



Kirk Smeaton Church of England Primary School
Main Street, Kirk Smeaton, Pontefract
West Yorkshire, WF8 3JY

Tel: 01977 620497 Email: admin@kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk
In association with Went Valley Pre-School and Breakfast Club
Tel: 01977 621521



Headteacher: Mrs H Cuddy

Date: Friday, 22nd January 2021

Home Learning – please see below details of where you home learning can be found

Starfish – Tapestry and emails

Dolphins – Dojo

Lions – Dojo and website (<http://www.kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk/classes/lions-class-y3-4/home-learning-2020-2021/>).

Eagles – Dojo and website (<http://www.kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk/classes/eagles-class-y5-6/home-learning-2020-2021/>)

Message from Mrs Cuddy

Thank you to all who have engaged with home learning provided by school. We are three weeks in now and I am so impressed with the work the children are sending into school. Well done to you all.

We hope that your child has enjoyed the check in sessions on a Monday and Friday with their teachers. We are going to continue these sessions, but some classes may decide to change things a little to suit the needs of all pupils they teach, teachers will communicate this on dojo or tapestry.

We are evolving week by week, not only with technology CPD for teachers, but also with what works for our pupils whilst still trying to cater for all the children in school. With the added battle of COVID and periods of isolation for staff, as well as limited childcare for our own children, we are trying to support all our families as well as we can.

We welcome any feedback on how home learning is for you. We appreciate that everyone's circumstances are different and as such we may not be able to change things to suit all families, but if you would like to share constructive feedback or let us know how planning, online videos, pre recordings of teachers, live teacher sessions and live collective worship sessions are working for you, we would love to hear from you.

Here are some of the comments we have received so far and some comments from school too.

1. Some parents have said that their children are feeling nervous on the zoom calls .

We appreciate that when children are on these calls at home, it can feel quite odd, they are not used to this type of working and this can take time to adapt. It is important that children attend these sessions, they can turn their camera off and if they wish to type a message rather than talking, the teacher can read it out.

2. Some children felt the pressure of sharing work on the zoom calls.

We certainly don't want to create pressure for parents or children. We ask for some work that they are proud of, so that they can share and celebrate together.

3. Could children have a project to do?

We have tried to keep planning and work as close to what we would teach so there is minimal disruption in the curriculum.

Whilst some children enjoy projects, others don't so we have opted to stay on the curriculum this half term.

4. Can my child just do worksheets?

Some children enjoy worksheets and others don't. We try and provide a balance of activities to engage your child. Please speak to the teacher if your child is struggling to access certain work and we will try and change things to suit.

5. Are we expected to complete all the work?

We would ask for you to complete as much as possible, when in school, we would share all the learning provided. The DfE guidance suggests that parents should be sending work in to school daily and that schools should contact parents if work has not been submitted. We certainly will not be sending messages asking for work, but we will ring

Let God's love shine as we care for each other and learn together.

you and ask how things are going. We completely understand that this way of working is hard for all parents, whether they are working from home, working away from the home or if they have other siblings in the house.

6. Live sessions are good to attend, but are restrictive with limited devices and timings for working parents and other family members.

We started with two sessions of catch up/teaching on a Monday and Friday to check-in with children. We found that attendance to live sessions is not very good and children miss out if they don't attend the sessions. Teachers opted for voice over PPT's and pre-recorded sessions so that children can access at any time, this is more inclusive. We have also used the government resources such as Oak National Academy and phonics videos to deliver some of the work as these have been produced and are supported by the government. We appreciate that the older the child, the more likely they are able to access sessions more independently and parents with young children and/or working from home will experience the demands on set times. Staff have worked together to see what works for each class.

7. Re recorded sessions are good as they get to see the teacher and can be used at any time in the day.

We find that these sessions have a positive impact. They can be time consuming for staff, so we cannot do these all the time.

8. PPT voice overs work, as they are able to hear the teacher and they can explain the work.

We have found these to be positive for most classes, but again can be time consuming for staff.

9. Could we have a live phonics sessions to support with phonic sounds?

The teachers in EYFS and KS1 have recognised that this is an area that can be hard to teach at home. We are using approved resources such as Mr Mc and government phonic sessions, as we would usually use these in the classroom. Teachers have also put together some other resources to support this too.

10. Could children have live sessions all day long?

There is no research to say this would be positive for children. We are providing a range of resources to support all learning types. We also have to be mindful of safeguarding in the classroom and the wellbeing of the pupils attending school as well as the teachers and TAs working within a pressured situation.

11. What do I need to know about a zoom call?

Sign on at least 5 minutes before the call.

Sit in a comfortable place, where you will stay for the duration of the call.

Turn your camera off, if you wish not to be seen. We like to see children though, so encourage your child to have their camera on.

Only share your first name and first letter of your surname, this can be changed in settings- rename.

Have a piece of paper and pen ready.

Put yourself on mute unless asked to unmute.

If you want to contribute, please raise your hand (there is a button you can press for this).

Please listen and be respectful.

Some ideas to help at home

- Buddy system- a good idea is to use a friend to share your work with. You might have contacts with some friends already. If you have no contacts with friends and would like to find a buddy to share work with, please let us know and we can contact parents to gain consent.
- If anybody does require a work pack printing out please let your teacher know so we can prepare these for you each week.
- Make sure you get outside for a walk or a run. Being outside and not just seeing your own surroundings can revive you.
- Have set breaks, with set snack time. If you stick to a routine, then children are less likely to keep asking for a snack.

Lateral flow testing

Let God's love shine as we care for each other and learn together.

We have been informed by the DFE that staff will be accessing lateral flow testing in schools very soon. This shouldn't change anything for children accessing school or home schooling, but if there are any updates, we will keep you informed.

Thank you for your support and patience.
Mrs Cuddy.

Remote Learning Policy – a copy of our remote learning policy can be found on our website at <http://www.kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk/school-information/prospectus-policies/>



School Lottery – our school lottery is now online, and we really need your support! You can sign up at <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/kirk-smeaton-ce-primary-school/supporter>. This term, all ticket holders will also be entered into a nationwide draw to win a family ticket to the Harry Potter Studio tour. We are quite a way from our goal number of people signing up so please sign up as soon as you can.

Reminders

We are a nut free school. Please do not send in packed lunches or snacks.

We are a healthy school. Packed lunches should not contain chocolate or sweets.

Please send in your old batteries and printer cartridges for us to recycle.

Useful Contacts

School Office: 01977 620 497
admin@kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk

After School Club: 07940 111 816

Parents and Friends: pandf@kirksmeaton.n-yorks.sch.uk

Debbie Drake: 07879 687 847
Went Valley: 01977 621 521

Important Diary Dates

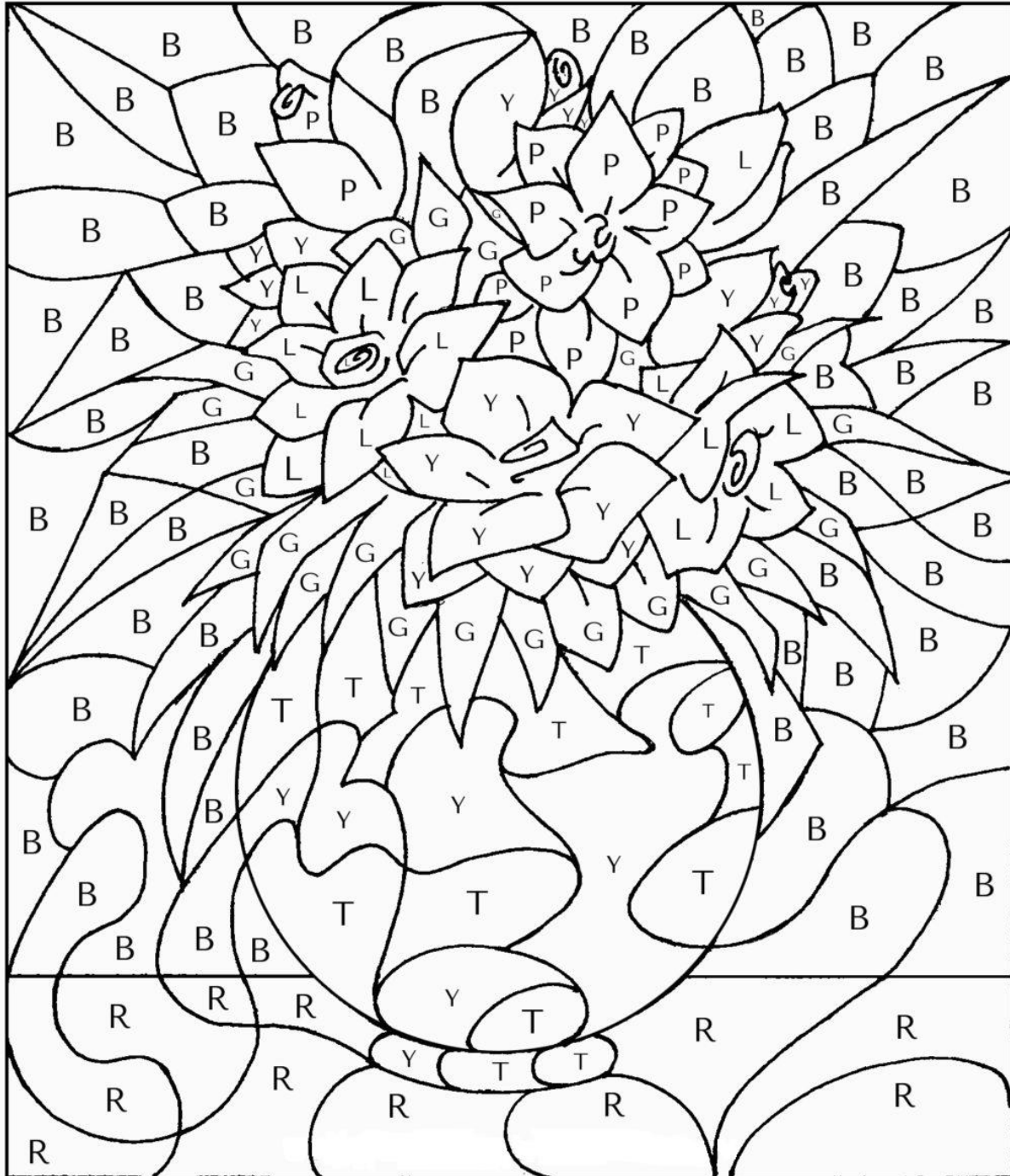
Tuesday 23rd February
Thursday 4th March
Friday 19th March
Monday 22nd March

Pupil Photographs
World Book Day
Comic Relief Non-Uniform
World Down Syndrome Awareness Day – Wear Odd Socks

Let God's love shine as we care for each other and learn together.

KIDZONE

Colour By Letter



P=Pink Y=Yellow G=Green
L=Lavendar B=Blue
T= Tan R=Brown

Let God's love shine as we care for each other and learn together.

Recipes

Popeye Pinwheel Pizza

Ingredients (serves 5)

50g medium onions
1g Garlic puree
25g courgettes
25g leeks
25g mixed peppers
5g tomato puree
125g chopped tomatoes
1g mixed herbs
175g bread mix
50g spinach
allow to prove
50g grated red cheddar

- * Dice the vegetables finely
- * Sweat off the onions and garlic, courgettes and leeks in oil
- * Add the tomato puree, chopped tomatoes, peppers, mixed herbs and seasoning
- * Make up bread mix according to the packet instructions and roll into rectangles
- * Spread with vegetables and sprinkle with spinach and cheese
- * Roll up, cut into 20 slices and place on oiled trays, and
- * Bake in a hot oven for 15 minutes until cooked through

Contains eggs, milk, soya, cereals including gluten.

Lemon Muffins

Ingredients (serves 20)

500g plain flour
30g baking powder
200g granulated sugar
2 large eggs
160ml semi-skimmed milk
108ml veg oil
2 lemons
100g icing sugar

- * Mix together the flour and baking powder
- * Add the beaten eggs, oil, milk and lemon zest
- * Place in muffin cases and bake in a moderate oven for approx. 15 minutes
- * Make a thin icing using juice from the lemons and icing sugar
- * When muffins are cool, drizzle with the icing

Contains milk, eggs, cereals containing gluten, and milk.