



Wookey Weekly News

Friday 8th January 2021



Here we are again!

I can't say that the government announcement this week came as a complete surprise, but we have been faced with having to put a lot of arrangements into place in very quick time after the latest lockdown was announced on Monday.

The staff of Wookey School have been amazing, as you would expect, in the way that they responded to the news. I must particularly thank Mrs Davies for her outstanding leadership of the team in my absence (for those of you not aware, I am currently isolating at home.) It's not just the staff though, the enforced changes in the lives of all our parents this week must have been incredibly hard to manage, and I thank you for the way that you have done so. I have said several times in the past 12 months that Wookey School is an incredible community, and I know that we will all support each other through the coming weeks, as we did during the first lockdown.

I have one request to all our parents who are now helping with home learning, if I may. As a staff group we have come to terms with the fact that the children might not cover the whole curriculum this year. With so much of the year being dominated by home learning we are not expecting the children to cover everything at home that they would at school. One thing we are determined to maintain our focus on during this period of home learning though, is pupil independence. This skill is something that we work hard to develop in the children at school and we need your help to maintain this whilst they are not with us in person. So, can I please ask that when you are supporting your children you try wherever possible to get them to complete tasks independently, or at least with as little guidance as you can. The teachers will be there if they need them, but the children have strategies for themselves to help them overcome "getting stuck" that don't just involve asking you for help. Please encourage those strategies first and foremost as continuing to develop them will have a huge impact on the children as learners, way beyond the current lockdown period. I accept that it isn't easy, but it is worth it.

Many thanks again for your support.

Celebration Assemblies

We will be holding a celebration assembly over Zoom on Monday 11th January at 9:15am. You will be able to get a link for the assembly from your Seesaw feed if you would like to join us. Can I please ask that everyone who joins ensures that their microphones are muted, although we are happy for you to have your cameras on. Many thanks.

Keeping Active

TLE Sports Coaching (the company that employs the coaches that work with our children in school) have a Youtube channel where they will be posting activities for the children throughout this lockdown period. Their channel can be found here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjaAA9QdY2hBLISXueBLxJA>

Live singing sessions for children at home

'Sing Up' will be running **live singing sessions** on Tuesday mornings with a *#FeelgoodFifteen* minutes of singing and musical fun to wake children up and get them ready for a day of learning. **Tune in next Tuesday at 9am** for the first of their weekly series of live sessions, run by a range of fabulous vocal leaders. Join them on Sing Up's [YouTube channel](#) where *#FeelgoodFifteen* will stream live for anyone to watch. If you miss the live session, don't worry. Each video will be saved so you can catch up afterwards. The children are used to using 'Sing Up' resources in class so they should enjoy this experience.

Birthday wishes

Happy birthday to Ed in Willow Class and Felicity in Oak Class, who are celebrating their birthdays this week. We hope you both have brilliant days!

Safeguarding is everybody's business.

If you are worried about a child or young person who could be in danger, please contact:

Children's Social Care on 0300 123 2224 or by email at childrens@somerset.gov.uk or the contact the police directly by dialling 101 and they will discuss with Children's Social Care.

In an emergency always contact the police by dialling 999.