Speenhamland Primary School

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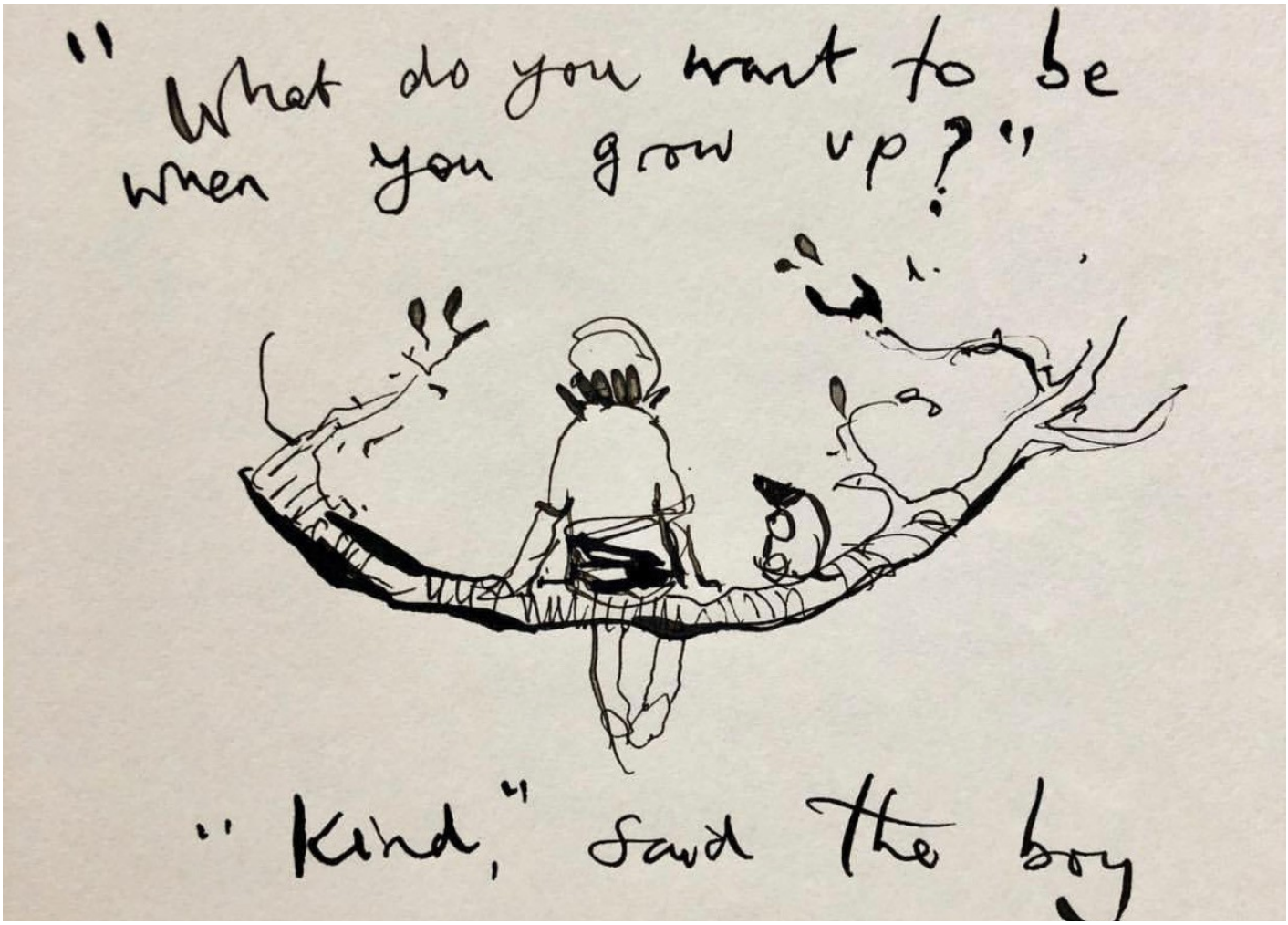
Newsletter 15 January 2021



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents

Thank you to every member of the Speenhamland community for your patience, support and contribution to this first full week of Remote Learning. I have been very impressed with the work we have had coming in from the pupils and their engagement in learning. The children who are in school have been working hard too.

For those families who are working at home, we do appreciate that many of you are juggling work and home learning. The Government has set much higher expectations in this lockdown than before. They are recommending that pupils receive the following amount of teaching/learning a day:

- **Key Stage 1**: 3 hours a day on average across the cohort, with less for younger children
- **Key Stage 2**: 4 hours a day

However, please do what you can, balancing all you need to do with your wellbeing and having quality family time. You do not have to get everything done in one day, and children shouldn't be working past the end of the usual school day timings. Teachers and TAs are here to support you and provide resources through DB Primary that make it easier for you to set your children off on work and help explain concepts. Please note that whilst we have put together a structure for the timetable day around our live lessons, we understand that in your own family you may have found, or be working to find, a routine that works best for your own circumstances and so you may wish to run the day in a different order to suit you e.g. doing PE/fitness at a time to suit the whole family.

In addition to this here is some additional advice in the box opposite that may help.

If you require any writing materials such as paper or exercise books to support the children's learning at home, there will be supply available from school on Mondays from 1pm. Please email off to organize this before turning up: office@speenhamland.newburyacademytrust

Helpful Tips for Home Learning

- Split the day into 2-3 hour slots and take turns so you can do your own work where possible
- This will be new for your entire household, so give it time to settle.
- Create and stick to a routine if you can. This is what children are used to. For example, eat breakfast at the same time and make sure they're dressed before starting the 'school' day – avoid staying in pyjamas!
- Involve your children in setting the timetable where possible. It's a great opportunity for them to manage their own time better and it'll give them ownership and let them know what is happening each week – weekly tasks will be on the home learning page on the website and on DB Primary each week to help you organise your week.
- Check in with your children and try to keep to the timetable, but be flexible. If a task/activity is going well or they want more time, let it extend where possible.
- If you have more than 1 child at home, consider combining their timetables. For example, they might exercise and do maths together – see what works for your household
- Designate a working space if possible, and at the end of the day have a clear cut-off to signal school time is over.
- Distinguish between weekdays and weekends, to separate school life and home life.

Live Learning Launch – IMPORTANT

Next week, from Monday 18th January, we are excited to be including live lessons each day. Your child will access these through Microsoft Teams. We have put together some guidance to help you do this, which is attached to this newsletter and can be found on the website in our home learning section. We will be sending out your child's username and password in the post today too with some other useful documents. If you don't get your child's username and password by Monday, please email the office: office@speenhamland.newburyacademytrust.org

We have scheduled these live lessons throughout the day for different Key Stages so that where families are sharing devices you can do so easily. If you are having problems with access to hardware, then contact Mrs Broad sbroad@speenhamland.newburyacademytrust.org. If you are having problems with access to Teams, please contact your child's class teacher.

Teachers will be recording the engagement/attendance of children, so please let us know if there are barriers to online access. **The live lesson timetable is on page 4 of this newsletter**

Our remote learning offer uses a variety of resources. Online video lessons do not necessarily need to be recorded by teaching staff at the school: Oak National Academy, White Rose, pre-recorded or voiced over Power Points for example, will be provided too and we hope that you find these helpful and useful.

We will be reviewing our provision weekly to ensure it is meeting the needs of the children, is challenging and exciting. Please be aware that occasionally live lessons may need to be changed if staff are absent or they have to cover for absence of staff who are in school. We will let you know if this happens.

Behaviour During Remote Lessons

To ensure children working from home are fully engaged in our remote learning programme during this lockdown period, it is important that children demonstrate the right approach to learning. We will be rewarding children as we normally do with Dragon's Eggs. These rewards will be awarded through DB Primary. We will use the 10 point awards on DB and these will match to our Dragon's Eggs certificates as follows:

- 300 points - Bronze certificate
- 550 points - Silver certificate
- 800 points - Gold certificate
- 1050 points Platinum certificate.

The Dragon Egg certificates will be posted out to the children. Each class teacher will also be nominating one child from their class for a Teacher Award (50 points). We will share these each week in the newsletter. This week's Teacher Awards are:

Class 1 Tommy-Jay Gregory
Class 2 Elizabeth Stingone
Class 3 Isabelle Sandel
Class 4 Leah Fairchild
Class 5 David Zancu
Class 6 Daisy Pollard
Class 7 Isabelle Rocha
Class 8 Maisie Almond
Class 9 Caleb Rees
Class 10 Ffion Pritchard
Class 11 Isabel Owen
Well done to all!

I hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Dr C Wilson—Executive Headteacher

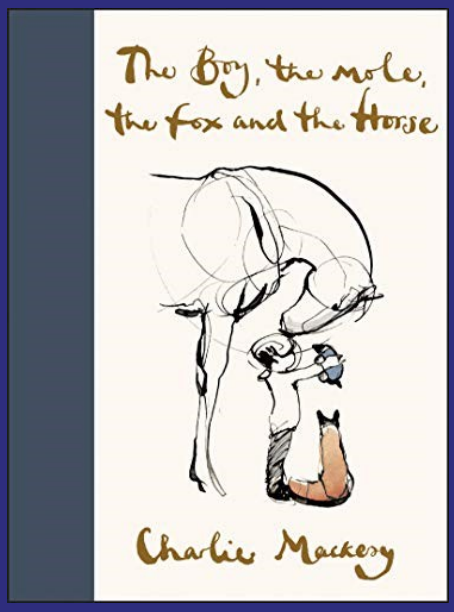
THEME OF THE WEEK

Dreams and Goals

We started this week sharing a story "The boy the mole the fox and the horse" by Charlie Mackesey. So many of you have told me that you love this book and the messages in it. In the books we hear the conversations between the characters, they share what they are frightened of and what they think and feel. I think it is really important to be able to do this with the people we love, our family and our friends. Sometimes we just feel better having talked something through or shared our thoughts and our dreams.

Headteacher Challenge

My challenge to you this week is for you to share your hopes, dreams and goals with me – perhaps you could draw a picture showing me what your hopes, dreams and goals are and then take a photograph and send it to me or you could let your teacher know next time you talk to them on DB Primary or in your live lesson.



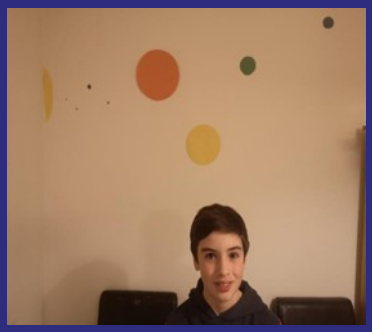
School Council Challenge

Our School Council has been busy thinking about the weekly activity that they are going to set for everyone. This week they would like for everyone to send an interesting fact to amaze their friends. For example:

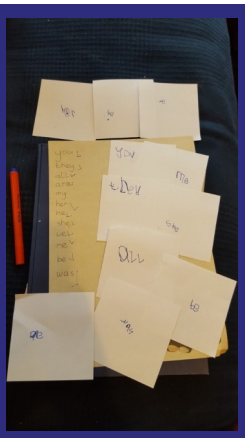
'The first escalator was for fun, rather than for practical purposes. It was installed at Coney Island in New York and ridden by 75000 people in its first 2 weeks.'

Your fun facts should be sent to kosmond@speenhamland.newburyacademytrust.org

PUPILS' AMAZING WORK



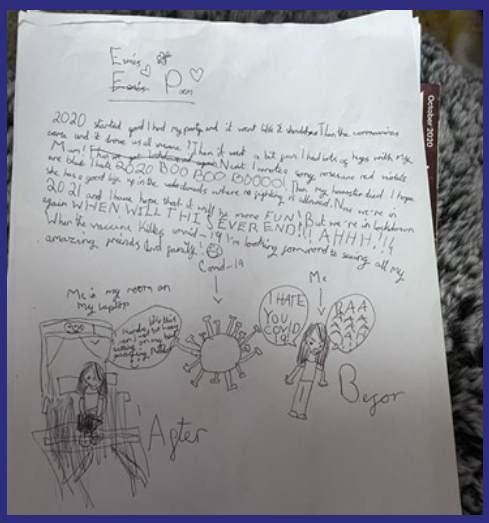
Amazing work from James creating a scales model of the solar system.



Alex's photo is of him learning phase 3 and 4 tricky words by going on a word hunt and checking off each word as he finds it.

William challenged himself to read Harry Potter.

Poppy's photo is of her model of the solar system she has made. Mum said via Tapestry she really enjoyed making it and is very proud of it.



PSHE Headteacher Challenge—New Beginnings

Thanks to Esme for her poem on New Beginnings.

Live Learning Timetable

Your child will have the following slots for live learning across the week. They should be logged into teams at this time.

Key Stage	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
EYFS	9.00	13.00	9.00	13.00	9.00	13.00	9.00	13.00	9.00	
KS1	9.30	14.30	9.30	14.30	9.30	14.30	9.30	14.30	9.30	
LKS2	10.00	13.30	10.00	14.00	10.30	14.00	10.00	14.00	10.00	
UKS2	10.30	14.00	10.30	13.30	10.00	13.30	10.30	13.30	10.30	

Helpful Tip

NSPCC

https://www.net-aware.org.uk/news/8-tips-for-keeping-your-kids-safe-online-during-lockdown/