

Reminder: **Check your email for updates from Mrs Humphriss and the school office.**

12th June 2020

News from The Executive Head's Desk

Gosh the weather has certainly changed this week. It feels almost like winter. It was a shock to the system to everyone when they realised they had to seek jumpers out again. The smiles of joy on the children's faces though have warmed us all this week in school.

There has been so much going on in the classrooms. I love walking up and down the corridor listening to everything. Of course I cannot cross over into their classrooms but they quite often shout out what they are getting up to. Every morning the children start with a 'wake up, shake up!' I try to join in which they find hilarious as I am usually one step behind the moves. All of our Reception children have been brushing up on their phonics, they certainly haven't forgotten those and they have also been making worry monsters which have brightened up their classrooms no end. In Year One they are off visiting sunny Rio and exploring everything to do with Brazil. Feathers were floating around on Thursday as they made fabulous carnival masks and they have also enjoyed some cooking and made Brazilian sweets. Our 'Kiwis' are learning all about the environment and brushing up their geography skills. I have been truly impressed with their world maps they have created.

Those at home have also been joining in the learning going on and sharing their great achievements. Hayes in Year One made a brilliant dragon mask. I actually thought it was real! Blayke in Year Four impressed us all with his waves of optimism he created to celebrate World Ocean Day. Excellent learning. Blayke's banner also has pride of place on our school fence. If you recall he designed keyworker gingerbread people to say thank you to everyone and won a competition. I love the teacher Blayke. Miss Shirley has led a Year 2 quiz event this week on Teams. There has been great fun as everyone tests their general knowledge.

Our caterpillars are doing well. It may be a little too cold for them currently as they are still snuggled in their cocoons but everyone stops and talks to them. Hopefully they will emerge soon as beautiful butterflies.

We are currently planning for some 'keeping in touch days' for those of you at home so don't lose hope it won't be long now before you too can come in and see how much the building work has come on. We all got very excited as the scaffolding went up. Next week the walls will be coming and after that the roof goes on. This week they have been digging to bury the water pipes. You shouldn't rush time but I for one cannot wait to see our fabulous school finished and the new classrooms in use.

'Your education is a dress rehearsal for a life you want to lead.' Nora Ephron.

We miss those of you still at home from all your friends at Heathcote Primary.

Mrs Humphriss
Executive Head



News from Kiwis

The Kiwis have had another great week! They are really enthused by and engaged in their 'Wonderful World' topic. This week one of their challenges was to design a new, 8th world continent! The idea being to create a continent untouched by humans, full of beautiful natural features and wonderful creatures. They have given their new continents names and will decide where in the world their continent will be located. In Maths lessons, we have been working on position and direction, so they will be using co-ordinates to locate different features on their maps.

Quiz questions for you all:

This bird is called a kiwi! Our group is named after this, not the fruit!



Which country does the kiwi bird come from?

Which continent is this country in?

What is unusual about this bird?

Answers in next week's newsletter!

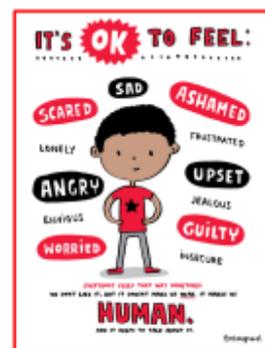
It's OK to feel activity

This wonderful poster by Elise Gravel can be used to help children explore a range of feelings and can be used to reassure them it is quite normal and perfectly OK to feel all sorts of feelings, even if some of them feel uncomfortable or unsafe, or are difficult to manage.

The poster was originally designed to help challenge the gender stereotype that boys should cover up their feelings and not 'show them'. The poster can be used with all children to help them learn that feelings are simply feelings, not right or wrong, good or bad, positive or negative. All feelings are valid.

The poster can be found here:

<http://elisegravel.com/en/blog/new-free-poster-boys-have-emotions-too/>



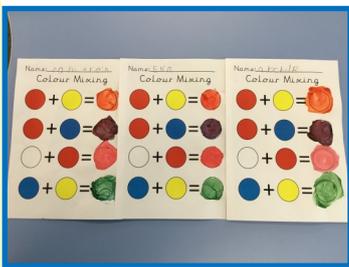
Activity:

- [1] Can you draw a picture of a favourite character from a book? Around the picture write some feelings words like Elise did in her poster.
- [2] Can you say some feelings sentences for your character e.g. "Elmer feels ashamed when..." or "The Gruffalo feels worried when..."
- [3] Can you draw a poster like this with a picture of yourself in the middle, then choose some feelings words to put around it like Elise did in her poster. You could choose the same feelings words or add some different ones of your own.
- [4] Can you write some 'I feel ... when ...' sentences using the feelings words from your poster.
- [5] Using the feelings words you have chosen, can you say "When I feel..., I can ..." - finish the sentence with lots of ideas about what you could do if you were feeling that feeling 😊

Spot Light on our Children

News from Reception

Butterflies and Hedgehogs have had another brilliant week in school. We have been looking at The Colour Monster by Anna Llenas as our book of the week and thinking about our different emotions being represented as colours. We have also been busy mixing colours to make new ones and focusing on 2D shapes in maths. We now know how to recognise an oval, semi circle, pentagon, hexagon and octagon. Using shapes we have created our own monsters too! Well done for a super week reception.



News from Owls

This week Owls have continued to work on their fraction skills learning how to find fractions of different amounts. We have also looked at how to write a letter, and wrote a letter as a coloured crayon based on the book "The Day the Crayons Quit". They had to explain why they wanted to quit being a crayon and what they wanted to do instead! Ben and his brother Archie, have been practising their directing skills and we were both amazed by the two short movies they sent us, young Spielbergs in the making! We look forward to Owls sending us more of their work next week



News from Otters

In year 1 this week we have been preparing for our carnival which will take place on Friday. We have made colourful carnival masks for the occasion and decorated them with vibrant designs.



News from Foxes

Foxes have been busy following many Oak Academy lessons. They have been reading The Firework Maker's Daughter in their English lessons and finding out about fractions in Maths. This week some of Foxes took part in a quiz on Microsoft Teams. We had lots of fun and it was lovely to see some familiar faces. Next week we shall be creating some fabulous sand art!

News from Squirrels

Squirrels enjoyed finding out about World Ocean Day on Monday. They not only learnt about the oceans, and their importance in the world, but also had the opportunity to take part in many ocean crafts and art work. As you can see in Mrs Humphriss section, Blayke shared his wonderful poster that he made on the day.



There is funded telephone counselling available for parents of children with additional needs. The counselling will address the additional pressures created by Covid-19. Contact Nilam Gill at: time4hope@btinternet.com if you feel this would be of benefit to you.