

Key Worker

We are still finding it very difficult to safely cater for the number of children we have in school at the moment, given our own H&S guidelines and risk assessment. However we are trying. If you really need a Key Worker place and have tried absolutely every other avenue of support then you can ring or e-mail and we can check for spaces. Please bear in mind the advice from the DfE that **'Parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can'**. No-one can be certain how long this lockdown will last but half term is now only four weeks away so if you can keep going at home until then it would really help us.

Our Remote Learning (Reception varies slightly)

Our Teachers meet with the children every morning on Teams and go over the day's work. The children send their completed work to their teacher, the work is marked and then sent back to the children using Seesaw. If there are any corrections or misconceptions, we often ask the children to have another go and send it back to their teacher again. Most of the time this work involves specific links to lessons on Oak Academy. However, we are now trying certain live lessons, perhaps a spelling test or sharing a story involving both the home and school learners together. Where there are gaps in Oak Academy, some of our teachers are also recording their own lessons and sharing these with the children. We will only do this when it is useful and has a definite purpose, otherwise we will be sticking to the Oak Academy lessons. Please remember the children in school are doing the same lessons as the children at home and these lessons follow our existing curriculum plan that we would be following normally BC (before COVID).

Over the course of the week we will invite certain groups of children to join in additional Teams meetings if they need a little extra support with their work. We will also be organising different 'workshops', story sessions, magic shows and demonstrations on the website, Facebook and through Teams. I post lots of photos on our social media, please remember these are generally the lovely, happy, home learning photos. We know from experience that it is not always like this, there are days when things go well but there are also days when the children lack motivation and are less keen to complete their work. Keep at it!

Magic Show

Next week I am planning to perform two magic tricks LIVE on Teams at 2.00pm on Wednesday. I will also record the show and put it on FB. Welcome back to the Maison de Magique.

Guidelines for Teams Behaviour

1. Ensure children have an adult in the room with them.
2. Parents to be mindful about what is in the background if their child's camera is on.
3. Please put microphones on 'mute' until you are invited to speak. Pupils can 'raise their hand' to signal that they would like to speak by clicking on the icon.
4. If a pupil has experienced an incident where someone has been unkind or disrespectful to them they should immediately report it to their Teacher – ideally with a screenshot.
5. Pupils should inform an adult if they see anything online that makes them feel uncomfortable.
6. Pupils should not share or upload any content which is inappropriate or could upset pupils, staff and others.
7. Pupils should not share account passwords or use other pupils accounts.
8. Pupils should not delete or open other people's files or documents.
9. Pupils should only join the meetings to which they have been invited.
10. Pupils should wait in the 'lobby' five minutes before the meeting start time. Please don't be late joining.
11. If a lobby has not been set up, then pupils can chat but please be respectful and kind when you are waiting.
12. Pupils should concentrate like they would do in class during a meeting (getting up and down and wriggling in front of the camera can be very distracting).
13. Pupils should only use the channel and chat features as directed by their own Teacher.
14. Teaching staff will end the meeting with 'end meeting' rather than simply 'leave'. This will end the meeting for everyone.

Consequences: If it is clear a child has been unkind to another child or shared inappropriate content they will be given a warning and their parents will be contacted. If their behaviour continues then they will have their access restricted and potentially removed, with work being sent home by another means.

Laptop Thank You

We have had several very kind donations of laptops and tablets through the BBC 'Give a laptop' appeal. This is incredibly kind. Thank you.

Air Raid Update

Did you see the article in this week's Standard about our air raid shelter?

Public Speaking and Performance Poetry

Last week we had our first entry into the Public Speaking competition. All you have to do is pick a category, download the reading from the Gallery section on the school website, record yourself performing and send it back to me.

Year 2 and Under

Reading: Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak

Memory: The Gruffalo's Child by Julie Donaldson

Year 3 and 4

Reading: A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Memory: Down Behind the Dustbin by Michael Rosen

Year 5 and 6

Reading: Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz

Memory: Magic Box by Kit Wright

Snow

We had some great snow pictures at home and in school this week. Thank you for sending them in. Please remember we will stay open when it snows unless something 'breaks' in school or we are directed to close by LCC. The good thing about Lockdown means if we had to close we could now set the children some work to do in between their snow man making at home...

Eleven Plus

We have sent out the 11+ information to all our Year 5 children earlier this week. Please note that this year the tests will now be taken on Saturday morning, actually in the grammar schools themselves. Boys at Carre's and Girls at KSHS. The tests will take place over two days.

Saturday 11th September (Verbal)

Saturday 18th September (Non-verbal)

If you want your child to take the test then the easiest way of notifying the grammar schools is by completing their on-line registration form. You can follow the link on the front page of the schools' websites:

www.carres.uk

www.kshs.uk

Income Based Free School Meals

If you have ordered a food parcel then these can be picked up from school on Monday anytime after 12.00 noon. It is likely that the national voucher scheme will be in place for all our income based free school meal families the week after. We will let you know when it is up and running.

WW2 Gas Rattle

Mr Marriott saw our photos of an original WW2 gas rattle and made one for us all within the space of two days. Thank you.



Owl Story

On Wednesday, I read the 'Owl Babies' to our Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 children. We also had a go at making an owl figurine and an owl hooting noise. You can re-watch the 'magic' as many times as you like on our Facebook page.

Mrs Irwin's Virtual Classroom

Mrs Irwin has made a virtual classroom. If you visit the web page below you can click on the pictures and they will take you to all sorts of different literacy resources.

[http://twitdoc.com/view.asp?](http://twitdoc.com/view.asp?id=520457&sid=B5L5&ext=PDF&lcl=Mrs-Irwin-s-Literacy-Classroom.pdf&usr=WAlveyLiteracy)

[id=520457&sid=B5L5&ext=PDF&lcl=Mrs-Irwin-s-Literacy-Classroom.pdf&usr=WAlveyLiteracy](http://twitdoc.com/view.asp?id=520457&sid=B5L5&ext=PDF&lcl=Mrs-Irwin-s-Literacy-Classroom.pdf&usr=WAlveyLiteracy)

Monopoly

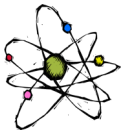
Mr Westerman has made a William Alvey Monopoly game. You can download a copy of the game from the gallery section on the school website.

Couch to Tokyo

Mr Westerman says keep logging the miles. On our journey to Tokyo we have now just about reached Poland. If you have any information photos or facts about Poland then please send them to me or Mr Westerman. Thank you.

Challenge

In my spare time I enjoy tracking. I dress up in my camo gear and then follow animal spoor. When it has snowed it makes it very easy to track an animal. Can you identify any footprints that you see in the snow? Sometimes for fun I make my own 'Yeti' or dinosaur prints. Why don't you have a go?



Science Spot

Big Garden Birdwatch 2021: This year's Big Garden Birdwatch is fast approaching (see last week's Science Spot) and in preparation for record participation, there are some things you need to do to make it the best bird watch ever. After registering and accessing the pack of all you'll need to gather and record your data, you will also need to familiarise yourself with some of the bird species you're most likely to see.

One of Britain's best-loved birds is the blackbird, but despite its name, identification is not as easy as you might think. Only male blackbirds are actually black; the females are brown, often with streaked or speckled chest feathers, and they lack the distinctive yellow beak and eye-circle of the male birds. So if you thought you'd spotted two different species in your garden, you'd be mistaken.

Then there are the sparrows. Brown birds are notoriously tricky to identify as there are lots of different ones, but if you know some of the key characteristics, the job of identifying them will be much easier. The most common sparrow in gardens is the house sparrow, but here again, male and female birds are different, just to confuse the novice ornithologist. Look at the photos below and familiarise yourself with the differences between males and females of these species.



The male blackbird on the right, has a bright yellow beak while the female on the left is brown with speckling on the feathers, especially on the chest.



Male and female house sparrows look very different: the female is on the left and the male is on the right.