



Small School Big Ideas

NABURN C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
Naburn, York
YO19 4PP
Tel: 01904 551075
Fax: 01904 633287
E-mail: naburn.primary@york.gov.uk
www.naburnschool.com
Twitter: @naburn_primary

Headteacher: Mrs B Christison



11th January 2021

A Nut Free School

Dear Parents,

Well, what a week! Thank you so much to you all for the many messages of support and kindness that we received last week as we tried to adapt very quickly to last minute changes from the government. Here are a few of your messages:

"We just want to thank you and all the teachers and support staff for the speedy and effective response to the lockdown."

"Please know that you are all amazing."

"Thank you for this week. The zoom calls each morning really help. It gives the children their focus for the day and it's good for the children to see each other."

This week sees more guidance and more frightening news about the rising cases of Covid in York and nationally. A letter will be coming out from CYC later today, but in the meantime can I please urge you to **stay at home, avoid mixing with other people and stay safe.**

This week also sees an opportunity for us to begin to take a look at our home learning offer and adapt it as needed. I am meeting with my staff on Wednesday so any feedback before then would be much appreciated. We have obviously sought to improve and develop from our provision in March and are offering workbooks now, more Zoom sessions and hopefully easier ways for children (and you) to contact teachers if there is an issue. It is hard for us to gain a sense of whether you feel that we are giving too much work or too little and we are very mindful of the need to take time out and to exercise and that many of you are once again juggling your own work and care of younger children too in the midst of school work. Please email or telephone school if you have any feedback for us and we will add your comments to our staff discussions this week.

Celebrations

It was lovely to see so many of you at our Zoom Celebration Worship on Friday. We will do this every week as it is a great opportunity to celebrate the work that has been achieved and a good way to finish the week off, creating a cut off point for the weekend to begin. As last week, I will stay on Zoom at the end in case any of you wish to speak with me about how the week has gone or if you have any queries.

Last week, the awards went to:

- Larry (in Rowan) for his contributions for maths on zoom
- Felix (in Willow) for entering wholeheartedly into home learning and even baking a cake to link in with a French lesson!
- Zachary (in Oak) for his enthusiasm and hard work

Last week the Headteacher's award went to Barney, for keeping everyone's spirits up at a time when we are thinking of health and wellbeing and particularly for cheering me up on the



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day I was taking down my Christmas decorations. I always find that day very sad and he reminded me that it had to be done and that I could move on from the sadness once the job was completed. A message for us all at the moment, perhaps, as we deal with uncertainty and sadness.

Picture News

Story: During the Coronavirus pandemic the armed forces have been asked to help with testing, supporting lorry drivers at Dover and in many other ways.

Question: How do soldiers help us in times of need?

Virtual Assembly: Found on the Picture News website, just add /discuss

If you visit our school website, you will find ideas on how to discuss this issue at home this week.



Advent Window Trail

A huge well done to all those families who created a window display for the advent trail. It was such fun to walk around (even in torrential rain!) and really showed what a creative village we are! An amazing £129 was raised so thank you to all who donated too and to Susie Raimes and Anne Clark for all they did to make it possible. A huge thank you to The Blacksmiths Arms for much needed refreshments!

Internet Safety

We have been asked to pass the following message on from North Yorkshire Police. They are holding an event about online safety for adults and children. See below:

Ask the Experts Tuesday 9th February 2021 7pm-9pm

Tuesday 9th February 2021 is national and international 'Safer Internet Day'. With more people working from home and children now having their school lessons online, the need to use the internet more safely and securely has never been greater. North Yorkshire Police are hosting another of the popular 'Ask the Experts' evening to support Safer Internet Day. This online event will consist of a number of presentations from officers from our Cyber Crime Unit and Online Abuse & Safeguarding Unit. Richard De Vere from the Anti-Social Engineer will give an insight into the tricks scammers use to manipulate their victims. As usual there will be the opportunity to ask questions of our panel of experts.

This event will be conducted using Microsoft Teams and persons registering for the event will be emailed a link prior to the date. You do not need to have Microsoft Teams installed on your computer to participate, just a good internet link. To register for the event please click on the below link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/internet-safety-day-ask-the-experts-north-yorkshire-police-tickets-135979661829>

Educational Psychology Support

The Educational Psychology team at CYC are offering a weekly helpline to parents who would like a chat in this difficult time. Please see the attached flier and do use this service if you have concerns about your child's wellbeing or learning. I also have booklets with ideas in to support health and wellbeing at home so please contact school if you would like one.

Many thanks,

Mrs Christison, Headteacher

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