

# Long Whatton C of E Primary School

Newsletter 08.02.21



As we approach half term I would like to thank you all for your support. Thank you for continuing to support your children with their home-schooling. I do hope that the live lessons have helped to support you as parents with the vast home-schooling task but has also helped to engage your children with their learning. This engagement is vital for us when your children return to school and prevents further gaps from growing in their own learning and between their class peers. The teaching staff have embraced the technology and the live lessons and are so enjoying seeing the children every day.

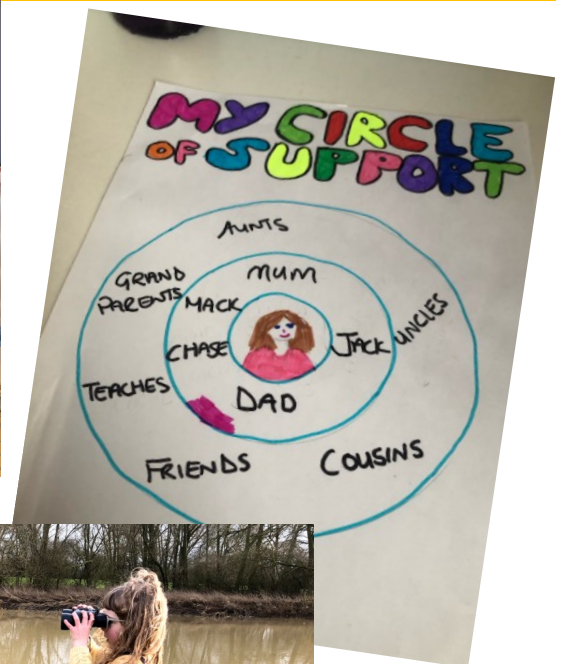
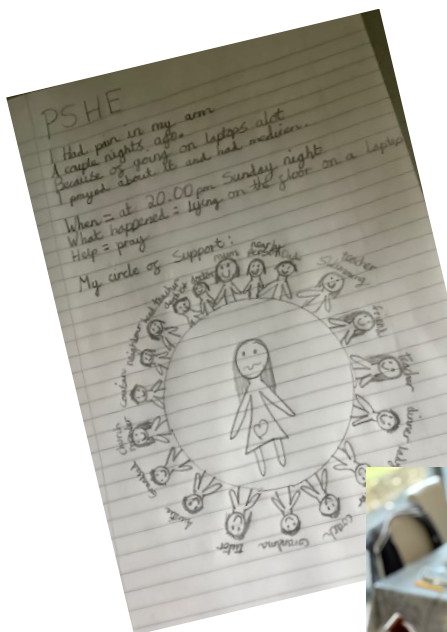
I must say I do look forward to watching the lessons and can't believe how our children, even the youngest, are manipulating the mouse and putting themselves on and off mute throughout the lessons to share their ideas with each other!



Thank you for engaging with Children's Mental Health week. The week was so important especially due to lockdown for children to understand mental health and how to 'express themselves'.

Thank you for engaging in the assemblies each morning and for completing wellbeing activities planned by our teacher's. It was so lovely to see so many of the wonderful things the children did away from the computer screens, which I'm sure was great for their wellbeing.!

Here is just a sample of some of the activities our children completed.



A big thank you again to our PTA who helped to mark the end of our Children's Mental Health week by organising a 'Covid Hero' bear for all of our children. They have been very well received by the children and they absolutely deserve them for the strength and resilience they have shown throughout another lockdown.



Thank you for encouraging your children to join us for the TT Rock stars competition of staff versus children on Friday. It is with great sadness that I announce the children won this time.



Don't worry the staff are ready to play again soon, beat the children and take back the victory!

To complete this week on Friday we would like to offer the children an opportunity to join on Google Meet to just have a catch up with each other before we break up for half term.



There will be no live Maths or English lessons on Friday 12th February so that the children can have a wellbeing catch up and because our staff are planning a French Day.

The wellbeing catch up times are:

**Busy Bees: 11.00 am**

**Shooting Stars: 10.00am**

**Flying Falcons: 11.30am**

**Phoenix Tribe: 10.30am**



On Friday 12th February, staff will be preparing a day emerged in France.

Please join us on the Google Classroom for a range of French activities.

Oh La La!



Last week we focused on Children's Mental Health and this week I would also like to promote positive staff wellbeing too.

I am so proud of how our staff have gone above and beyond throughout the pandemic, providing key worker care, jumping to Google Classroom with little notice and providing live lessons. They currently do live lessons alongside looking after key worker children at the same time with very few breaks in between.

Staff are understandably restricted in school from any mixing with each other due to closed bubbles and even despite this they always show up full of enthusiasm and determined to do the best for the children every day.

I would like to show the staff how much we appreciate everything that they do. I have created a display board in the corridor from the entrance and have begun to add the wonderful, kind words that you have emailed in for our staff already. These kind words mean so much and have such a positive impact on their wellbeing. My aim this week is to try to fill the board up with these emails so that as the staff pass the board they can be boosted.

Please may I ask that you email into the office anything positive you would like to share about our staff this week that I can add to the board. Please don't feel that you have to but if you would like please do as I know it will make such a difference to their day.

Thank you!

Have a lovely half term, enjoy your walks and family time. We hope to see you all soon in person. Best wishes

Mrs Gray and the Long Whatton Team