

Weekly Word

13.11.2020



More Outdoor Learning (animal cafes), Remembrance Day in Y1, Science Experiments with bread

To all Parents/Carers,

This week has been busy for a number of reasons but it is very possible to pull out the positives despite the closing of bubbles and the subsequent disruption.

First and foremost, I must start with a huge well done to all the children who are currently at home due to their bubbles closing or self-isolation. There are many challenges to overcome with this type of situation, not least children being away from their friends and the loss of a normal routine going to school. All the teachers have said how resilient the children have been and how they have adapted really well to their current situation – including trying really hard with their remote learning. A special mention must go to Mrs Edge's class who had to go back home at 9am, ten minutes before coming into school – this can't have been easy.

This morning I was fortunate enough to attend Miss Herriman's meeting and watch some of the House captain videos the children have put together. I have to say, they were brilliant...and quite entertaining! Choosing the House Captains for Wright, Nightingale, Royce and Strutt is going to be tricky so congratulations and good luck to all those who entered. Results will be announced in the next few weeks.

In other news, it gives me great pleasure to announce that we have been awarded the 'Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools School Mental Health Award' at Silver standard.

I have mentioned it a number of times over the last 12-18 months but the process has now been completed and we are one of a few schools to achieve such a high grade. Thank you to everyone who has been involved and thank you also to Miss Hawley for leading us through it. Positive mental health and wellbeing is such a large part of what we do at Markeaton and it is nice to have these efforts recognised.

And finally, just four more quick things. Firstly, this week was Transform our World Week and there were a number of online seminars and activities the children could access. One child in particular, who has been incredibly active in the area of climate change for a number of years, is currently putting together an assembly for us all around sustainable farming. Her hero is Greta Thornberg and I have been reliably informed that the assembly is worth the wait! Secondly, the PTFA are currently trying to organise some Christmas related activities (all Covid safe) so watch this space or keep an eye on the Facebook page. Thirdly, we are now set up on the Co-op fundraising page, click on the link below to find out more and track our progress.

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/52106>

Before I go I would also like to announce the happy news that Mrs Grogan is pregnant. She has told the class today and we are delighted for her and her family.

Have a good weekend and see you Monday,

Mr I. Johnson