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**MAY 2021**

## Events....

Parents' Evening Wednesday 26th May on Zoom

# Nether Kellet News

## Being Inspired!

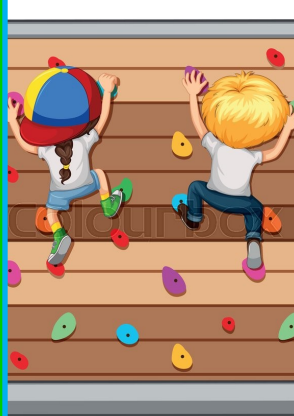
Well, we are really enjoying a lovely summer term learning all about people and things that inspire us as part of this term's theme. There is some fabulous artwork in all the classes as we imitate the work of famous artists who inspire us and you can see some of it on our website in our artblog. Please do keep an eye on our class pages too as we are putting on photos of learning as often as we can! Sycamore Class enjoyed a fabulous "Being Inspired" day with art activities, team-building activities and shelter building, all of which the children loved. Sycamore art is focusing on different art movements and so far they have imitated Kandinsky and Monet as part of this. Beech Class have been learning all about Greta Thunberg and numerous other inspirational people around the world and are experimenting with electricity in science. Beech Class art has so far focused on Hundertwasser, Kandinsky and Dali. Chestnut Class are also learning about inspirational people, starting with authors and, like the other classes are studying famous artists for inspiration—their pointillist paintings in the style of Seurat are brilliant. Oak Class have recently had a spaceship crash land in their classroom! They have been learning all about space and also producing some fabulous artwork in the style of Paul Klee. We have lots more exciting learning planned for the rest of the term!

## UPDATES ON RESTRICTIONS

At the moment, we haven't received any further guidance on relaxing social distancing or moving away from separate bubbles in school but I am aware that some schools are starting to relax this slightly. We will continue with staggered drop offs, pick ups and breaks and lunchtimes for the time being and certainly until half term and will review it in light of any advice that comes from government at any point. We are technically now allowed to go on school day trips so we are cautiously looking into options for a summer trip at the moment and will keep you posted. We are very pleased to be able to welcome a few parent volunteers into school, that is a big help with listening to children read so thank you to our new volunteers!



For those of you who go onto the playground, you may have noticed the brilliant job Mr Taylor is doing of revamping Oak Class outdoor area. It is almost ready for full use by the children complete with a new climbing frame, mud café shed and all sorts of new areas that our Early Years team are busy developing. The children in Chestnut will also get to use it on their carousel afternoons so they won't miss out!



## Sports Activities

Our local sports activity cluster of schools is keen to get started again with some Covid-safe interschool competitions. We know how important sport is for the children and how much they enjoy taking part in these types of activities so we are looking at ways to make this happen in as Covid-safe way as possible. We will keep you posted when the dates are set for the activities being planned for this term.

## Term Dates

May Bank Holiday: 3rd May  
 Half term: Mon 31st May-Tues  
 8th June incl.

Break up for Summer - Tues 20th July 1:30  
 Return - Thur 2nd Sept (All dates are on our website)

**'Be inspired....achieve your potential'**



**Parents' Questionnaire on Lockdown Learning** - Thank you very much to all of our parents who took the time to complete the questionnaire. I know that some parents haven't because their children were in school throughout so it was less applicable to them. Overall, we had responses from the parents of 50 of our children. I know we are all in agreement that none of us want to go through lockdown again but your feedback is really useful in informing what we would do if we did need to! Your feedback both during the lockdown and in the questionnaire has been overwhelmingly positive which is really nice to know because all of our staff worked incredibly hard throughout and the wellbeing and education of the children and wellbeing of our parents were always paramount in everything we did. We had around 40% of children in school and we were always striving to give the children who couldn't be in school the best deal we could and to keep the learning for both as similar as possible in the circumstances.

During lockdown:	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure
As a parent, I felt able to contact school for any support or advice.	92%	8%	2% This referred to Christmas DVD price.		
I was broadly happy with the amount of work set by my child(ren)'s teacher(s). (If not, please say too much or too little).	80%	12%			8% n/a as in sch
I felt that the tasks set were appropriate for home-learning.	68%	22%	2% Some tasks were a too internet-based.		8% n/a as in sch
I felt that the expectations that school staff had of my child learning at home were about right most of the time. (If not please say whether they were too high or too low)	71%	22%			8% n/a as in sch
I felt that my child(ren)'s teacher(s) took care to ensure myself and my child were OK with the learning.	82%	12%			8% n/a as in sch
My child/ren's teacher(s) did what they could to keep my child motivated and engaged.	82%	16%	2% English and maths tasks not as engaging as they could be.		
The Zoom calls kept my child in touch with their class and teachers.	80%	12%			8% n/a as in sch
I received suggestions for wellbeing support for myself and my child/ren from school.	84%	16%			

#### What you think we did well:

The Zoom sessions made such a positive impact in terms of engagement and also socially. You juggled the remote learning and classroom learning really well.  
 Making the website really user-friendly for lockdown 2.  
 I think the second lockdown was much better organised and I think the Zoom meetings helped my child stay engaged and connected with school.  
 The staff, who were in school throughout, were very helpful and supportive. We had a small amount of time at home due to isolation and Zooms were helpful.  
 Content was good, structure easy to follow.  
 Keeping the children in contact and motivated.  
 Not providing too much work and pressure for the children whilst at home.  
 Integrating class work into Zoom calls.  
 When I asked for reading books, I got plenty - thank you. Also, we didn't have a printer so school printed all the work off I asked for so that was also a big help, thanks again.  
 I cannot fault Vicky Perry, she was amazing and so supportive. Every phone call made me feel so much better and every email answered, brilliantly done.  
 Being able to see his friends on Zoom really helped my child feel connected to the rest of his class.  
 We felt home learning was really well organised and easy to access on the website. The Zoom meeting every morning set up learning for the day.  
 The Zoom meeting each day kept my child in touch with friends and he looked forward to these.  
 Setting the work for the week on the website with links and print offs to do in any order during the day at a time that suited parents!  
 Responding to emails with concerns and responding quickly! Very understanding and empathetic.  
 Mrs Perry's work feedback was much appreciated.  
 I think the support for all the children was excellent, the attention to a routine was really helpful.  
 Really hardworking staff, adaptable and understanding.  
 My child really enjoyed being in school during lockdown and I was impressed with how much she developed in her phonics.

Emphasising the core subjects and not stressing about completing everything really helped keep things manageable.

The school staff did everything they could to keep the routine as normal as possible and supported the children and families throughout.

The emphasis on mental health was second to none.

You could not have been more supportive as a school.

The communication was excellent from Mrs Brough and the teachers.

I feel due to the uncertainty and constant changing of the rules that the response the school had was excellent. The Zoom calls really helped my child be engaged and eager to learn.

I was so impressed by all the staff who worked so tirelessly to support both the children at school and those at home. Thank you!!

Thank you for keeping my child physically and emotionally safe during the Spring 21 lockdown. She enjoyed being in school and the routine helped her not to worry about the pandemic.

The one to one Zoom calls were amazing. My child loved these and they really helped to keep her motivated.

Being able to collect reading books from school was great.

Regular Zoom calls with the whole class were great and my child loved seeing all her friends.

The emails from Mrs Brough with links to support groups and activities were very helpful too.

Overall, I think the school did an amazing job, thank you!

The Zoom sessions made such a positive impact on engagement and also socially. You juggled the remote learning and classroom learning really well.

Making the website really user-friendly for lockdown 2.

We loved the links to yoga and family activities, these were much appreciated.

The school really paid attention to children's and families' wellbeing and sent lots of reassurance and useful information linked to mental health.

Not providing too much work and pressure for the children whilst at home.

My children did well with a lot of their home learning. It definitely helped that they were in school part time to keep up motivation. They actually really enjoyed some of it - really interesting DT with the parts needed sent home for example. The website was much easier to follow than Google Classrooms that we used for our other child at a different school, much less complicated and fiddly.

I think that school and the teachers made home schooling easy to follow, they were available if we needed support and it was fun. The children were connected with their friends, the Zoom meetings were brilliant as it kept the home schooling much easier to follow.

The website. -it was really well set out and easy to follow, especially the links to each subject. It was really helpful being a week in advance so we could prepare on a Sunday for the week ahead.

The key thing was that school was very approachable either through phone or email.

Additional support was really appreciated and enabled my child to continue to join in.

I found the information about support for wellbeing and support groups, yoga, etc. really useful. Thank you.

I was very happy with the level of help, support and encouragement the teachers gave to my children throughout the school closure. The website was well planned, managed and gave a range of work for all abilities as well as a variety of choices and this helped them to stay motivated and engaged in their learning.

The Zoom calls were great for the kids to stay in contact with teachers and friends.

All the teachers were great at replying to emails that I sent them. The Zoom calls were very helpful as the teachers delivered the lesson which was a great help. No negatives just positives from me!

#### **What you think we could have done better:**

More free learning and creative art/project work.

A one to one Zoom to mark off Learning Journey targets and mark work would have been lovely but I understand this would have been very time-consuming.

Integrating class work into more Zoom calls at times.

Differentiate the English Oak Academy lessons a little more to suit different abilities particularly the Y2 unit. Share targets and levels children are working at so parents know what to expect from their children. Sometimes I think I was expecting too much from my child.

We would have liked more and longer Zoom sessions for Oak Class. At times, it felt as if the children at home missed out a bit compared with those at school.

Zoom calls would have been better in the morning so we could get out for a walk in the afternoon.

I don't think there is anything you could have done to make it better.

Maybe more regular end of the week certificates to praise the children for their work at home in Oak Class.

Nothing!

Insufficient support for learning during the first lockdown as my child has needs but this massively improved second time around. Our experience in lockdown 1 compared with the recent lockdown were poles apart.

No, couldn't have been better.

No, it all ran smoothly. A much better structure than the previous lockdown. My child was more motivated as she could see what was expected of her for the week and the Zoom calls kept her engaged. Thank you!

Not a thing, let's just hope we don't have to live through it again!