Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School and Nursery

Newsletter: 29th January, 2021

You will have heard in the news earlier this week that schools will not be reopening after half term. The earliest date that schools are likely to open now is March 8th. We can do this. Our thanks go out to all the critical workers keeping our essential services running and to you for doing such a fantastic job keeping and educating your children at home. We really do appreciate how hard this can be. If you need some reassurance read the link here:

Parenting through Covid
Restrictions – Sarah
Ockwell-Smith

We know how challenging it can be for both children and adults at this time. Here is a link to a lovely story resource that may help in explaining the ongoing situation with your children: Covid-19 Safety Update Here is a link to a free resource explaining Covid to younger children:



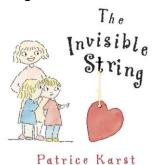
<u>Covid-19 with covers by</u> Clare Shaw

We have also added some helpful Mental Health resources that we hope may be useful if the need arises.

If we can be of any further help with the learning or signposting to further family support, do please get in touch and we help in any way we can.

We were really pleased to see so many of you joining us for our weekly **Celebration Assembly** - if you were unable to join live, you can watch the recording here: <u>Celebration Assembly</u> (2021-01-29 at 02:00 GMT-8)

Mrs Gore-Rowe read some of the book 'The Invisible Web by Patrice Karst. You might like to look at her other book: The Invisible String.



Illustrated by Geoff Stevenson

Holocaust Memorial Day

was earlier this week and we will be discussing this in an assembly and with Year 6 next week.

The theme this year is 'Shining a light in the Darkness'. We will be exploring different ways we can shine a light for ourselves and each other, both in memorial and in feeling connected as a community.

We continue to experiment and develop our home learning provision and the features of google classroom. This week, the staff are experimenting with using **Mote** which allows them to record feedback and messages verbally to children. Look for this symbol to listen to voice notes >>

In response to feedback we have received, we are providing additional challenges and work for children to do. We also know that while google meets are great, these can be difficult if you are juggling one device between 3 children. Let us know if you are struggling. I hope you are all enjoying the reading Bingo Challenge.

How many challenges have you completed already?

Some of the learning packs have been collected for children to use at home and the rest will have collection slots next week. We hope that these will help you with home learning and give you some resources to support you and your children at home.

The snow provided an additional challenge for those of us in school this week. Mr Morris is currently unwell and Mrs Wheaton was out with the

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wheelbarrow and spade spreading the salt whilst we had to unthaw the main gate with boiling water to enable the children to get into school in the morning! However, we all had fun and something to talk about for the rest of the week. It was great to see the photographs of your snowmen on the Google Classrooms, some were smaller/bigger than others!

Wednesday 10th February would have been the 100th day of school. To celebrate and to have some fun, we would like you to find out as much as you can about the number 100 and to create collections of 100 things e.g. 100 pennies, 100 leaves, 100 ways to say hello in different languages, 100 cereal hoops, baked beans etc! 100 places you could travel to that are 100 miles from

Fenstanton/Hilton. Be as imaginative and creative as you can be. We will be setting you some additional challenges on the day or perhaps you could create some challenges of your own you could share. Please take a photograph of your collection/s and we will share them for 100 day. Happy 100 hunting.

Later this term, the older children will be making their own 100 bead strings.

It's the 'Big Garden Bird Watch' this weekend!
It would be great if you could join the Big Garden Bird Watch from 29th – 31st January. It's a great thing to do for each of us individually but also for us as a school.

Do share your photos and diaries about what you see with us on the Google Classrooms and we'll share as many as we can in our next home learning round up.

Here is a link to the latest episode of Winterwatch:

<u>BBC iPlayer - Winterwatch - Series 9: Episode 5</u>



The BBC have shared the following announcement: Gather up, Winterwatchers! Learn some key skills to help you get outdoors and find out more about the birds in your environment! Pupils will get a chance to pose questions to our Winterwatch experts in a live Q&A, and learn about how their birdwatching can help contribute to the preservation of bird species in the UK.

Here's the link to join: <u>The</u> Big Schools Winterwatch **Live Lesson**

Happy Winter-watching!