



Monkfrith Newsletter

Spring 2020: 12

Home learning – general observations

Thank you for bearing with us while we iron out the kinks in the home learning system. This is huge undertaking and we are learning all the time about what works and what is not successful. I am sure that you all appreciate there is a balance to find about how much work to set, when to set it as well as recognising that devices have to be shared, children should not spend all day looking at a screen and lots of you will also have to be fitting in your own work at some point too!

Within the classroom environment it is easier for teachers to differentiate work to ensure all children can access it but also judge how confident the children are and what they need to practice. We are having our first online staff meeting tonight to talk about it and then a little later in the week you will receive an online survey to share any thoughts you may have. We will not be setting work over the Easter Holidays.

If you have any tips that you feel deserve a wider audience, please email me and I can include them in the next newsletter.

Certificates

When I have been looking at the work that children are sharing either on Tapestry or Google classroom, I have been really impressed by how well everyone is getting on. I really missed Friday celebration assembly this week, but I am pleased to be able to award the following 'virtual' certificates to children who have particularly impressed their teachers this week. I am working on a way to film assembly next Friday.

EYFS and KS1

In **Oak Class**, Miss Cooper would like to say well done to:

Lilly-Belle - For working hard on all the challenges set on Tapestry and creating an amazing leaf picture.

Jacob - For sharing lots of lovely home learning on Tapestry, both through the challenges set and other independent activities.



In **Willow Class**, Ms Czuprynska is particularly proud of:

Tino - For a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards challenges set on Tapestry and for an amazing shape hunt around the house!

Isaiah-Mikhail - For always being enthusiastic towards learning and working hard on all the challenges set on Tapestry.

In **1C**, Mrs Choudhury wants to celebrate:

Valentina - For a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards all of your home learning activities this week- You have been very busy with English, Art and keeping active amongst lots of other things.

Naomi - You have approached every task this week with a huge smile on your face. I enjoyed reading your leaflet about The Shard and following your directions from there to London Zoo.

In **1K**, Mrs Kotwani has noticed:

Barbara - For an amazing and engaging first week of home learning, sharing her experiences with photos and videos. Well done Barbara and family!

Ross - For writing amazing sentences with the 'kn' digraph using adjectives and being very enthusiastic in his first week of home learning.



In **2D**, Ms Donaghy is especially pleased with:

Christiana - for producing some excellent writing and attending to advice with real immediacy. Thank you for being so diligent when completing all tasks set.

Joseph - for working really hard and learning new skills to complete his work. I was particularly impressed with his inserting pictures to a Tally chart, but also the content of his Vampire Bat report

In **2K**, Miss Kontos wants to recognise:

Kai - for drawing a creative picture of your view from your bedroom window showing detail and perspective. I am so impressed with your artistic skills.

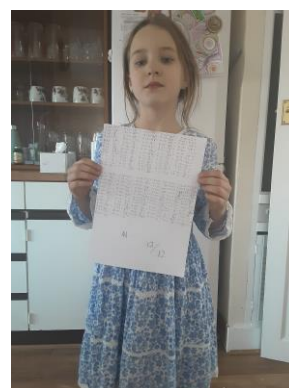
Lily-May - for writing an informative animal report about a toucan using topic specific vocabulary. Presentation was beautiful also!

KS2

In **3B**, Miss Bowman has chosen:

Genethlios – You wrote an incredible story this week, it made me extremely proud to read your excellent writing. I really felt like I was travelling down the river with you.

Alicja - You have adapted to working at home so well and nothing has changed, you still complete your work on time and with great determination. Each day I have admired your motivation to keep on working and your enthusiasm to learn more.



In **3P**, Miss Pierides wants to congratulate:

Reece - for completing all the online assignments and making a great effort to add images to show me.

Parker - for working extremely hard to complete all the online assignments and also sharing the exciting experiments he is doing with his family.

In **4B**, Mr Batchelor is particularly pleased with:

Yusuf - For showing dedication in Maths, completing all Khan Academy tasks independently and watching all the assigned videos to achieve this.

Demetrios - For getting fully involved in the tasks for Guided Reading this week, including sketching the characters and dressing up in role to explore his ideas!

In **4P**, Mr Powell has selected:

Lexie - For producing some lovely art work to accompany your writing this week.

Maxim - For really engaging with your maths this week and completing all the tasks!

In **5D**, Ms Davies has chosen:

Simran - You created such an impressive newspaper report this week, really showing off how technical skills as well as your English skills. Well done.

Nicole - You've found out that a sad and yellow plant that was grown in the dark, can quickly become green and happy when given light. Thanks for sharing that with the class with a cute diagram.

In **5F**, Mr Filby wants to celebrate:

Irmak - For engaging really well with all the challenges set on Google Classroom. What a great role model!

Oscar - For his well thought through comments about greenhouses and light absorption when looking at photos of our class beans.

In **6**, Mrs Ditchburn would like to congratulate:

Reve for being so enthusiastic with signing up to our virtual classroom this week and really helpful when your classmates were trying to sign on. Thank you.

We would also like to recognise two children who have been in school this week and also done really well: **Alfie** - (3P) for being extremely patient and focused when sewing for the first time.

Daania (5D). This week, you have been consistent in your efforts with home learning (Mrs Ditchburn really liked your dinosaur drawing) and all other activities we have done in school, including a super dream catcher. Well done.



Things that have made me smile

I was delighted to open my emails (most of which have been pretty grim!) and find this delightful rainbow picture from Annabel in Oak. Thank you Annabel!

Then this morning I found a cheerful message from Louis in Year 5, who shared some of the things he and Sophie had been up to over the last week. The baking looks amazing! What a great life skill to be learning during this time.



If you would like to share some of the

things you are doing at home with me, just email the Office.

The Governing Body

Last week we had our first online Governing Body meeting via Zoom. We ratified our budget for the next financial year and talked about the current situation. We have decided to have one of these virtual meetings every few weeks



Book of the Week #20 books for 2020

I did not receive a book review for this week's newsletter but one of the consequences of what is happening is that I have more time to read. This weekend I have re-read a book that I read with a guided reading group many years ago.



Miss Deasey reads...The War of Jenkins' Ear by Michael Morpurgo

This book is set in a boys' boarding school and is aimed at children in Upper Key Stage 2. The main character – Jenkins (or Jinks) is intrigued by a new boy – Christopher – who joins the school. Christopher is not like any other boy he has met before and has some usual beliefs. The book is a good start for big discussions about the way school has changed, differences in class and religion.

Spring Competition

I have had so many lovely entries for the Spring Competition. The deadline is today but I am going to extend it for a few more days. You will find out the winners after the Easter Holiday.

Additional Home Learning Ideas

I will put in some suggestions each week of some additional ideas that I am being (constantly!) sent from various agencies and bodies. Feel free to pick and choose the ones that you think you would like to get involved in and ignore the ones that you don't! I will also be linking to some ideas from our Twitter account @monkfrithschool.



As you may remember each half term different year groups takes part in the Barnet School Sports Partnership Virtual Challenge (and until recent events overtook the situation, we were doing really well). They have now created a challenge to be done at home:

Each week we will upload a challenge via our social media channels. The concept is students/teachers/parents can practice the challenge as many times as they like before either uploading a video of themselves doing the challenge or tweeting their results. The aim is for individuals to achieve their personal best score, but can they also beat the BPSS team members score?!

We'd like all our Barnet schools and students to get involved with this, so please can you share via your schools social media channels

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/BarnetSport

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BarnetSport>

Instagram @barnetsport

Mental Health - Kooth.com - online support for young people

We would like to remind you of the availability of our online service to support the wellbeing and resilience of your students.

Kooth is a web based confidential support service available to young people. Kooth provides a safe and secure means of accessing mental health and wellbeing support designed specifically for young people.

Kooth offers young people the opportunity to have a text-based conversation with a qualified counsellor. Counsellors are available from 12noon to 10pm on weekdays and 6pm to 10 pm at weekends, every day of the year on a drop-in basis. Young people can access regular booked online counselling sessions as needed. Outside counselling hours' young people can message our team and get support by the next day.

When students register with **Kooth** they will have support available to them now and in the future. Support can be gained not only through counselling but articles, forums and discussion boards. All content is age appropriate, clinically approved and fully moderated.

To find out more visit www.Kooth.com where young people can register and others can find out more about the service.

You can also view a short video about the service at: <https://vimeo.com/318731977/a9f32c87de>

Kooth Video Links

<https://vimeo.com/318713056/3b5ea08a52>

Videos for students:

Kooth Overview: <https://vimeo.com/318731977/a9f32c87de>

Kooth Magazine: <https://vimeo.com/318713156/5d247a02f9>

Kooth Discussion Boards: <https://vimeo.com/318713209/2e97e8b26f>

Kooth Goals: <https://vimeo.com/318713298/430fdcafcf>

Kooth Journal: <https://vimeo.com/318713381/d8ef865eea>

Kooth Messaging: <https://vimeo.com/318713436/7cd88e796e>

Kooth Chat: <https://vimeo.com/318713482/ffc121ba18-->

Emergency Childcare for Key Workers

If you are currently using a key worker place, please can you let me know what days you need so that I can ensure I have the correct number of staff in.

Over the Easter holidays we are still working out what provision will be available – although this will **only be for children of critical workers**. It will only cover the hours of the school day (with no breakfast and after school club) and will not include the Bank Holidays.

If you have any queries your child can ask their teacher through their google classroom (Years 1 to 6), you can email the Office where Evie or I will respond or you can call the Office number and chat to me.

Jude Deasey