



Newsletter

24th April 2020

Dear Parents

If I could come round and give you all a medal I would.

Parents, you have been amazing at energetically engaging with our new remote learning platform Seesaw and you have got the summer term off to the best possible start which seemed to me a month ago to be an impossible achievement. Well done everyone and on behalf of the whole team, a heartfelt thank you. We know it hasn't been easy.

There is a phrase that I have picked up this week from some of your Seesaw responses and I myself used it on Monday. That phrase is : "I wish you could have seen his/her face when....". You used it when your child's morning greeting from their teacher began or when, on the second morning the class was praised for their hard work and for making their teacher proud. You used it when your child proudly completed their work or challenge and you got to see the face that we usually see bursting with pride when a concept is suddenly understood or when a page of lovely work is completed. And you used it when your child heard a personalised recorded response to that challenge or when you read aloud the teacher's comments after the work was marked or when you shared a sticker or star awarded for effort.

I used it on Monday morning at a 'spread out around the hall' teachers' meeting as we prepared to go live on Wednesday with Seesaw and Evidence Me following weeks of hard work. You had been sent some orienteering tasks which your children had completed with evident delight. As we were completing our training, allowing us to get the best out of the magical box of tricks that Seesaw contains, we clicked on the responses to those initial challenges and suddenly up on the board came a much needed reminder of why we were all doing this with such care and attention to detail. Your children's faces started to appear, some in the form of a photo and some video extracts responding to the orientation challenge and quite literally filling the Hall with warmth and light. The teacher's faces which had been seriously absorbing the training, changed within seconds to wonder and delight. Smiles (and tears) of joy were accompanied by 'Oh look, isn't that gorgeous' as all the teachers drank in the very essence of what had been missing: the children.

We have been part of a digital world for years and thank goodness for that, but what has been clearly evident this week is that just learning with some of the best websites available is not enough. It is the human interaction that is the essential ingredient for successful education. Teachers go into this profession because they have a talent and passion for **teaching**, not providing work sheets. They have missed your children more than I can express here and they have worked hard to construct and provide these personalised days of learning at the same time as feeling a tremendous frustration that they can't deliver them in person with all the magic that happens in a classroom.

I have tried to capture some of the wonderful work that is being completed and celebrated with a montage which would traditionally form page 2 of a newsletter and hope you enjoy these highlights from Seesaw. On page 3 you would usually enjoy news from our youngest pupils and again we hope you enjoy this montage of delights taken from Evidence Me. Next week we will hopefully be back to a more conventional newsletter form with the results of Merit Assembly and even a Philosopher of the Week! For now can I please reiterate my thanks to you all and my congratulations to you for making this first week back as successful as possible. Fortunately the weather is on our side and may I wish you all a sunny and restful weekend break before we do it all over again next week!

Annie Thackray, Headteacher

Highlights from Seesaw from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Good morning Saturn Class!

Good morning !!!



Take a photo of your journey bracelet here.

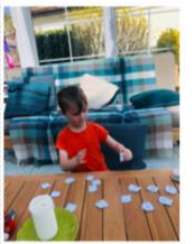


Autumn chose to use mint leaves, bluebell flowers & leaves, and flowers from trees and in the garden

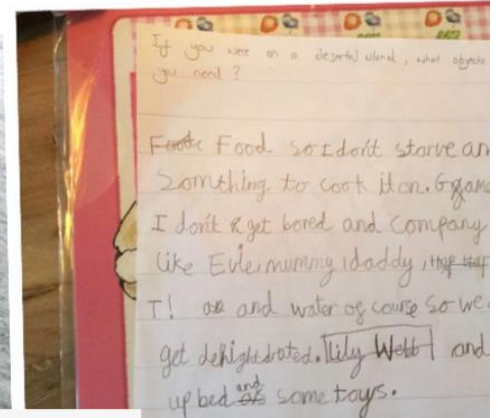


Numbers Memory Match

	0	1
2	3	4
6	7	8
10	un	deux
quatre	cinq	six
sept	neuf	dix
		zéro



If I was on a deserted island I would need...



Austin! You are a super star writer! Well done, this is marvellous!



In response to: Reception French 23.04.20



zie Russell

zie Russell MEDINA!!!! I've missed you! It's so lovely to see your face ...and your little sister photo bombing your video! 😊 I was busy planning lessons at the weekend ...but I also enjoyed the sunshine. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw Joshua on my way to the shops. We had a chat with one another from across the road. Was so nice to see a member of Venus class. I hope all your family is keeping well. Take care x

Comment



Highlights from Nursery and Pre-Reception from Evidence Me

