



IN TOUCH NEWSLETTER

5th February 2021

Well done everyone, and thank you for all your efforts over the last few weeks. We are really pleased, not just with the children's engagement, but also with the quality of the work they are producing as part of their home-learning. Thank you for returning Mr Taylor's questionnaire and for your positive feedback. We know it's not easy, so thank you to you all. There is some useful support for home-learning and keeping children safe as they work online here at the NSPCC website: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/>. We hope you find it useful.

THANK YOU 121 COMPUTING

We would like to offer our school's thanks to 121 Computing in Diss who have donated five reconditioned tower computers to children at our school learning from home.

We are delighted to have been able to provide our families with the laptops, chrome books and computers they need to access their remote learning. We are now in a position where every family, and—in most cases—every child in every family has the means to get on line and get learning. Brilliant.

Call: 01379 642 000



OXFORD OWL

All the children in school now have access to the ebooks on Oxford Owl. This is a fantastic resource that we will be using for individual home-readers and guided reading sessions. If you haven't already been informed, how to get online, details will be shared next week.

There are reading books for all reading levels, and some other great features too—such as a listen and read-along version. So, despite the lockdown, we can ensure our children still have access to high-quality reading resources.



MR TAYLOR'S DISTANCE CHALLENGE

Well done everyone for all the exercise you are doing. Since the distance challenge started two weeks ago, the children in our school have clocked up an impressive 1435km, which is the equivalent of walking to Venice! Remember to add your distances to the spreadsheets on Google Classroom each week.

ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADORS

Way back in September, we all took part in the Big Anti-Bullying Assembly and learnt about the role of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. There was a flood of interest and we have been on the waiting list for the training ever since. We are looking for children from across the school to volunteer to become our Ambassadors and to take part in the special remote learning on Thursday afternoon. If your child is interested, please email the school by Monday to let us know.



LEARNING CHARACTER OF THE WEEK:

THE MAGICAL UNICORN

The Magical Unicorn represents creativity. Creativity—the ability to imagine, play and let your ideas out—is a vital learning characteristic shared by all successful learners. Creativity requires risk-taking, being playful, thinking intuitively and imaginatively - it is the freedom to discover. The opposite pole of this dimension is being 'rule bound.' We encourage the children to 'let their ideas bubble out,' to take risks, investigate, explore, experiment and to try things out for themselves in their own way. This skill is vital across all subject areas—from finding ways to solve problems in maths, to performing on stage. So, the Unicorn is incredibly important.



SUFFOLK LIBRARY

Next week, we would like all our families to join either the Norfolk or Suffolk Library Service. Membership is free and entitles access to an incredible array of resources,

including the Britannical Children's Website which we would like to make greater use of. Joining can be done online here: <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/borrow/help/joining-the-library>

SOUND WALL

Please help the Early Years create a sound wall by sending in your noisy things. This can include: saucepans, buckets, ladles, wooden spoons, rolling pins, baskets, wash-boards, colanders, old drums or anything else that you think would make a *really good noise!*



NESSY

It's great to see how much the children are enjoying Nessy—our weekly reports show us how brilliantly they are doing and how many nuggets they are all earning. Nessy is proven to have an extraordinary impact on children's spelling ability if used regularly. However, whilst we urge you to encourage them to play, please don't be tempted to help your child with Nessy. The programme responds to how well the children do, and will provide work matched to each child's level and next steps. If we help, the work will quickly become too hard for the children to manage. If they are finding it too hard, the programme re-adjusts to provide work more closely matched to what they can do and what they need to do next. So, children, keep playing and keep earning those nuggets—just make sure you are working independently!



Our Value this term is : **JUSTICE**