

## Mablins Lane Community Primary School

### Newsletter ~ 21<sup>st</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents and Children,

I hope that you are all keeping safe and well. Who can believe that it is the last week of this half term? Next week is in the diary as the summer half term break, with a Bank holiday on Monday 25<sup>th</sup>. The weeks are certainly flying by!

#### Return to School

Over the last week I have been exceptionally busy scrutinizing the guidance from the DFE and government. I have worked with the senior leadership team at school to create a comprehensive action plan based on a thorough risk assessment.

The government is asking us to put plans in place for the possibility of a return to school on June 1<sup>st</sup> for EYFS, Y1 and Y6. Plans must be laid but a return will only happen if 5 key tests have been achieved which include a consistent reduction on the daily death toll and consistency in the R (reproduction rate) rate at less than 1.0.

Parents in EYFS, Y1 and Y6 have been asked to respond to a survey asking if they would be sending their children back to school. Once collated we will be able to organize the children into groups of less than 15 with allocated staff. These 'pods' will work independently to avoid cross contamination. By the end of the week I should have a clearer idea and will be able to inform parents of the arrangements for their child/ren coming back to school.

At the time of writing we have 74 positive responses shared fairly evenly across the 3 year groups. This would mean two pods per year group with 12/14 children in a pod.

Once established 'pods' will be reviewed on a weekly basis. Should any parent decide that they want their child to return to school they need to email me: [head@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk)

Children can then be allocated to a 'pod' to start on the Monday of the following week. Once returned children should attend every day unless they become ill.

#### **Please be mindful that:**

The only 'known fact' is that as it stands nothing has changed in terms of school for the present time. The school will only be open to the children of **key workers**

– those workers identified by the Government as key to keeping the country operational in this time of crisis. School will be open during next week (half term) for these children only and on the week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> June UNLESS we have a directive that allows us to open to the wider suggested year groups. (Please see below.)



#### **\*STOP PRESS\***

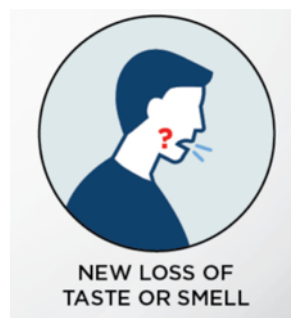
I have just received a letter from the Local Authority delaying the return to school **UNTIL AT LEAST 15<sup>th</sup> JUNE.**

I have passed the letter directly to parents. If you have not received a copy then please let me know.

The Local Authority are advocating that from 1<sup>st</sup> June schools will continue to be open for the children of key workers and vulnerable children. Schools should continue to assess the risks and plan for a safer opening later in the month. This will be a phased re-opening with EYFS returning potentially on 15<sup>th</sup> June, Year 1 on 22<sup>nd</sup> June and Y6 on 29<sup>th</sup> June. As soon as I have further details from the Local Authority I will pass them directly on to you.

#### **Covid Symptoms**

New medical evidence has been released this week indicating that two further symptoms of 'Covid 19' are loss of taste and loss of smell. We would ask parents to consider these factors along



with high temperature, fever and a persistent dry cough. Should any child or member of their family present with these symptoms **THEY SHOULD NOT COME TO SCHOOL UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.** Testing is now more widely available, including at Leighton hospital. A test should be sought immediately and the individual should self-isolate for 7 days with associated family members isolating for 14 days. The virus is more contagious during the early period before symptoms begin to manifest, hence the 14 isolation period.

If a child should attend school and begin to show symptoms a parent will be called immediately. The child will be isolated in our 'Silver Birch Room' near to the main entrance. On arrival at school parents will be asked to telephone the office and the child will then be

brought out to the car park. A test will be requested by school. Should this test be positive then pupils and staff who have been working in that 'pod' will be sent home to self-isolate for 14 days. The 'pod' will be subject to a 'deep clean'.

### **Home Learning – VLE REMINDER and STATISTICS**

Whilst the lockdown continues the teachers have continued to upload activities to the VLE on the school website. How to log on:

#### **VLE (Virtual Learning Environment) Pupil Home Access Login**

Go to our website: [www.mablinslaneschool.co.uk](http://www.mablinslaneschool.co.uk)

Click on "Pupil login"

Select – (choose your year group)

Enter your password – **year1\_vle** (Change year group accordingly)

There are so many great suggestions for activities to suit everybody.

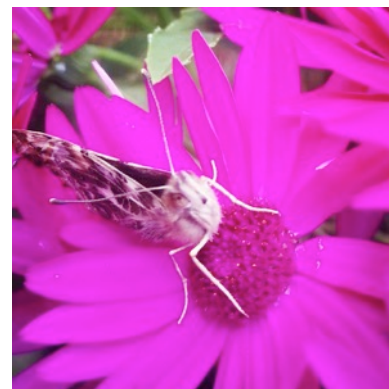
WELL DONE TO YEAR 1 – they are still smashing the VLE statistics, downloading lots of work and activities. You have all been very busy with Jack and the Beanstalk activities.

WELL DONE ALSO TO YEAR 2 – more of you have logged in this week to look at the daily menu. Well done!

Lots of you checked out the Christian Aid week Activity and I am looking forward to seeing all the posters.

Year 6 have been organising a 'Zoom' session to talk about transition and High School. Lots of you checked out the details on how to do this safely. Mrs Barwick and Mr Harrison have already held their meetings and said how lovely it was to see you all. Mrs Barwick said that everybody was so polite and responded in a very mature way. Many thanks to the parents who supported this activity too. Mr Poole will be holding his meeting early next week.

Thank you also to all the children who have sent in photos for the Forest School challenge 14, 'a photo of nature!' We have had some lovely photos, which we have tweeted and we will pick the winners, one for KS1 and one for KS2 on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. Winners will be announced in next week's newsletter.



Next week is half term so it's time to take things a little easier with more challenges and investigations. Remember to have a balance of activities over the day and over the week, and thanks to all our families for their continued support.

### **Free School Meals**

The Government promised to support those families where pupils are entitled to a 'free school meal' (FSM). The National voucher scheme was set-up in order to deliver this support. Vouchers are not available over the half term week, but we expect them to continue through June.

### **Children's Check in**

During this time, we want to reach out to you and offer our support as much as we can.

If you are feeling lonely, if someone is being unkind online, or if you would just like to check in with us, please get in touch.

Just like in school, you can reach out to talk to us by emailing: [mlcps@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:mlcps@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk)

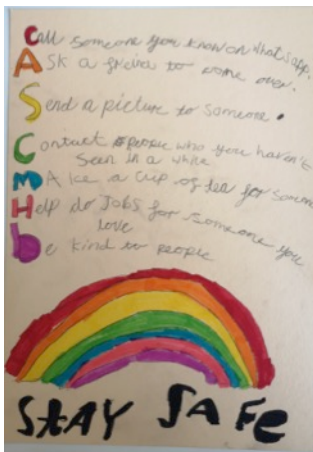
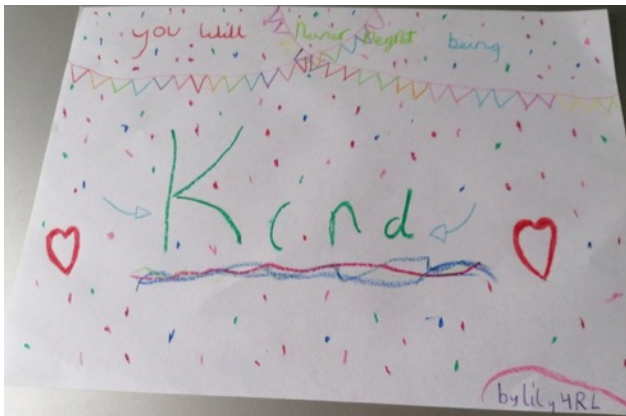
Likewise if you, or a member of your family, have been seriously impacted by Covid-19 then please let us know. We are here to help and can pass on the details of support networks if we are unable to help you ourselves. We don't know how many of our families have had a close contact with a Covid-19 sufferer or indeed a victim of this dreadful virus. Please let us know if you, or someone you know is in that category.





## Well Being Support – Mental Health Awareness Week

This week is 'Mental Health Week' and the theme for Cheshire East is 'KINDNESS'.



Mental Health Awareness Week will take place from 18-24 May 2020, and this year's theme is kindness.

Organised by the Mental Health Foundation, the week aims to raise awareness and to promote the message of good mental health for all.

The theme has been chosen because 'kindness' is the singular ability to unlock our shared humanity. Kindness strengthens relationships, develops community, and deepens solidarity, which we have seen during this difficult time of Coronavirus-19.

At this time it is important that we look after each other and kindness is an act that supports wellbeing.

Cheshire East Council provide up to date information about support for mental health during this time, please visit: -

<http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/mentalhealthinfopoint>

## Support for Carers

Support for unpaid carers. Are you currently caring for a family member, partner or friend who needs help?

Many unpaid carers may not see themselves as needing services and many may feel that they are simply carrying out ordinary responsibilities as part of a family, yet the key role they play will see increased pressures due to the impact of COVID 19, particularly if they become ill or need to self-isolate

Whatever your situation, if you're providing support to someone that isn't part of paid or voluntary work, Cheshire East Council can provide support to ensure that people of all ages recognise themselves as carers and get the help available to them.

Support will include:-

- Information and advice to help carers and support them in caring role
- Signposting to relevant teams and support services where further ongoing support is required
- The service also offers 'take a break' for any carer that needs to take some time out from their caring duties. We offer a maximum break up to 3 hrs and the break will be well planned and organised with yourselves

### How to get help?

The Carers Hub can be contacted directly via telephone and email. Once you have submitted your enquiry (please provide your name and telephone number) a member of the team will be in touch to see how we can help. We aim to get back to you within 48 hours but please bear with us as we work through a large number of enquiries

Telephone: 0300 303 0208 (calls charged at local rates)

Email: [enquiries@cheshireeastcarershubs.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cheshireeastcarershubs.co.uk)

*\*A carer is anyone, including children and adults who looks after a family member, partner or friend who needs help because of their illness, frailty, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction and cannot cope without their support. The care they give is unpaid.*



### Safety Online

This week's tips from safety net:

<http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/>

10 top tips if you're being bullied online

1. Tell an adult you trust if you are being cyberbullied
2. Don't respond or retaliate to bullying messages – it could make things worse
3. Block users who send you nasty messages
4. Save abusive emails or messages (or texts) you receive
5. Make a note of dates and times you receive bullying messages, as well as details you have of the user's ID and the URL.

6. Don't pass on any cyberbullying videos or messages – this is cyberbullying
7. If you are bullied repeatedly change your user ID, or profile, and use a name that doesn't give any information away about you
8. Visit [bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk) – this is a website where trained counsellors can support you if you are being bullied, either by chatting online or by calling their free helpline. You can also find some top tips on how to stay safe – <http://www.bullying.co.uk/>
9. You can talk to someone at Child Line or get online safety advice at: – <http://www.childline.org.uk/talk/Pages/Talk.aspx>
10. <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> is another very useful website for children and young people staying safe online

### Clapping for the Key Workers

Keep up the clapping and thank you so much to all our key worker parents.



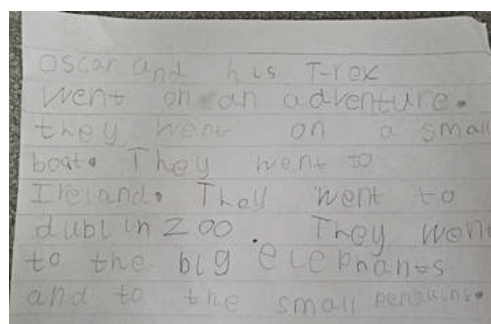
### Celebration of home learning work

Thank you so much for the work that has been shared again this week! It is so lovely to see this work and that our Mablins children are enjoying their home activities. If you would like to share your learning too, then log in to the VLE pages on the website or email:- [deputy@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:deputy@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk).

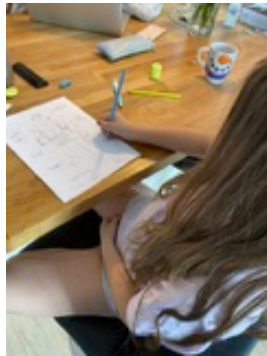
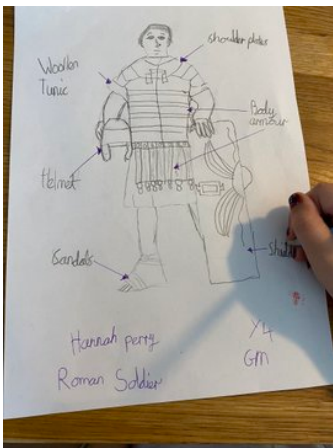
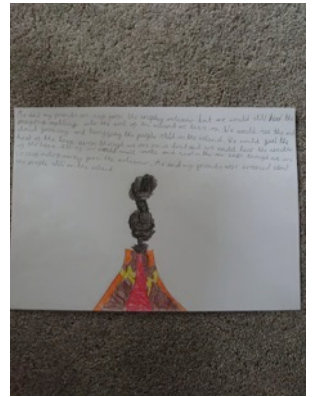
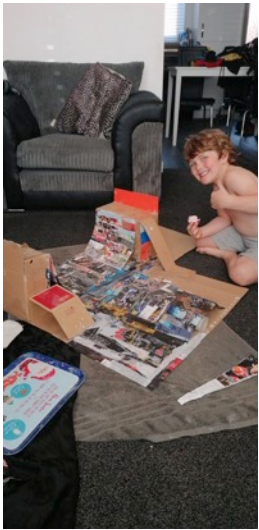
We try to tweet all the photos/work that is shared and here is a selection of the fabulous work that has been

shared this week! Thank you so much, it really does make our day so see so many children enjoying their learning at home!

A special '**shout out**' to Josh and Emily Mooney who have raised **£904.26** with their mum for Child Bereavement. The challenge was to walk 128,263 steps, which is apparently the equivalent of trekking to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro. Last week they received their virtual medal, which Josh and Emily are understandably very proud of! We are very proud of you too x







### **Blessings!**

We continue to be touched by the countless blessings posted on our



website. Please keep sending them in to:

[mlcps@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:mlcps@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk) with the subject 'Blessings' – no need to write a message. You could simply write; 'We made a kite and tried to fly it in the garden' and hit send!

### **Mrs. Joule's Challenge**

Last week's challenge

## ART CHALLENGE

1. Who painted a famous picture of sunflowers?  
**Vincent Van Gogh**
2. What Nationality was the artist? **Dutch**
3. Can you find any other famous paintings by that artist?

Can you paint or colour your own picture in the style of this artist and send them in?

New Challenge

## OUR COUNTRY

Great Britain is made up of 4 countries, can you: -

1. Name them?
2. Draw their flags?
3. Find their emblems?
4. Find out who their patron saints are?

### **School Place Allocation EYFS September 2020**



Many families have returned the first data collection sheet for children due to start in EYFS in September 2020. Thank you. If you have not yet returned the form then please can I ask that this is done as soon as possible?

We have now outlined a programme for our new starters and will be sending this out at the beginning of June with an information pack. We are creating a designated area on the website where all letters, forms and information will be found. This will be live from 1<sup>st</sup> June.

### **Priorities for coming weeks**

Our priorities over the next few weeks include:

- Finalising our plans and risk assessments for the potential return of some of our pupils.
- Monitoring and reviewing the arrangements we have made to care for the children of parents working in the critical services.
- Planning transition arrangements for our new EYFS pupils.
- Linking with all schools in the locality to establish arrangements for Y6 transition.
- Liaising with the DfE, Regional Schools' Commissioner, Cheshire East and local headteachers in terms of developing a safe plan for receiving more children back in to school

### **Stay Safe**

At the current time, we are still not certain when we will return as a whole school – in the meantime we will endeavour to carry on communicating with you and ensuring that you are well informed. Remember that Class Dojo is currently suspended and all communication should be via:

[head@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:head@mablinslane.cheshire.sch.uk) or  
[admin@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:admin@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

Take care, look after yourselves and remember, some of us are still in school if you need any support, help or advice.

Make sure that you do what feels right for you, be aware of your own feelings and be kind to yourself and others. Remembering that this is a temporary situation and that things will get better.

With Kind Regards

Justine Joule - Headteacher

