Hello to you all,

We hope that you are well and staying safe if you are at home. We are missing you all and hope that we can be back together soon.

We have been amazed to see how much work you are doing on Google classroom and we have loved seeing you in the live meets, we look forward to seeing you in the next one.

Stay safe everyone.

Friday Inspiration

America has a new president. President Joe Biden took office on Wednesday. At the inauguration (special ceremony that marks the transition from one president to another) a amazing young poet named **Amanda Gorman** read a poem she wrote for the occasion. At 22 she's the youngest person in history to read a poem at the inauguration of a president.

She's our inspiration this week - she shows how working on a talent, nurturing it, practising it, can lead to things one could not have ever dreamed of. To listen to her perform her poem click here:
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-55738564

School Updates

HANDS **FACE** **SPACE**

Unless you are medically exempt you must wear a facemask when onsite, or inside the building.

Please make sure you are following the government guidance about mixing bubbles out of school. A household may have one other household as a support bubble. Only two households may be in a bubble.

Visiting inside a friends house, having a hairdresser round - these are not permitted under the current lockdown rules.

We are taking extra precautions in school to keep all the children and staff safe, please do the same so that we limit the risk to children and our staff.

Remember, if we have a positive case, the bubble will have to close for 10 days, this could have a significant impact on some families. So please follow the rules and keep us all safe.

Forest School and PE.

Children are now having these lessons in school on the same day. Therefore they should come to school dressed for the morning lesson and bring their afternoon clothes with them to change into later in the day.

Google Classroom - Hints and Tips

If you are having any difficulty accessing the Google Classroom, please let us know. We will be posting handy hints and tips to help you make sure that it is running smoothly.

We are frequently told that children can't use Google Meet on Tablet/ipad

Here is the solution:

1. download the google meet app
2. use google chrome as a browser

If you are finding that your internet data amount is not enough to access the learning content, then contact your internet provider as there are a number of schemes to support parents with this, alternatively, let us know and we will see how we can support you to access more data.

Google Classroom can be accessed:

1. On a laptop/chromebook
2. On an Ipad
3. On a smartphone
4. On your playstation
5. On your xbox
6. On your nintendo switch

If you have none of these available please let us know.

Home Learning

If you have any suggestions about how we could improve your child's experience of home learning, please let us know. This is new for everyone and we want to make it as accessible to everyone as possible. Use the form on our website or speak to the staff member who calls you each week.

Support…if school can't help...

KENT TOGETHER - A HELPLINE LAUNCHED BY KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
A 24 hour access number has been set up to support vulnerable people in Kent who need urgent help, supplies or medication on 03000 41 92 92.

www.kent.gov.uk

The helpline – called Kent Together - provides a single, convenient point of contact for anyone in the county who is in urgent need of help during the Coronavirus outbreak.

It is a collaboration between KCC, central Government, District, Borough and local councils, the voluntary and community sector, the NHS, emergency services and other partners to ensure help is at hand for vulnerable people. It is also the place to report your concerns about the welfare of someone else.

Support… if school can't help…

Ashford Borough Council
01233 331111
www.ashford.gov.uk

Citizens Advice
01233 626185
www.ashfordadvice.org

Domestic Abuse One Stop Shop
The Willow Centre, Brookfield Road, Ashford Kent,
07919 291 527
www.victimschoice.org.uk

Young Minds
0808 802 5544 (Monday to Friday 9.30am – 4pm,
free for mobiles and landlines)
www.youngminds.org.uk

The Samaritans of Ashford and Tenterden
 0330 094 5717
www.samaritans.org

Live Well Kent Services
0800 567 7699
www.livewellkent.org.uk

Kent Children & Young People's Mental Health Service
0800 011 3474
www.nelft.nhs.uk
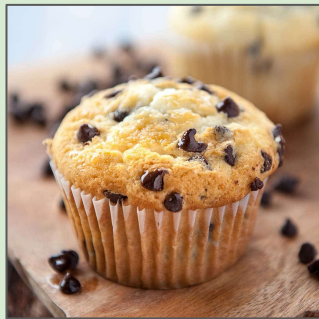
Porchlight
0800 567 7699
www.porchlight.org.uk

Things to do on the weekend….

Build a den and read your favourite story in there.

Make a cake… what's your favourite?

Build a model. What materials could you use?

Coming up next week:

- Celebration assemblies - stars of the week are celebrated
- Google Meets for classes to meet together virtually
- WINNERS of the #ForestSchoolRules competition announced
- Awards for most engaged home learners since the start of term announced.