



DUCKLINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr R. Leigh Chair of Governors: Mrs S Varnom

Friday 12th February 2021

Headteacher's Thoughts

As we reach the half term break, I want to start by saying Well done! You and your children are doing brilliantly managing the schoolwork, your work and family life. The government are still talking about schools possibly reopening from the 8th March, what this will look like we don't know, but I can assure you that we will be ready when we find out more information. Everyone in school wants the children back in as soon as possible. Hopefully we will have more information about this after half term.

Thank you to the teachers for their hard work and dedication balancing the teaching in school, working on Teams as well as their own families remote learning. I appreciate their commitment.

Just to confirm that as it is half term next week, there will be no work uploaded on to the Teams platform, this will resume on the 22nd February.

Over the last few weeks, I have been amazed at your efforts for the Headteacher Challenge, I have certainly enjoyed filming some of the videos, thank you for the comments about the last video particularly the fact that I was unable to count my own score! I was so impressed with the baking challenge – I hope you were able to see so many wonderful creations either in the assembly or on the video we uploaded to each class team account. I just wish I could sample each tasty treat – maybe another time.

The second of the class check-ins happened this week and it was good to hear that the children felt more settled with the organisation of the meeting, it can be very daunting having a meeting on Teams for the first time. I know I felt like that when I first used Teams. We tried this week to include something that the children could talk about in the meetings, please do not worry if your child has not completed the activity or discussion prior to the meeting – it is great just to see them and interact with their teacher.

A final reminder about Team posts, this section is to ask for help about the work that has been set – thank you for being patient and understanding that the teachers will not always be able to respond straight away for a variety of reasons such as teaching in class or travelling between school and home.

During the lockdown period as we cannot see everyone, I am sending birthday wishes each week. So, this week and half term, it is Happy Birthday to Laci, Jamie, Harry, Olivia, Alfie, Emily, Cerys, Edward, Maddison and Mr Campbell – I hope they all had/have a great day and were/are able to celebrate in some way.

As always, keep yourselves safe and well. If you do have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email the office and I will get back to you.

Mr. Leigh

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

Courage

An important value for our current challenge!

We can think about the importance of **standing up for what is right** against the odds, **sticking by one's convictions** and **not being swayed as well as strength of will**. We can also think about how we can encourage each other to do so too.

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go” Joshua 1:9

Staying positive

The [BBC](#) has produced some materials to help people stay positive through the lockdown.

You can find out more on their website, but the headlines are

1. Get moving
2. Stop over-thinking
3. Set a new target
4. Talk it over
5. Do it badly!

The material is helpful in encouraging us to be gentle with ourselves at this challenging time

Online Safety

Last Tuesday, it was Safer Internet day – as we are using the internet far more now with online learning, we have included a few useful websites for your information about keeping your children safe on the internet.

[Be Internet Legends | Parents Page](#)

[Education for a Connected World](#)

[Thinkuknow - home](#)

[Parents and Carers | Safer Internet Centre](#)

[Home - Safer Internet Day](#)