



Hawthorn Community Primary School



Weekly Newsletter 29/01/21



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STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES



Well we come to the end of another week and what a mixed week it has been. Starting with the whole school site being closed on Monday due to the snow, to the sun shining brightly at the end of the week. We loved seeing all your snowy pictures and were very pleased that so many families were able to have a little fun by making snowmen and playing with snowballs.

I would like to say a massive thank you to all families that are working so hard with the children on their remote learning. We are very impressed with the dedication and progress children are making in their learning. We have had a few technical issues this week with connections which has been frustrating for us as staff and I am sure for all of you that are accessing the learning at home. We are trying to sort out all of our connectivity issues as quickly as we can but please bear with us.



DOJO top tips

- A few of the pieces of work submitted can be a little tricky to see. If you have a darker pencil to use that would be beneficial to the teachers, so that they can clearly read the work and see the progress the children are making. Or please try to zoom into the work a little more to make it clearer on the photograph.
- Please send any important messages directly to the teachers rather than adding them to the portfolio posts as they can occasionally get missed on the portfolio posts.
- Staff are making comments on the work the children are making which will help the children to make further progress, please share these comments with your children and respond to any correction requests.
- We love seeing your work uploaded on Class Dojo but to save yourselves a little time we don't need to see photos of your child accessing the Power Points or Stream lessons, the finished work is enough.
- If possible, please try to submit photos of work as soon as it is completed rather than leaving it until early evening to ensure it is seen by the teacher on the day. We fully recognise this may not be possible for some of our working parents.

Children's Mental Health Week 2021 – Express yourself 1st-7th February 2021

We will be promoting Children's Mental Health Week this year. There will be lots of activities planned on the weekly timetables and we would like to acknowledge the week with two special events.

On Wednesday we want you to **wear something inside out**

On Friday we will be dressing in something **Jazzy**.

This is for children in school and at home. We would love to see your Jazzy and inside out outfits on your live sessions.



COVID updates

I am sure you have all heard on the news that schools will, sadly, not be fully opening until at least 8th March. This is not the news we wanted to hear as we would love to have our Hawthorn family back together again, however, with infection rates being as high as they are, we will do everything we can to support the NHS and try to limit the number of people contracting Coronavirus.

We have a high number of our families that are critical workers, these are families that are doing important roles in the response to Coronavirus and the EU transition, and we aim to support these families as much as we can. We are limiting the number of children in school to ease cross contamination from one family to another. By limiting the number of children in school we can ensure that the children can socially distance in school much more readily than in a normal classroom situation. This is why we ask critical worker families to only bring the children into school if they are unable to keep them at home, bigger numbers obviously makes it more difficult to socially distance.

To ensuring that the learning of those children who are unable to physically attend school at this time is not disadvantaged, we are delivering the same lessons to those in school as those at home. We ask that children who are attending school for only a few days a week, access the timetabled remote lessons on the days they are at home, as the lessons will follow on from each other.

Following the delivery of Lateral Flow testing kits from the Department for Education and in line with the government guidance, we have started to prepare for twice weekly self-testing for our staff.

All adults working within our school, will be offered the opportunity to take a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) at home twice a week. The testing regime aims to reduce transmission of COVID-19 by early identification of asymptomatic carriers of the virus. Testing is not compulsory and will not replace any of our robust protective measures that are already in place to keep our school safe. We are very proud of the fact that we have not had to close any of our bubbles to date. However, should a member of staff receive a positive result from the LFT test they, along with identified close contacts, will need to self-isolate following government guidelines. The member of staff will then need to arrange a PCR (full COVID test) for confirmation. This will mean that we may need to close any bubbles affected within the school and, if this is the case, we will contact you to let you know. Children within affected bubbles will need to be collected promptly and self-isolate following guidelines provided.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to keep our school community as safe as possible.

Mrs Billingham