



Thomas Johnson Lower School

Excellence and Enjoyment

A Values-based Education School

28th February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Curriculum Development

Following on from our **Vision and Development** Parent & Carer Information Sharing Meetings (5th & 7th Feb) you will now be able to find the following documents on our website.

- Under “Key information and Curriculum” please find our **Whole School Curriculum Overview**: This is a detailed look at every subject across each year group, from Hedgehogs (EYFS) to Owls (Lower KS2). We run a 2-year rolling programme which means that if a child is in a mixed year group they will learn about different things each year. Look under “Curriculum”

Whole School Curriculum Overview KS1 - LKS2

This is the first year in our 2-year rolling programme of learning

Year A of Rolling Programme

YEAR A	YEAR 1			YEAR 2			YEAR 3		
	AUTUMN	SPRING	SUMMER	AUTUMN	SPRING	SUMMER	AUTUMN	SPRING	SUMMER
PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT	PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT								
Focus Values	Responsibility, Perseverance, Peace & Love			Responsibility, Perseverance, Peace & Love			Responsibility, Perseverance, Peace & Love		
Focus Feelings	Worried, frustrated, happy & wanted			Worried, frustrated, happy & wanted			Worried, frustrated, happy & wanted		
TOPIC	HOUSES AND HOMES			HOUSES AND HOMES			ROTTEN ROMANS		
ENGLISH	ENGLISH								
Phonics focus	Phases 3-5. Year 1 phonics check in June. Word reading, comprehension (listening and reading) transcription, articulating ideas, structuring them			Phase 3-6. Phonics re-sit for those working towards age expectation. Word reading, comprehension (listening and reading) transcription, articulating ideas, structuring them			Read at age-appropriate interest level, with accuracy, speed & understanding. Decode new words outside their spoken vocabulary. Justify their views about what they have read with support.		
Handwriting focus	Printed lettering style. Seating position and pencil grip. Securing correct formation of letters and numbers 0-9.			Seating position and pencil grip. Securing correct formation of letters and numbers 0-9. Focus on joining letters correctly.			Cursive writing embedding joins and working towards own handwriting style.		

- Under “Key information and Policies” please find our updated **2020-21 Packed lunch policy**.
- You will also soon be receiving a copy of **Class Subjects this Term** that your child is learning about. This is an updated format which we are developing. Due to it being issued part way through the term, we realise that some of the areas may have been covered in the first half of the term, but we wanted to trial this version and are interested in hearing your thoughts.

SCIENCE Uses of Everyday Materials; building materials Plants: pea diary Living things & their habitats: frog life cycle		PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT Values: Thoughtfulness, Compassion & Patience Feelings: understanding selfish, Lonely & Bored.		PHYSICAL EDI Gymnastics – patches, 10 sequence & pat Competitive Tennis. Gym pathways, sp turnin
	COMPUTING Questioning; Effective searching		HISTORY Victorian houses and homes: how they lived; Wash day, features of houses	
MUSIC Seasons – pitch; Number – beat Our land – sounds; Animals – pitch	ENGLISH Fiction: Tales from other cultures: Baba Yaga Poetry: Traditional Information: Explanation texts for healthy lifestyles Diary & recount	Houses & Homes	MATHS Telling time to 15 and 5 minutes; to and past hour; Number bonds 20-100; Tables 2x, 5x, 10x linked to division Word problems	GEOGRA Local area: Li Human & g features; Place why we need outside the
	ART & DESIGN Buildings: pattern & shape Artist: Piet Mondrian	YEAR 2 SPRING TERM	DESIGN TECHNOLOGY Playgrounds: creating strong and stable	

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Reminder: Proposed Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) Scheme of Work (Parent & Carer Information Sharing Meetings): Thurs 5th March 6pm / Friday 6th March 9.15am.

Just a reminder about this key scheme of work which will be introduced into all schools by Sept 2020.

The Department of Education guidelines allow schools some flexibility in deciding the exact content, so it is really important to us that we have your thoughts before we go ahead and introduce any of this new learning to your child. We also want you to feel confident in knowing how sensitive matters might be shared with your child.

The session will involve a sample of the slides and worksheets from lessons (printed out) so that you can have an overview of what might be covered. There will be statutory subject areas (that we have to teach), non-statutory (up to the school to decide whether or not to include) and optional (parents can withdraw their child).

We look forward to seeing you there.

Coronavirus

Message from Tim Mason: Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus: You will be aware of recent outbreaks both abroad and within the UK. As a school we take the health and safety of our pupils, staff, parents and carers very seriously. This virus is new, and how it spreads remains uncertain, and so we are monitoring guidance carefully. We are therefore asking parents and carers to support us should they be returning from an infected area. In such cases, the school will ask that pupils are temporarily self-isolated (for a period of 14 days) to ensure they do not have any symptoms. During this period staff will send work home. Whilst we realise this may cause some inconvenience, we are grateful for everyone's support.

We will keep you informed of any developments and ensure we're keeping the school clean to prevent the spread of any virus.

Preventing the spread of infection

Make sure you and your children follow these general principles to prevent spreading any respiratory virus:

- Wash your hands often - with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or an alcohol-based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- If you feel unwell, stay at home and don't attend work or school
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home.
- If you're worried about your symptoms, please call NHS 111 - don't go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment.

World Book Day (Thurs 5th March)

We are celebrating this day by asking the children to come to school in **mufti**, with their favourite book and teddy.

We would also like as many children as possible to bring in a photo of themselves reading (either by themselves, or with a family member) or bring a drawing of themselves reading.

If your child cannot be photographed then a photo of their favourite book can be used instead. These will be used to create a display in the book corner of every classroom.

Tree planting



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Earlier this week, Year 4 Owls were invited to Wootton Upper School to help plant up trees as part of a newly created Peace Garden. Staff from Wootton kindly organised transport and equipment, and some of their pupils joined in the planting with ours. Staff have commented on how much the children enjoyed the experience. As always, your children listened attentively and behaved beautifully. They carefully dug holes for each tree, making sure each sapling was securely staked and protected from nibbling wildlife such as rabbits. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to demonstrate responsibility as they worked with older students and helped create a special place for others to enjoy.

Street Dance

This 6-week extra curriculum workshop starts today for Year 3 and 4 children. We are excited about the moves your children will be learning and demonstrating. Look out for photos!

Values and Feelings for this term

Patience: *"Patience is not the ability to wait, but the ability to keep a good attitude while waiting."* Anonymous

Bored: *"There are no uninteresting things"* Chesterton

We will be exploring why it is beneficial to be patient and how being impatient causes stress and rarely gets us the result we want. We will also look at the word "bored" when a person feels "tired, fed up and can't be bothered to do anything" and explore ideas about how we can feel full of energy again. We will think about the difference between feeling bored and having to wait for something.

Finally, Please tell us ...

Your views and suggestions are important to us. If you have a concern or comment, you can speak to us directly through email, in person, or by phone. We will always aim to get back to you within 1 working day.

With good wishes,
Marian Haimes



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