It was a story about a boy called Charlie. He loves football and his Dad calls him "an utter footie nutter". His best friend is called Billy Ball and they support a team called Seaburn City. There was a player called Julio Poom and they all agree he's a footballing genius. He eats spaghetti 'o's because he thinks it makes him really good but the other team called

Doombarton United took them all out at the factory...

So Julio Poom couldn't play well in the cup final and that made his team not play well. Charlie's Dad also worked at the factory and had won a trophy which he made into a hat. He wore it to the cup final.

Then Julio Poom scored an own goal. Then the other team were trying to cheat by diving. Julio had the chance to score but someone in the crowd threw a ball at his face and he missed.

Julio's ball hit Charlie's Dad's trophy and he found out it was an ancient pot of alphabet spaghetti and it had some 'o's in it.

The crowd wrote messages on plates and Julio saw them on the big screen. It made Julio really good and the other team tried to chip it to the goalie but Julio was there and it hit him in the face and he scored!

Then his super skill took over and he had one thing in mind and that was to shoot. He scored and the crowd went wild they won the cup!

I also liked the pictures in the book because there is funny stuff in there.

# Riddles to get you thinking...

By Elliot - Class 3

Q: A word I know, six letters it contains, remove one letter and 12 remains, what is it?

A: Dozen

Q: Where can you find cities, towns, shops and streets but no people?

A: A map

Q: A red house is made of red bricks, a yellow house is made of yellow bricks, what is a green house made of?

A: Glass

Q: what word is spelled wrong in the dictionary?

A: W-R-O-N-G

Q: what happens once in a lifetime, twice in a moment, but never in one hundred years?

A: The letter M

Q: What had holes but still absorbs

A: sponge

# *Superhero Story* by Charlotte (Reception Class)

You are a superhero! Can you tell a story about how you rescued somebody? Ask an adult to write your story. You might like to write some of it yourself.



I am night  
hero! I  
can see  
in the  
dark.

I rescued a tiger from getting bitten in the night by a big monster with evil yellow eyes. The tiger could not see the monster in the dark so I ran through the jungle and saved the tiger by punching the monster in the face! The monster moaned when I punched him and fell, it made a big noise when he fell. Bump! I leapt on the tiger and he ran as quick as he could before the monster woke up. The end

## *Inspirational Thoughts*

On the day school closed, the children remaining in Class 4 decided to write their own inspirational quotes to share on our class blog during the weeks that school is closed. We have

shared one of these below but thought it would be great to see what other feel-good quotes the rest of the school community could write and share these in future editions. Get thinking...

## *Dorchester Abbey Songs*

Mrs Thompson would like to remind members of the choir that they will still be able to learn the Dorchester songs as we are hoping to email out a file containing the music tracks.

She misses you all very much and hopes to see you soon.

Also, if you like singing, why not write a song or rap that we could publish in one of our upcoming newsletters?

## *Time for another joke!*

What do you get when you cross a dinosaur with a pig?

*Jurassic Pork!*

By Lucas F, who'd like to say "hello" to everyone in class 4.

*Don't forget to send in your jokes for next week!*

## **A day**

**without fun**

**is**

**a day wasted!**

**By Isla (Class 4)**



# Life in the School Buildings

Life in school has continued in a reduced capacity for the children of Key Workers, alongside a skeleton staff. Despite the school being exceptionally quiet, the children have worked on a range of different projects and have taken time each day to undertake online learning activities like the children at home. We have also been taking part in Joe Wicks' daily PE sessions. Here are some examples of what has been going on:

**Monday:** The children produced some paintings using masking tape to create different shapes on the paper. They also tried this technique on a giant chalk board. **Tuesday:** Today's group helped to plant a new weaved willow hedge around the forest school area. The children also planted sunflower seeds to take home and look after. **Wednesday:** The children produced rainbows using their fingerprints, used the trim trail, had choosing time and then wrote about their days.

**Thursday:** The children did a spring garden investigation on Gruffland, produced a collaborative blossom tree, using tissue paper, wrote diaries and listened to a story.

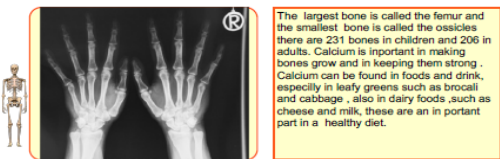
**Friday:** Today the children have been on a bear hunt around the school, worked on some collaborative artwork, used the trim-trail and planted some beans outside.

## Learning at Home

Please remember that there are lots of online resources for the children to be using from home and it would be great if every child was engaged in this. Please contact your child's class teacher if you need any support or guidance with home learning.

## More from our 'home schools'

### All About the Human Skeleton

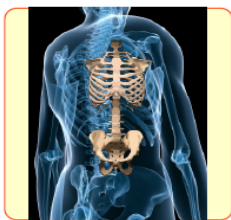


The skeleton provides support, protection and the means for movement. If humans didn't have bones people would be a blob like sturctur.

Where two bones meet is called a joint. Joint make the skeleton flexible-without them movement would be impossible. Muscles are also needed for movement. Muscles are madeup of tough, elastic tissue that pulls on bones in orderto make them move.

There are different types of joints such as:Fingers,Toes, Ball, Scket, Hip, Sholder, Pivot and Gliding

By Zoe



**Left:** Poster about the human skeleton by Zoe L (year 3)

**Right:** Pirate ship model by Harrison and Maisie B (class 1)

**Please keep your contributions coming! It's great to see them.**

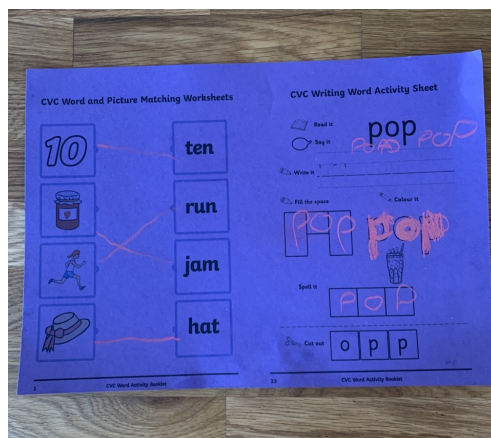


**Right:** Rosie-Mae (year 4) making a bookmark.

**Below:** Spelling work by Betsy (rear R)



**Left:** Louise (year 6) home-schooling in comfort!



# Shout-Outs!

## Nursery

Hi Windmill Nursery! We'd like to sing our message to you. (Tune: If you're happy and you know it)

*Hello everybody, how are you? (clap clap)*  
*Hello everybody, how are you? (clap clap)*  
*We miss you everyday but we're glad you're safe to play*  
*Hello everybody, how are you? (clap clap)*

Hope you're all well and we look forward to seeing you all again soon.  
Take care! Mrs Payne, Mrs Hardstaff, Mrs. Rockall, Mrs. Richards, Mrs Maxwell and Crow

## Reception

*We are missing our wonderful, bubbly reception children this week. We hope you are staying well and enjoying the sunshine. Keep helping out at home; remember there are so many learning opportunities in sorting the washing and laying the table for tea! Have you thought of some exciting Superhero stories yet? We would love to see some photos of the things that you have been up to.*

*Take care, with love from Miss Pocock, Mrs Murphy, Mrs Scarlett and Mrs Richards.*

## Year 1

Hi Class 1!

Thank you for all the lovely messages you and your parents have sent in over the week.

I have seen many of you trying new things such as gardening, learning about static electricity, cooking and sending your first emails. Your messages have given me ideas of things I can do at home too; such as Isabella's Pom-Pom pets and making an obstacle course like Bethan.

I am very proud of you all and hope that you keep challenging yourselves and having fun!

Mrs Worley, Mrs Swanborough and Miss Stratford miss you too and all send their love.

We can't wait to see you again soon.

Please keep in touch,  
Mrs Palmer

## Year 2

Hello Class 2!

I have had a such a lovely week reading your emails and receiving lots of fantastic work! I'm so proud that many of you have risen to the challenge of learning from home and have been so motivated in doing so. I can see from Bug Club that lots of you are going to be receiving Olympic reader awards soon!

Keep up the good work, Year 2!

Thank you

Miss Martin, Mrs Godfrey & Mrs Blyth



## Year 3

Dear Class 3,

I just wanted to say how super proud I am of you all. You have worked so hard this week and produced some lovely work. I have really enjoyed reading your stories and seeing all the different things you have been up to over the week. Don't forget to check our class blog on Purple Mash to see everybody's work and pictures they have uploaded.

Jamie is currently our multiplication champion, with a super score of 90% - I wonder who can beat him next week?

Keep smiling and working hard.

Miss you all.

Miss Moseley & Mrs Bird 😊

## Year 4

Dear Class 4,

We hope that you are all enjoying the great weather we have been having this week. The sunshine has made a strange situation feel a little bit better.

Thank you to all of you who have been sending emails and sharing your work. We have really enjoyed receiving it all and seeing your photos.

Don't forget to check out the menu of weekly activities too—there are lots of fun and creative tasks to do.

Keep up the great work and we look forward to hearing more of your news next week.

Hope to see you all soon,

Mr Thompson, Mrs Hipwell and Mr Spezialetti

## Year 5

*Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to the class blog with a range of work from inspirational art work from Maia and a fantastic story from Nicole. I have been very impressed with how hard everyone has been working on all the online activities as well as their own creative projects. Hannah has continued utilising her baking skills and Sophie baked some amazing aliens biscuits.*

*I am really looking forward to seeing how well you get on with designing and making your own moon buggy. Don't forget to send me any pictures or photos of activities you are doing at home so I can add them to our class blog. For ideas of work you can complete, don't forget to access the online menu which is available on the school website in the Class 5 and 6 page.*

*Keep the great work!*

*Miss van der Ploeg and Mrs Sheen*

## Year 6

Dear Class 6,

Could I please say well done to all of Year 6 for keeping in touch with each other on our Purple Mash blog. It has been great to see you all keeping each other smiling as well as sharing what you have been doing during your days. Special mention must go to all the pet photos, artwork, den building and much more amazing learning!

Mrs Carey, Mrs Wingrove & Mrs Hiley

**Take care and stay safe, everyone!**

**Look out for Newsletter Number 2 in a week's time**