

# Weekly Word

23.10.2020



*More amazing outdoor learning!*

To all Parents/Carers,

And so ends the first half term of the new school year! I'm not sure if it has flown by or seemed longer than normal but it has definitely been unlike any other. I have said it before but thank you for how you and your families have adapted to the new 'norm'. Drop off and collection are super smooth now and all the other rules/protocols we have had to put in place have been responded positively to.

As you are aware, sadly we had to close the Y2 bubble this week following a positive test; meaning a period of self-isolation and the start of remote learning. Thus far, from what I can gather, this has gone well but all feedback is welcome. We know nothing can beat being in the classroom first hand but we do want our remote approach to work for your child and your own busy lives so do get in touch. We look forward to welcoming our Y2s back on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

In other news, our new PTFA have been working hard generating ideas and I said I would put the following message in the Weekly Word:

*'As mentioned last week the PTFA will be sharing more information with you on plans for Christmas activities after half term. One thing that is in the pipeline is an online Christmas market which will run instead of the Christmas shopping event. We would love to hear from any parents/carers/family members/friends or contacts who run a local or independent business and who might be interested in setting out their stall at the online market place.'*

*To register your interest or just to find out more contact [markeatonptfa@gmail.com](mailto:markeatonptfa@gmail.com).*

And three more things...firstly we are inviting all children, as a bit of a half term project, to design and create a Worry Box for their classroom. The winning entry will be used all year and they must: be no bigger than a shoe box, have a slot for pieces of paper to be posted, be able to be opened so we can read the worries or suggestions, be strong enough to be used all year and have a label somewhere 'Worry or Suggestion'. Good luck – the closing date is Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

Secondly, as previously mentioned, we are asking for all children to bring a pair of wellies to school after half term (we are hoping to start with it on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November). The field is getting muddier and muddier so to preserve school shoes, the classroom carpets and the sanity of the Cleaning Team we are going to give this idea a whirl. If you have any spare wellies at home gathering dust and you are happy to donate them then we will have some trollies out in the first week back from Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>. Lastly, Mrs Simon, one of our Teaching Assistants begins her maternity leave shortly after half term so I wanted to say on behalf of everyone at Markeaton, good luck with everything and we look forward to meeting your new arrival! Mrs Clayton, who is also expecting, is coming out of the classroom after half term (but will still be in school) and being replaced by Miss Fazal in Y4. She has met the children a couple of times now and written a letter to her new class – which is due to be sent out today.

Have a lovely half term and see you on the Tuesday.

Mr I. Johnson