



Dear Parents and Carers,

I want to say how proud I am of all the children for their hard work learning from home. It has been amazing looking at the work, videos and photos on Tapestry and Class Dojo. It certainly puts a smile on my face. A big thank you to all parents and carers for helping support the children in what I am sure has not been an easy time. Do remember to give yourselves time each day to spend with your child doing fun things that are not home learning.

Teachers have been trying to contact you regularly, so please do look out for calls. This is just to check all is well and provide some motivation for the children. It is always nice for them to be able to speak to the children as well.

We will be sending a letter out this week inviting your child to join a virtual class 'catch up' so that they can see their friends that they will be missing. This would be a lovely way for them to say hello or (if too shy) just give a wave to friends.

If you require new Reading books, exercise books, stationary etc, then please do speak to the teachers on Tapestry and Dojo and we can arrange this.

Thank you to everyone that donated ICT equipment. This has really helped us as a school.

With half term coming up, please do contact us if you have any questions or worries and we can look to support you.

Below is a summary of all the home learning that you have been doing. Reading it through, you can see how impressed all the teachers are. I would like to thank the staff for all their hard work supporting the children in school and in their home learning.

Reception Team.

At home the children have amazed us with their 'three little pig' story maps and speech bubbles. They have posted videos of the different rolls from P.E, even having a go at the teddy bear roll! They have identified the biggest and smallest numbers at great speed and ordered numbered pigs. The children (and their parents) have kept us up to date with all their special moments such as fun in the snow, special projects and lots of baking. We have been especially proud of the children's phonics; they have given every lesson their all!

Year 1 and 2 Team

We are immensely proud of all Key Stage One children and their families. The sheer amount of involvement, support and commitment has been inspirational in these challenging times. We have been overwhelmed with the quality of work submitted from home learners. Recently, we were impressed with the creative skills shown when creating their very own 'bog babies' which came in all sorts of media from being made from cake or even knitted. The children have been amazing in maths this term, we have been impressed with their position and directional language, learning and telling the time and the continued use of Numbots to consolidate their learning. Our topic this term is 'Inventors and Inventions,' which the children have created a wide range of innovative and interesting inventions which we have enjoyed reviewing. Throughout this term, there have been videos submitted showing a wide range of keep fit activities, from PE with Joe Wicks to dancing on Go-noodle. These have been a great way of showing us how the children and their families have been keeping active at home. We thoroughly enjoy seeing your work and the effort you have put into it daily. Please continue to upload your work as it is really encouraging to see your passion for learning is still strong.

Year 3 and 4 Team.

We are unbelievably proud of the children in Years 3 and 4 and their families who have been learning at home. They have shown amazing resilience and have taken their home learning to such a high level. We were incredibly impressed with the innovation they showed when creating their own story based on Quentin Blake's The Green Ship. We had stories like The Green Hot Air Balloon, The Green Spaceship and The Green Bus. The level of description in their stories was fantastic. In maths, we have been particularly impressed with their understanding of measurement. Both how to measure objects using a ruler and how to convert different units of length. They then used this converting of lengths to add and subtract lengths that use different units. Our topic work has been based around the Tudors. In art, we saw fantastic portraits of several of the different Tudor monarchs from Henry VIII to Elizabeth I. We were so impressed with the care taken when drawing the portraits to ensure that they were identifiable as a particular monarch. We have loved hearing about how you are staying active during this time. From walking, running and riding your bikes to completing Joe Wicks workouts and using home gym equipment to keep fit. Keep up the hard work learning from home. We are absolutely loving seeing everything that you have been posting on your portfolios and you have shown us that your learning is going from strength to strength.

Year 5 and 6 Team.

Years 5 and 6 have been working really over this term. The learning in the key workers bubbles has been the same as online. In English, the children spent some time reading Tuesday by David Weisner, and wrote several pieces linked to the books, before looking at Varmints by Helen Ward. Since then, we have been reading The Wreck of Zanzibar by Michael Morpurgo and have been writing in role as a range of different characters. In Maths, the children have been covering a range of topics, from shape and angles to statistics. It has been wonderful to see so many children engaged at home, submitting some wonderful pieces of work. The learning this term has gone beyond these two subjects: in science, we saw a bottle flipping challenge where the children investigated gravity and completing a fair test; in French, the children have been learning about French numbers, greetings and animals, and even created a piece of art linked to Matisse; and in Music and ICT, the children have been programming their own songs and beats using Scratch.

It has been brilliant to see the children at home and at school so engaged in their Topic work on the Ancient Maya, with children creating Maya homes out of recycled materials, and even temples created from clay or electronically. The children have also been working so hard on their reading, with two children reaching their 'Millionaire Reader' award this half term. Keep up the hard work everyone!

We want to reassure you that if you have any worries or problems that we are only a call or email away. We may not be able to directly help but can always listen. You can ring the school number (during school time) and should get through to someone or you can email through to

office@winhills.cambs.sch.uk.

The voucher scheme is in place for those entitled to Free School Meals. This does not include Universal Free School Meals (All Reception and KS1 children). Some parents in KS1 and Reception will still get these though as they are entitled to it.

Some parents may have one child that is getting it and another who is not. This will be because your circumstances may have changed.

If you are unsure and think you may be entitled, please look at the following website:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/help-with-school-learning-costs/free-school-meals>.

This gives you all the information so that you can see if you are eligible. If you are still unsure, you can always apply and see or email us for some more help.

Term Dates 2021

Friday 12th February 2021	Term Ends
Monday 15th – Friday 19th February 2021	Half Term
Monday 22nd February 2021	Spring Term Continues
Tuesday 16th March 2021	Parents Evening
Wednesday 17th March 2021	Parents Evening
Friday 28th March 2021	Reward day
Friday 28th March 2021	Term Ends
Monday 29th – Friday 9th April 2021	Half Term
Monday 12th April 2021	Staff Training Day
Tuesday 13th April 2021	Term Starts
Monday 3rd May 2021	May Day
Friday 28th May 2021	Term Ends
Monday 31st – 4th June 2021	Half Term
Monday 7th June 2021	Term starts
Thursday 22nd July 2021	Term Ends

Yours sincerely

J. W. Turner

Mr. John Turner

Head of School

On behalf of Winhills Primary Academy (part of TDLPT)