



Rattlesden Cof E Primary Academy
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12th March 2021

Dear Parents,

This week has been about getting back into our routines again, which has probably been the same for you. The children have adapted amazingly well, including those who we thought may struggle with getting back into the classroom. The school feels safe, with everyone in good health. Staff members are starting to have their immunisations, or have them booked, which helps with building confidence generally.

As I said in my previous letter, the children (from Year 2) have or will be completing their usual Spring term assessment papers. We will be holding Parent Consultations the week beginning 19th April. Class teachers will let you know how this will be organised remotely. We will discuss how your children have been generally, and how they did in their assessments. We are not expecting the children to 'score' very highly, as lockdown will have had an impact, but they will allow us to focus on areas in need of the most support. First impressions from staff discussions are that the children need help with their times tables in maths, so we will be hitting this after Easter with a new initiative. Reading is generally ok, but reading comprehension needs to be looked at. In writing, spelling and grammar work need support, as some of the basics have not been retained, so need revisiting in class.

Our main aim is to make sure the children are ready to move on to the next year group, especially Year 6 being 'Upper School' ready. On a positive note, the children have had the opportunity to become more independent learners, which is a skill they will need for the future. Resilience has been built for many, and they are very appreciative of their friends and generally being in school.

Next week is Red Nose Day, and we have some fun activities organised - there is a flyer attached. The final day of term, Friday 26th March, we will have a whole school online assembly at 11.00, which you are warmly invited to watch. There will be Stars of the Week, and some sharing of work. It may be nice to see your children in school, and have a feel for how we are meeting at the moment.

This weekend the science/reflection garden is being built. I would like to thank Miss Lee, and her partner, plus some wonderful volunteers that have enabled us to get this project completed in such a short space of time. I think the children are going to love it, especially as we add the finishing touches going towards the Summer. Thank you again to the generous donator that made this possible – we hope we do you proud!

I am also going to be looking for a Governor to fill some existing spaces next term. If this is something you would like to know more about, please get in touch via an email to admin. We are a very lovely lot, meeting twice a term.

Have an enjoyable and peaceful weekend.

Kind regards,

Helen Ballam