

Last week's beautiful, sunny weather and further changes promised to Lockdown, which will perhaps help bring more of the old normality back, hopefully brought a smile to us all. One aspect of the Lockdown changes, dear to my heart, was the re-starting of the Premier League football matches. Many of the children will know that I am an avid Liverpool supporter (and am not very successful at hiding the fact) so last Wednesday's triumph for Liverpool at Crystal Palace, followed by the defeat of Manchester City at Chelsea has brought me great joy. The fact that Liverpool have now won the Premier League this season has certainly made me smile!

We begin the 15th week since Lockdown started, back in March, still with the threat of the virus very much out there. Whilst the reopening of so many services might make us start to feel that everything is returning to the "old normal" it is more important than ever that we follow government advice and "stay alert". When we were confined to our homes most of us were a long way from the sources of infection but now as we begin to move around more freely the risk of coming into contact with the deadly virus is much greater. If we are to avoid a big increase of infections and perhaps face a second lockdown it is essential that we follow all the advice and restrictions very carefully. In particular we must all still try to keep two metres apart, wash our hands regularly, avoid casually touching our face as we go about our daily lives and if we are asked to stay at home by the track and trace team we must do it. This is the only way to make the easing of "lockdown" a success for all our loved ones because the virus will not go away on its own.

Last week in school, continued to be a very busy one. The sense of peace and calmness, however, is still there, with the children, maintaining their 2 metres social distance, but having conversations with each other, outside in their bubble, catching up on the weeks they were apart. They invent different types of games to play which include all of their group, so no one is left out. We welcomed a few more children back into school during the week and it was good to see how quickly they became used to the different set-up and rules to follow.

It was great to have eight of our Year 5 students back in for three days last week. We look forward to seeing them again on Tuesday.

Year 5 parents.... A reminder to Year 5 parents who wish their children to take the Kent Test that you must register them through the Kent Gov UK website by 1st July. Thank you to the parents who have informed me that they have registered their child and I would like to hear from all Y5 parents once they have done this. I am aware from information I have that the exact date when the Kent Test will go ahead is still being discussed at local and national level I will update you with further information as soon as I have details confirmed.

I am very aware that I haven't paid much attention in this newsletter to a very important part of our school family Our Year 2,3, and 4 children who are not with us in school. I hope you are all still enjoying the Home Learning and contact you have with your teacher; you are not the forgotten children! To your parents I ask how many of you are considering turning to teaching as a new career!

For this week's poem I turned to Year 4 Key Workers' children. Today's poem was written by Chloe in Mercury.

Covid 19

Covid 19 is a terrible time for all. Over the country many lives have been lost,

Virus is spreading to us all:

Independent woman, smart man all caught up in this terrible time.

Danger has come but we must be strong and fight back.

One million lives are gone, nine hundred NHS workers are fighting to save lives.

Lockdown is here to save us.

Over the world people have to stay at home,

Cover up and throw away dirty gloves and masks.

Kids not in playgrounds, doors locked tight,

Open up your hearts and stay indoors.

With sadness for all of our losses, families, friends, loved ones kept from us.

Never has something this bad ever happened,

So we hope when it's over, the Sun will shine a little brighter.

I hope you have a happy week where you can find some joyful moments and where everyone stays healthy and safe. Our Worship theme this week is 'I am the water of life.'

I invite you to share the following prayer with your children.

Dear Father God,

**When I feel worried about what is happening in the world,
Blow my worries away like the wind blows leaves on an Autumn day.
When I feel sad about how this virus is making so many people sick,
Wash my tears away like a waterfall washes over rocks and makes them smooth.
When I feel scared that I might get this horrible virus,
Calm my fears like the dawn makes a dark night fade away and I feel safe again.
Thank you that you are with me and everyone I am worried about.
Thank you that you love me and will always be with me.
Amen.**