



Tudhoe Colliery Primary School

School Newsletter March 2021



A HUGE welcome back!!

We are delighted to be welcoming all of our children back to school! We can't wait to see all of their smiling faces and hear the buzz of 213 children in school again.

A HUGE well done!!

We were so impressed with the work children have completed at home and at school since January. We know how difficult it has been to stay motivated and focused, but the effort the children put into their work was amazing and we are so so proud of them.

A HUGE thank you!!

Thank you for supporting your children with their remote learning and in school learning during this strange period. We know how frustrating it may have been at times, but you've done a brilliant job.

COVID TESTS FOR PARENTS

You may already be aware that the government have announced that families of school age children (primary and secondary) can get access to twice a week lateral flow testing. This is entirely optional. **Test kits should not be used to test primary age children, just adults in their household.** The aim of lateral flow testing is to pick up asymptomatic Covid cases. If you have symptoms, you will still need to book a PCR test in the usual way.

Lateral flow tests should be taken twice a week, at least 3 days apart and all results will need reporting through the NHS website. More details will be given in your packs.

You can find your closest collection point for lateral flow tests at:

<https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

Or you can request them to be posted to you at:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Please note—Lateral flow testing for families is not organised by school; we are purely sharing the information. We do not need to know the results of your tests, however please be aware that if someone in your household tests positive on a lateral flow test, the whole household will be required to self-isolate.

Relationships Education

As you may already be aware, The Department for Education has brought in changes to Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). These changes come into effect this academic year and all schools are required to follow these requirements.

We have fully reviewed our RSE curriculum and policy so we can be sure our provision meets the Government criteria and we are really excited about it! RSE is built into our PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education) and includes topics such as online safety, drug education, personal safety, bullying, mental health awareness and changes during puberty, as well as looking at self identity, friendships and families. We believe these topics are hugely beneficial for the children.

We will also be teaching sex education within Year 5 and Year 6. Our full PSHCE curriculum is available to view on our school website, along with our Relationships Education Policy. While Relationships Education is statutory, the Sex Education elements of our PSHCE curriculum are not, meaning that parents can opt to withdraw their child from these lessons. Details of this are given within our policy.

We encourage all parents to read the policy and planning documents and send us any comments or questions by Thursday 25th March. We will be starting to teach all aspects of our Relationships Education, including Sex Education, during the summer term.

Term	Topic	Pupils learn	Reading Themes	Literature Links
Autumn 1	What is the world like about?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> what they think and are good at how they think and are good at how they think and are good at how they think and are good at 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same?
Autumn 2	What is it like to be different?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> how they think and are good at 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same?
Spring 1	What happens when we are different?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> how they think and are good at 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same?
Spring 2	What can we do when we are different?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> how they think and are good at 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same?
Summer 1	What happens when we are different?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> how they think and are good at 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same?
Summer 2	What can we do when we are different?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> how they think and are good at 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What makes us different? What makes us the same? What makes us different? What makes us the same?

Relationships and Sex Education Policy

Tudhoe Colliery Primary School

From April 2021

[Draft policy](#)

Have you seen our new school website? Check it out at www.tudhoecollieryprimaryschool.co.uk

COVID Reminders

What symptoms should I be looking for?

The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- a **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a **new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Arriving/Leaving school reminders:

Please ensure you...

- ◇ Avoid gathering in groups outside the school gates.
- ◇ Keep your children with you at all times and don't let them run unsupervised where cars are parking/turning.
- ◇ Arrive at your designated drop off/collection time.
- ◇ Have only one adult waiting in the carpark.

Only bring essentials to school

Just a reminder that children should only bring essential items to school, for example packed lunches, water bottles and reading books. We need to try and minimise the number of items being brought between school and home.

If children have something they would like to show in class, they can put a photo on Seesaw, or email a photo to the class email address.

Remote Learning Plan

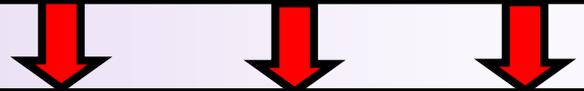
We will still be providing remote learning for children who need to self-isolate due to them or a family member displaying symptoms or testing positive for Covid.

We will be using Seesaw to set work, but this will be focused on key objectives per year group, rather than replicating the work being completed in class.

Full details of our Remote Learning plan are given on our website.



What do I do if my child develops symptoms?



Inform school that your child is displaying symptoms.

Book a test:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Inform school immediately via phone or the Office email office@tudhoeprimary.co.uk to let us know the result.

If the result is positive, school will support Test and Trace to identify close contacts of those infected.

The whole household/support Bubble/childcare Bubble must stay home and self isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms.



Wash
HANDS



Cover
FACE



Make
SPACE



Get a
TEST

It's good to talk...

A Uthor WORKSHOPS

We are very excited to be working with 'Voice 21' this year on developing our children's oracy skills: their ability to speak and interact confidently within different situations.

We'll be working with the children on aspects of speaking such as body language, pace of speech, vocabulary, listening, responding to others and awareness of audience.

We'll also be creating lots of opportunities across the curriculum for children to apply their speaking skills, including by presenting their ideas, taking part in debates and drama.

We can't wait to get started!

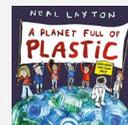


Last week, classes from Year 1-6 took part in workshops with real life authors:



Year 1 had a workshop with Jo Empson and created some of their own illustrations in her style.

Year 2 had a workshop with Neal Layton and explored his story of 'The Tree.' The children loved it and Miss Allan is now planning some more work around the story!

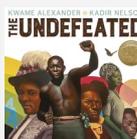


Year 3 and 4 took part in a virtual workshop with Michael Rosen. They listened to him perform some of his own poetry (which was brilliant!) and then created their own 'age' to rival the Stone Age!

Year 5 took had virtual workshops with Catherine Johnson and Daniel Morden. Daniel Morden was so funny and the children were totally engrossed as he told his tale.



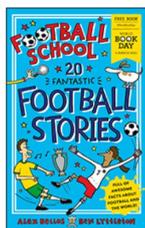
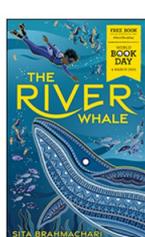
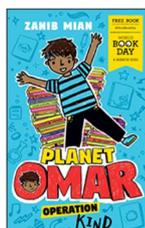
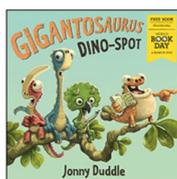
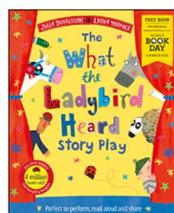
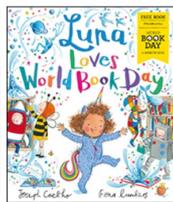
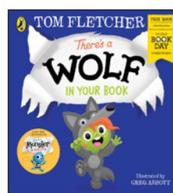
Catherine Johnson's historical stories were so interesting, especially gross bits about losing toes to frostbite.



Year 6 were so excited to get the chance to 'meet' Kwame Alexander, author of 'Undeclared,' and ask him more about what inspired him to write such a powerful book.

WORLD BOOK DAY TOKENS

WORLD BOOK DAY
4 MARCH 2021



Children will be bringing World Book Day tokens home this week. They can use these vouchers to purchase one of the amazing books shown, for just £1!

We'll be exploring these books with the children on our World Book day on Thursday 11th March and helping the children select a book they'll love! You can explore the books at...

<https://www.worldbookday.com/2021/01/inside-the-2021-1-books/>

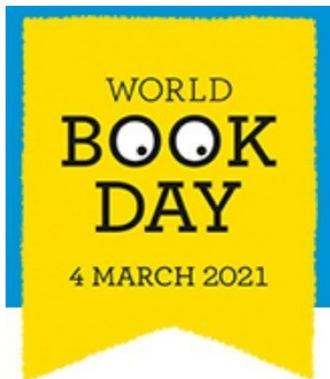
Happy Reading!!!

PD DAY REMINDER

Just a reminder that we break up for the Easter Holidays on Thursday 25th March as we have a Staff Training Day on the Friday. Children will return to school on Monday 12th April.

World Book Day

We have opted to delay our World Book Day celebrations until all of our children are back in school. Instead of Thursday 4th March, we will be celebrating on Thursday 11th March and children will be bringing their book tokens home this week.

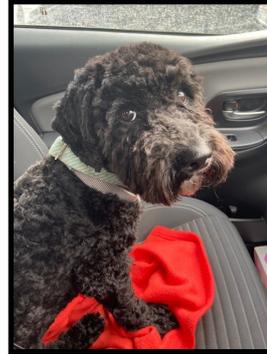


Although we're disappointed not to be dressing up this year, the children will still take part in a day of activities around books and reading.

Keep an eye on Twitter to see what we get up to!!

Arthur News!

For those of you who were there at drop off this morning, you could have been forgiven for thinking that we have a new school dog...we don't: it's just Arthur with a new hair cut!



As the picture suggests, he wasn't initially very happy about his new hairstyle, but he's now getting used to it and enjoying being able to run around without getting sticks and leaves constantly trapped in his fur.

In training news, we're hoping that once lockdown is lifted, Arthur will be able to attend his dog training again as he was part way towards gaining his Bronze certificate when lockdown hit.

[Twitter Page @Tudhoe Colliery](#)

Find us at [@TudhoeColliery](#) for regular updates including photos of children's work and general day to day life in school.

We paused our Twitter page during lockdown, but now all children are back, we'll be tweeting regularly again!

Give us a follow if you don't already!

Your responses...

This is a space for us to comment on any feedback we receive via the half termly newsletter. On our last newsletter, we had a comment from a parent whose children had just started in September to say how happy they were and how much they love the school. We've also had a number of positive letters and emails from parents during this period that we really appreciate. Thank you!

As always, we encourage parents to contact school at anytime if you have an issue or concern; Jim (Headteacher) and Allison (Deputy Headteacher) will respond as soon as possible. That way we can deal with any issues you may have as if we don't know about it, we can't fix it. Thank you.

Parent Voice

What Do You Think?

In each Newsletter we ask for parents' views about our school. Do you have any suggestions? Is there anything we could do better? What are we doing well? Any general comments? Just pop your comment into the box below, cut across the line and send it into the school. (Only include your name if you would like to!)