



Headteacher: Miss Georgina Scott

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish.



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Newsletter 21 – 26th February 2021

We understand how to lead physically and mentally healthy lives.

Headteacher's News

Good afternoon parents and carers,

Welcome back to term 4. We hope you have had a restful break and are feeling refreshed. With the announcements made at the beginning of the week, I am sure you are starting to notice the first signs of spring and hope in the weeks to come. As shared in my communication on Wednesday, we are looking forward to welcoming you all back and are currently preparing to reopen. Further communication will follow to update you.

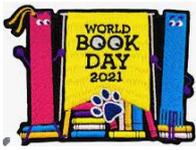
There will be two stars of the week next week to celebrate the end of our lockdown. I would like to take this time to thank you all once again for your continued support with your child's/children's home learning.

We also wanted to thank Ashley Sealy for the wonderful books supplied during our mental health week last term, the children and staff have benefited from this kind donation greatly!

Wishing you a wonderful weekend in sunshine (fingers crossed)

Keep smiling, keep shining!

Kind regards,
Georgina Scott



World Book Day celebrations 2021

World Book Day is 4th March this year. The first lockdown put a stop to our celebrations last year so we are doubling our efforts to mark it this year.

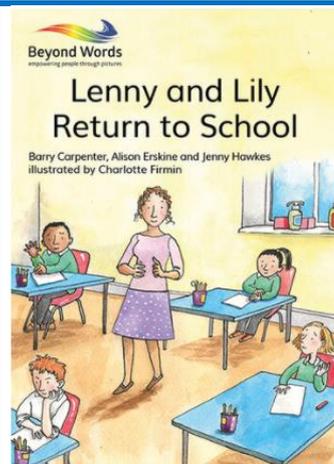
• **Virtual book fair 3rd - 5th March.** This event will be held virtually on Facebook in the form of a private Facebook group created and run by our Usborne Organiser. The more engagement this event has, the more quality texts the school will be entitled to add to our library.

- **In school.** We have decided not to go down the route of asking the children to dress up. Instead, we will be doing a school wide art project.
- **Whole school.** There will be two exciting **competitions** running. One is to creatively recreate a book cover. The other is to make a potato into a book character. Photographs of entries along with name and year group to be sent to Miss Inman (missoakcourtney@gmail.com). There will be £10 book voucher prizes for EYFS, KS1 LKS2 and UKS2 for the winners of both competitions.
- **Assembly.** There will be a full school assembly at 2pm on 5th March. We will share the entries for the competitions and announce the winners. The children in school will be putting something together to share. For those who are currently taking part in home learning, it would be great if you could bring your favourite book to the assembly to hold up. Your parents and carers can bring theirs too!
- **DATES FOR DIARY**
- 3rd March – 5th March – Virtual book fair
- 3rd March – competition cut off point
- 5th March 2pm – Assembly



School Meals are coming back....

As part of our preparations for getting everyone back in school, staff are busy preparing the kitchens and ordering food so that we will have hot meals available from Monday 8th March. Watch this space for a welcome celebratory meal more information about our delicious and nutritious meals....



Returning to School

To help support your child's return to school, our Educational Psychologist, Jude Williams has recommended this picture book. It is about two children and their different experiences of returning to school after being at home. It can be downloaded here for free <https://booksbeyondwords.co.uk/lenny-and-lily-childrens-stories>

You may also like to download and share Lenny and Lily in Lockdown to help your child reflect on their lockdown experience.

Anxiety Info

Our Play Therapist, Kelly Mogg, has now offered 2 training sessions to help parents to deal with child anxiety. Some of the parents attending the course have suggested that notes of the training be distributed to all parents in case they are of help. These are attached to the email.

Junior Bake Off

My name is Charis and I'm a Casting Researcher at Love Productions; the company behind The Great British Bake Off, The Great British Sewing Bee and The Great Pottery Throw Down.

We are delighted to say, that we have recently opened applications for the 7th series of **Junior Bake Off**; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.

We are looking for young budding bakers between **9 -15 years old**. Filming would take place from July 2021, but our **applications close on Sunday 28th March 2021**.



7 Top Tips to Support Key Stage 2 Children Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures—these tips are aimed at supporting children in Key Stage 2.

1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Why not set your child a reading challenge: How many different things can you read in a day?

2 Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to'. Why not take turns to read a page each of a longer novel? So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the fox on the front cover? Why do you think he's so sad?'

4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Think about how the characters behaved and interesting things that happened in the plot. You could encourage your child to keep a reading diary, describing the big idea of each chapter.

5 Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper (or chalk on a path) and draw around your child. Ask them to fill the outline with lots of information about the main character.

6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'you could use your slimepower to help me cook tea tonight.'

7 Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Give your child choices about what they read, being in control is great motivation! Encourage them to recommend books to family and friends. For example, 'you should read this book, Grandad, because you love funny stories.'

Follow the TRUST steps



Follow the TRUST steps and keep your child talking about reading

Education Endowment Foundation (2018)
Preparing for Literacy: Improving Communication, Language and Literacy in the Early Years. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
Available online: [eef.org.uk/publications/preparing-for-literacy](https://www.eef.org.uk/publications/preparing-for-literacy)

Education Endowment Foundation (2019).
Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
Available online: [eef.org.uk/publications/improving-literacy-in-secondary-schools](https://www.eef.org.uk/publications/improving-literacy-in-secondary-schools)

Broadmore, H.L., Vardy, E.J., Cunningham, A.J., Kwak, R.K.W., & Carroll, J.M. (2019).
Literacy Development: Evidence Review. Education Endowment Foundation: London.
Available online: [eef.org.uk/publications/literacy-development-evidence-review](https://www.eef.org.uk/publications/literacy-development-evidence-review)



Courtney Crown Trail #courtneycrowntrail 🏰

Thank you to all our volunteers who took part in displaying a Crown/letter in the *Courtney Crown Trail*. We hope everyone who completed the trails enjoyed getting out and about around parts of Kingswood they might not normally go to.

We are pleased to announce the winners, each receiving a chocolate selection box:

North trail – the Russell Family

West Trail – the McMillan Family

South trail – the Bamfield Family

Congratulations to you all! For those that completed the trail, you may wish to print and complete the Courtney Crown Trail Certificate.

Valentine's Virtual Balloon Race

Congratulations to Kitty Cat for being the furthest FOCP bought balloon, travelling 955.08km, in the Valentine's Virtual Balloon Race and winning this Valentine's Hamper:

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped FOCP raise over £75. Watch out for our next balloon race at Easter.

