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## News from the Desk of the Deputy Head

As we near the end of another action packed week in school, it is hard to believe that we have completed the second week back since the summer break. Returning to school after any break is always challenging – earlier mornings, set break times and getting back into school and class routines but we have been so impressed with how well everyone is very much back into the swing of things and immersed in school life again. It is so lovely to hear the children talking and laughing with each other again and a particular highlight of my day at the moment is greeting and saying goodbye to everyone every day on the playground, armed with the lolly pop stick!

Walking around the school, there is a real sense of collaboration with the children's learning experiences – all the children are busy exploring the text Here We Are, Notes for Living on Planet Earth and it is allowing them to share their experiences, thoughts and feelings about recent events and the summer holidays and to really consider how we can continue to have a positive impact during our time on planet Earth!

Our new Reception children seem like they have always been a part of our school – the confidence and resilience that they have shown has been remarkable. This week they have been making their own colour monsters and creating colour monster jars, which they will use to help talk about how they are feeling. They have also been reading the book Elmer and are making 3D Elmer elephants, exploring and celebrating differences and understanding why we are all different. Year 1 are really enjoying working in their new classroom with Miss White and this week they have been using telescopes to find and read different words around the room. They have also been making rockets to travel to space and have been writing letters to aliens! What a busy week! Year 2 have also been exploring space this week and have had a go at making their own mnemonics to help them remember the order of the planets in the solar system. In English, they enjoyed listening to Louis Armstrong's 'What a Wonderful World' and alongside learning how to develop their writing further using adjectives, they composed their own class song. It was a real combined effort and we are all rather proud of the outcome! Year 3 were excited to share their PSHE with me this week - linked to the school text, they have been thinking of something kind to say about every person in the class so that by the end of the week each child and Mr Scarlett, Mr Gardner and Mrs Beesley, will have 32 kind comments each. What a lovely idea. Following on from acts of kindness, Year 4 have been reading the poem 'Hope' by Emily Dickenson where they have been learning about the use of metaphors in poetry. Mr Moss has then challenged the children to write their own metaphors for hope - a very tricky concept! On one of my visits to Year 5 this week, the children were very eager to share their new class text with me, Phoenix. This links perfectly with the school text Here We Are and they have made an eager start on creating their own comic strips explaining their own 'Notes for living on planet Earth.' Year 6, who have very much settled into the role of 'the oldest children in the school' have also made a start on their new class novel Kensuke's Kingdom and are starting to explore the life and times of Charles Darwin. In art, they are beginning to experiment with pencil to create their own texture sketches and they are bubbling with excitement about their upcoming Bell Boating adventure on the River! It is so lovely to see the breadth of curriculum that is being taught - the staff are using every opportunity to make learning inspiring, meaningful and fun and it's like we've never been away!

Have a very lovely weekend. Kindness is free – Sprinkle that stuff everywhere! Weekly Attendance by Class



## Reception 2021 Open Days

We are running socially distanced appointments for our prospective Reception 2021 parents during the week of 12th October 2020.

If you know anyone who is considering our school for their child next September, please let them know they can call the office on 01789293201 to book a visit.

## Values Tickets

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## ★ You may see your child bringing home a 'Values ★ Ticket'. ★

☆ If the children or adults see a child doing anything
☆ which deserves recognition - from an excellent piece of
☆ work to showing kindness to someone else to looking
☆ after their environment - they can write out a values
☆ ticket.

Every Friday morning they will talk about them in class and celebrate together, that child will be given the ticket to bring home.

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