

1st May 2020

Headteacher's News

We hope that you and your family are well. Yesterday it gave me great joy watching Captain Tom Moore, a beacon of hope, celebrating his 100th birthday with the nation and sharing his positive message, 'Tomorrow will be a good day.' I am proud that members of our school are doing their part in supporting our community. Well done to Alice M in Class 10, who has been *virtually* cycling to her grandparents house in Dorset, to raise money for the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank. See page 2 for more details. We would love to share other positive stories of what our children have been doing at home to support their family and community.

We are always grateful for your feedback to evaluate what we are doing so thank you to everyone who has fed back on the school vision and home learning. The surveys on home learning will close on Monday at 5pm, so please complete it if you haven't done so yet. The senior leadership team will evaluate the results and consider our next steps.

We appreciate that everyone is doing their best in challenging circumstances so please do not feel guilty if you cannot get all of the tasks completed or if you think it is not done as if it had been undertaken at school.

We are looking forward to returning to school but until then please stay safe and stay home to protect our NHS and our community.

Take care

Safeguarding

Citizen's Advice Bureau

The CAB have had to close their face to face services, but they are still available to help in a number of other ways. You can find more information [here](#) or in the separate attachment to this email.

Useful Support

YoungMinds has a mental health advice line available for parents which operates between 9:30am and 5pm from Monday to Friday. You can contact them on 0808 802 554.

Keeping Safe Online

Hertfordshire and Integrated Services for Learning have produced an information leaflet for Keeping Safe Online. Click the link below for lots of useful information.

[Online Safety Leaflet](#)

Celebration of Achievements

This week the teachers have been asked to choose their **'Home Learners of the Week'**.

Congratulations to:

Nursery AM: Eliza
PM: Albie

R1: Cora
R2: Emma

Class 1: George

Class 7: Alfie

Class 2: Emily

Class 8: Tristan

Class 3: Alexandra

Class 9: Sam and Jasper

Class 4: Dilys

Class 10: Lars

Class 5: Filip

Class 11: Fin

Class 6: Ralf

Class 12: Sienna

This week's home learners of the week were praised for focusing on beautiful handwriting even though learning from home, using exclamation marks and tricky words really effectively and going above and beyond to do extra research into the Ancient Greeks.

Well done to everyone for all of your hard work.

School Club News

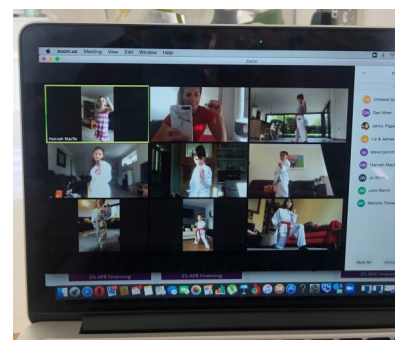
Karate Club

Pro-karate Academy hold a breakfast club at Northgate every Friday morning and they haven't given up on their training.

They continue their hard work via Zoom karate lessons at 8am every week. Students are working hard towards their new belts for when normal lessons resume. Keep up the great work everyone, we are so impressed with how brilliant you all are.

If you would like to get involved, Sensei Chelsea is running a brand new beginners

Zoom class every Monday morning at 9am. If anybody is interested in taking karate up when lessons are back at Northgate, and want to give it a little try before, please email: senseichelsea@yahoo.co.uk.



Pastoral/SEND

Wellbeing

Over the past few weeks we have all experienced extra pressures that affect how we think and feel. It's important to recognise that all of us need mental health and, just like our physical health, it's important to look after it.

Attached to this email are a series Family Support handouts which contains tips, activities and useful information to help you to keep yourself and your family emotionally healthy at home. These have been produced by the Hertfordshire Educational Psychology Team.

A list of possible mindfulness activities has also been created by the local DSPL3 team and can be found at the following link:

<http://dspl3.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Wellbeing-Mindfulness-Games.pdf>

Take care everyone and be kind to yourselves.

Community

Alice M in Class 10 has been virtually cycling to her grandparents house in Dorset during April, to raise money for the Bishop's Stortford Food Bank. She has cycled for a total of 206km on an exercise bike in the shed. Alice has shown a great sense of commitment to the challenge, cycling every day, and has raised over £1000 for the Food Bank. If you would like to help Alice with her fundraising, the link to her justgiving page can be found here: <https://justgiving.com/fundraising/alices-virtual-ride>



The Bishop's Stortford Food Bank are working around the clock to ensure local families and those in need are fed during this period of lockdown. If you would like to and are able to contribute, further information on how you can help can be found [here](#).

Home School Activities

Zoo Feeding Time

If you have access to Facebook then you may want to follow **Chester Zoo** who are holding Virtual Zoo Days live, including breakfast time with the otters and brunch with the lions. There's even an elephant pool party!!

#iSchoolation

Herts CC have produced a video clip of all the wonderful activities the children of Hertfordshire have been up to during lockdown which have been shared using the hashtag **#iSchoolation** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYt1yOhb1zc&feature=youtu.be>.

The lockdown has affected us in lots of different ways. For some however, being stuck at home has provided inspiration, finding ways to engage their children in learning outside of the traditional classroom. The social media campaign **#iSchoolation** is where people can share all the great examples of home learning that they've witnessed during the lockdown and take some inspiration from others in the same situation. Post your ideas using **#iSchoolation** and HCC's media team will share the best examples every Friday.

Affinity Water - Explore Water and Nature

Affinity Water's Education Team have created home learning activities around the topic "[Explore Water and Nature](#)". Why not try doing their 'slow the flow' or 'dripping tap' experiments, building a bug hotel, carrying out a home water audit, or making a weather station, a water clock, a bird's nest or camouflage caterpillars?

Thinkuknow Activity Packs

Thinkuknow, the online safety education programme from the National Crime Agency, have produced activity packs specific to different age groups. Click on the links below to download your home activity packs for each age range. Each pack contains two 15 minute activities to do with your child, using Thinkuknow resources.

[Age 4-5](#)

[Age 5-7](#)

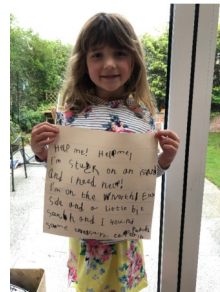
[Age 8-10](#)

Home-School Gallery - EYFS

Our Nursery and Reception children have been working hard at home too!

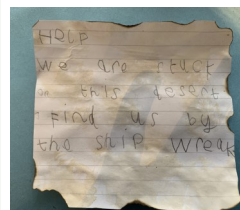
Reception

Our Reception Year have been creating worked linked to their theme this week - the book 'The Night Pirates'.



Cora from R1 with her Message in a Bottle, well done from Mrs Anderson for your lovely work.

Edward from R2 produced this beautifully detailed treasure map. Fantastic work!



Daisy from R2 has created a really authentic Message in a Bottle.

Well done to all of the Reception children for their hard work on this exciting topic.

Nursery

Our Nursery children have been working on their topic 'Change is different but it is good'. Mrs Bull was really impressed with the work she's received. Keep it up and well done to everyone in Nursery.

