

GREENFYLDE CHURCH OF ENGLAND FIRST SCHOOL

Incorporating Cygnets and Sunny Ile Pre Schools

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Newsletter No: 27 Friday 30th April 2021

Young Voices

Judges from Ilminster Rotary, Owen Paterson and Kirsty Hughes, had very difficult decisions this week with nine excellent finalists from Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in Greenfylde First School's Young Voices public speaking competition. The children all spoke for two minutes on growing up during Covid 19 and showed expression and confidence in their speech as well as some thoughtful and often very personal, special memories and feelings. All of the youngsters provided the adults watching with much to think about and the children showed no nerves in presenting on screen in this virtual competition. Congratulations to all our finalists and our runners up Freddie and Izzy and winners Phoebe and Hermione and thanks to our judges for giving up their time to support Greenfylde.

#TheBigAsk

The Children's Commissioner for England, Rachel De Souza is asking all children to take part in The Big Ask. Her job is to speak up for children in England, stand up for their rights, and make sure that the people in power listen to what children need and want. She feels it's time to give something big back to young people like you after COVID — and she needs your help to do it.

The Big Ask is the largest ever survey of children and young people in England. The Children's Commissioner will use what you tell her to show the government what you think, and what children need to live happier lives.

This survey will only take you 5-10 minutes and is accessible to children in different age brackets. For more information and to access the survey go to

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>.

Parents' Evening

Thank you to all our families for participating in our recent parent meeting discussions. We would like to get some feedback on these to help us plan future ones so please take a couple of minutes to complete the questionnaire via the link below. This will stay open until Friday 7th May.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3Uw9KN7IV06XfymowbLfepA7OAmPNeVFo_i8LaW02hFUQThCVTZGUTMwWU42UkxTV1hUMzRQUEhYU4u

Communication and Blended Learning

We are still using our Blended Learning platforms Class Dojo, Tapestry and Google Classroom and a reminder of what we use these for is further down the newsletter.

Covid

A reminder that any information e.g if your child or someone in your household is self isolating, waiting for a test or when they have received a result should be sent by email to the school office at greenfylde@educ.somerset.gov.uk. Your child must not come in if they have any Covid symptoms or if anyone else in their household has them and/or is waiting for a test.

Star of the Week

Congratulations to this week's stars.

Dove	Tilly D & Charlie L
Pippin	Lily W & Elsie R
Golden	Lucian-Rae M & Aishwarya Z
Puffin	Jack H & Lily M
Camelot	Rory D & Jake W
Hook	Tommy R & Elsie J
Dunkerton	Harrison W & Lillie W
Morgan	Abigail K & Archie U
Ashton	Kian N & Joseph G
Coker	Isla F & Josh I
Coopers	Henry M & Olivia D
Gatcombe	Olive C & Spencer G



Stars and certificates will be presented on Thursday 6th May at 9.30am for Years 3 and 4 and Friday 7th May at 9.30am for Reception and Years 1 and 2.

Families of the stars are welcome to attend via Zoom and a link will be sent out to the contact emails we have for our stars. We encourage all family members to stay until the end of the celebration if possible.

Please note if joining via Zoom no recordings or screen shots should be taken of the sessions for safeguarding and we ask you to remain on mute. Please also be aware of your screen name and we ask that this is changed to your child's name.

Number Day

On Friday 7th May we will once again be supporting the NSPCC with their Number Day 2021, postponed from February. This is where schools across the country take part in practical activities celebrating Maths and Number whilst raising money for the NSPCC. Like last year, we would love it if children can 'Dress up for Digits' by coming into school wearing items of clothing with a Number on it for a suggested donation of 50p per family whilst the children will take part in various numerical activities in class.

We apologise for the short notice and if children do not have anything with a digit on they are welcome to just come in own clothes.

A guide to when and how we are using online communication

Tapestry (Reception children)

We will continue to use Tapestry as part of our daily practice to record observations of the children whilst at school. We encourage you to add observations or wow moments of your child whilst at home. We will also be using Tapestry to share our weekly sharing letters. Our blended learning will also be added to Tapestry.

Class Dojo (Years 1-4)

We are still using Dojo for reward points and we will put reminders such as PE, reading books and Forest School on there. Please check this for occasional class updates. Class Dojo can also be used to message your child's class teacher however staff will only respond to messages in term-time between 8am and 6pm, Monday to Friday.

If your query is urgent, please contact the school office. As we are minimising items coming into school as part of our Covid restrictions, you can also upload photos to your child's portfolio (not as a message) so that your child can share this in-class. For example, your child may want to show something e.g. a new toy or pet. There is a how-to guide which explains how you can do this: <https://classdojo.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360022857031-How-to-Post-to-a-Student-Portfolio#ios>

School office (email/telephone)

Please contact the school office in relation to absence, school lunches, milk and uniform. Please also contact the school office for questions or queries that you would like directed to Miss Oaten or Mrs Lewis. If you have sent a message on Class Dojo and you need a more immediate response, please contact the school office who will be happy to help.

Greenfylde@educ.somerset.gov.uk 01460 52686

G suite/Google classroom (Years 1- 4)

This is where your child's blended learning is set and completed if your child is in Years 1-4. Homework will be set and completed on here as well (Years 1-4). If you do not have your Google Classroom login, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. There are how-to videos for Google Classroom on the school website.

<https://www.greenfylde.somerset.sch.uk/curriculum/blended-learning/>

We appreciate that if your child was in-school during the most recent lockdown, this will be a new platform for you, so please ask for support if needed.

<https://www.greenfylde.somerset.sch.uk/curriculum/blended-learning.>





Sunny-Ile Pre-School Cygnet Pre-School Newsletter 30 April 2021



Sunny Ile and Cygnet Pre School

Coats

Although we should be seeing better weather, please can we ask that all children still bring a warm, waterproof coat in every session? They have access to the outside area whatever the weather and a waterproof warm coat is essential.

Choking on food

Can we please remind you to cut up all grapes, lengthways, cherry tomatoes and cocktail sausages? These foods are the perfect shape and size to lodge in a child's throat and can cause choking in small children as they are small enough to block airways.

Dates to Remember

Both preschools will be closed on Monday 3 May 2021 for the May Bank Holiday Monday. Both preschools will close at the end of the day on Friday 28 May 2021 for the May Half Term holiday. We reopen on Monday 7 June 2021.

Cygnets Preschool

We have been exploring colours, shapes and texture as the children have been painting beautiful pictures of some lovely fresh tulips and tree blossoms.

Sunflowers

The children have been sent home with sunflower seeds ready to be planted at home. We will also be planting some in the preschool allotment so we can see how they progress over the coming weeks and as we head towards the end of the school year.

Sun hats

Please remember that as the weather is warming up, the children need to be bringing sun hats as we spend a lot of time outdoors. Children should also have sun cream applied before attending preschool.

Letter/ sound of the week

Next week our focus letter will be J - please continue to share your photos with us on tapestry as we love to see what things you can find at home.



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Sunny Ile Preschool

The children have thoroughly enjoyed using the sand pit and mud kitchen – Diggers and Dinosaurs in the sand and lovely chocolate cupcakes were made in the Mud kitchen. We have also been focusing on Reading this week. The children have loved listening and joining in with many stories including “The Gingerbread Man” “Three Little Pigs”. Also we have looking at rhyming activities, listening to letter sounds and nursery rhymes. We hope you enjoy looking at our Letters and Sounds booklet which we have sent by email as it gives some lovely activities, songs and rhymes for you to enjoy at home.

Adult Led Focus

Next week’s focus is Writing. Please look for your Key person focus on Tapestry For two to three years the children may tell you about the different marks they make in writing and drawing. They may hold a chunky crayon, pencil, pen or paint brush and makes lines that go across, up and down or round and round. For children who will be going to school they may - Sometimes tell you about drawings and paintings and what my writing means. When they see your writing, they may tell you what I think it means, like the shopping list says “beans and chips and ice cream”. They may make the lines and marks that they need with a pencil.

Sound of the week

We are delighted to see all the pictures of the ‘A Sound’ on Tapestry this week, the children have found interesting ones like “Ant” and “Ambulance” and even an “Alligator “. **Next week’s sound will be the Letters Sound “T” how many things can you find beginning with a T**

Sunflowers

The children should have come home with their planted sunflower seed. We are taking part in the Sunflowers of Somerset to make Somerset bloom this summer. You can be part of the sunflower trail and other activities by following ‘Sunflower of Somerset’ on Facebook. We will be having a competition to see who can grow the tallest sunflower – please do add your photos to Tapestry

Dropping off

A big thank you to everyone with our new dropping off routine, we have found it so much calmer and easier for the parents and children. We will continue with this for the future. Please remember to put your named child's lunchbox and Drink in the trolley. Any messages please speak to the person by the trolley.

Toys

Some children are beginning to bring toys in from home. We would kindly ask that these must stay at home as we don’t want them to get lost thank you.

Big Moments of summer fun!



For all 5 – 8 year-old boys and girls

Give your little star a summer of big moments, making new friends, learning new skills and creating new memories.

Every participant receives their very own personalised kit bag including bat, ball, cap and t-shirt!

Sign up today at

allstarscricket.co.uk or at the centre



DYNAMOS
CRICKET

A young boy in a yellow t-shirt with 'DYNAMOS CRICKET' printed on it is in a batting stance, holding a cricket bat. He is wearing black pants and looking towards the camera.

**This
is our
game.**

Calling all 8-11 year-olds!

Sign up today, at

dynamoscricquet.co.uk