

THE PAKEMAN PRESS



**Pakeman
Primary School**

Issue 4, Summer Term 2020

Monday 18th May

Thank you for taking the time to read this weekly newsletter. We hope you will find its contents useful.

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you are all keeping well and safe. There is much discussion in the news about relaxation of lockdown, including a possible return to school for some year groups. However, the timeline for a return to school is not certain, with discussions between government, unions, local authorities, schools and others still ongoing. We all want the lockdown to end, but this must be done responsibly. We therefore want to reassure parents/carers that we will inform them what is happening as soon as we know ourselves and that we will do everything we can to ensure that when the return to school happens, the safety of children, staff and the whole school community will be our priority. Please see Lynne's letter emailed to parents last Monday.

Excellence in Learning

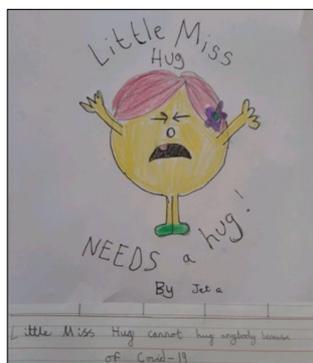
There is no doubt that we have all had to make adaptations to cope with the challenging circumstances presented by lockdown. Not least of these challenges has been continuing to provide high quality education for our children. Everyone has risen admirably to this challenge and within an extremely tight timeframe, an online learning platform was established for the children, using ClassDojo along with a learning hub at Montem for children of key workers and vulnerable children. As a result, all year groups have continued learning in all subject areas during lockdown, with teachers providing daily learning activities and feedback to the children.

We would like to say a huge thank you to staff and parents/carers who have worked in partnership to ensure the best possible outcomes for children during this time. Well done to the children who are enjoying and engaging well with learning online.

To celebrate the wonderful learning achievements of children in all year groups during lockdown, over the next few weeks, the newsletter and website will focus on excellence in different subject areas. This week, the focus is on Art (see p.2), with some wonderful work being produced by the children linked to different areas of the curriculum.

Years 3 and 4 original storybook writing and sharing

Children in Years 3 and 4 have been writing story books to share with the children in EYFS and KS1. Jet (Purple Class) wrote a fantastic story called 'Little Miss Hug Needs a Hug'. Children can continue writing and recording their stories and send them to their teachers.



Kindness

Aesop said, 'no act of kindness no matter how small is ever wasted' Based on these wise words, the children were asked to think of something kind they wanted to do and to share this through a photo, video or message. Here are two children's lovely responses.



Cassie (2+ Centre) and her Mummy found a moth during their daily walk, which they saved from getting squashed on the pavement. Together they investigated what it was, and found it was a Pandorus sphinx moth from North America that is not often seen in this country.

Tasneem in Blue Class showed beautifully through her drawing the importance of being kind to everyone, especially those who are sad or alone.



A note on well-being from the school's therapists – Rachael and Sophie

It's all about GRATITUDE this time – 'The more grateful I am, the more beauty I see.' Mary Davis

For children: Things could be a little better if we thought about what we are grateful for from time to time. Check out this [Gratitude Song](#) by The Juicebox Jukebox (under 4 minutes long)

For families: Gratitude Drawing Game Take it in turns to draw what you are grateful for and see if anyone can guess what you've drawn. Use a timer if you like. Once guessed (or the timer has run out) allow a little time for each player to explain what they are grateful for. You can play a few rounds of this feel good game.

For parents: If you would like to find why gratitude is the key to a joyful life have a read of [this excerpt](#) from 'The Gifts of Imperfection' by Brené Brown (research professor who has spent the past two decades studying courage, vulnerability, shame, and empathy).

We wish you well.

Word of the Week

Kindness

Definition: being friendly, generous and considerate

Use of the word kindness in a sentence: The kindness of people who are helping others during lockdown is amazing.

P4C QUESTION

What makes a successful species?

National Limerick Day

Last Tuesday was National Limerick Day. If you want to get into the spirit of this witty form of verse, here's a link to a fun history limericks quiz game on CBBC: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/quizzes/loathsome-limericks?collection=cbbc-top-picks-today>.

Engineering and Science Challenges

The James Dyson Foundation has produced a fantastic set of 44 engineering and science challenges for children aged 7 and over. They can be found at [https://www.jamesdysonfoundation.co.uk/content/dam/pdf/JDF_with%20cover%20challenge-cards DIGITAL.pdf?](https://www.jamesdysonfoundation.co.uk/content/dam/pdf/JDF_with%20cover%20challenge-cards%20DIGITAL.pdf)

Please note that adult supervision is recommended for all projects.

Sea Life London Aquarium Live Streams

Children of all ages will enjoy joining the London Aquarium online for an exciting series of live streams at:

<https://www.facebook.com/SEALIFELondonAquarium/posts/we-have-some-flipping-cool-live-streams-coming-your-way-swim-on-over-to-our-face/4124179604265137/>



EXCELLENCE IN ART (Please visit the news section of our website at: <https://www.pakemanprimary.co.uk/news/> to see more of the children's artwork)

EYFS: Last week EYFS's Topic Activity was to recreate Wassily Kandinsky's wonderful painting of concentric circles. You can see some of their work below.



YEARS 1/2: Years 1/2 studied Claude Monet's painting 'Waves Breaking (1881)'. The children wrote stories and reflections and also produced lovely recreations of this painting.



YEARS 3/4: Year 3/4's new Topic is Active Planet and they were asked to represent volcanoes in different ways. They produced some fantastic paintings, poems, songs, drawings, lego models and even one that erupted!



YEARS 5/6: In art Years 5/6 created some artwork based on fruit. They did some observational drawings of fruit at home, and then also looked at a cross section of a piece of fruit so that they could see their seeds.

