

With the Prime Minister's recent announcement that primary schools will not re-open fully until at least the 8<sup>th</sup> March we are all now having to brace ourselves for another few weeks of lockdown. First of all I would like to remind you of what a brilliant job you are all doing (even if it doesn't feel like it). We know that some days will be easier than others and as parents/carers you are best placed to judge how well your child is managing with the balance of work and down time. Of course learning is important but not at the detriment of anyone's well-being.

We are committed to helping all our children achieve their very best and will continue to do so whether they are at home or in school. When all the children return we will review our [Covid Action Plan](#) to ensure that we are focussed on supporting a smooth transition and that children have the best opportunities to learn effectively. We will not be using phrases like "catch up" or "fill the gaps" as we feel that the children have been through quite enough without feeling that they are not "good enough" or falling behind. Instead we will continue to provide the best possible teaching experiences and additional support where necessary.

All staff working in school now have voluntary access to **lateral flow tests** from the NHS. Those taking part will be testing themselves twice a week in the hope that this will pick up on any asymptomatic cases. Whilst this does not eradicate any risk and our usual safety measures will continue, we see this as another positive step in making schools safer for everyone.

At this time the school must continue to operate a careful (and difficult) balance. Offering support to those critical workers and vulnerable children who really need it and ultimately keeping the numbers of people (adults and children) in school as low as possible. The greater the numbers, the greater the risk of transmission within school and the wider community. It is that simple. So please only request a place in school if you really need it. **The advice remains that if you are at home or working from home then you must keep your child with you.**

Equally if you have a child in school but no longer need the place or if there is someone at home who could be looking after them, then please let us know. With the demand for places we are now prioritising those families with two critical workers at home so that we can support families who have no alternative options.



Harry from Year 2 decided in January that he would like to start raising money to help people. He set himself a challenge to run an entire marathon by completing a little bit each day. Harry ran every day come rain, shine (or snow) and I am delighted to say that he has now completed his marathon and raised in excess of £1,800 for **Cancer Research** which puts him in the top 5% for donations last month. Not only has he raised money but also the spirits of his local community who have been out to cheer him on and celebrate his achievement with him. Well done Harry, what a great example to us all!!

If you have done something you feel really proud of during lockdown, we'd love to hear about it too.

## Parent Resources

Attached to this week's blog and available on our website:

A **Guide to Health, Wellbeing and Emotional Wellbeing Support for Children** from Surrey CC.

Information about how to talk about **Mental Health** with your child

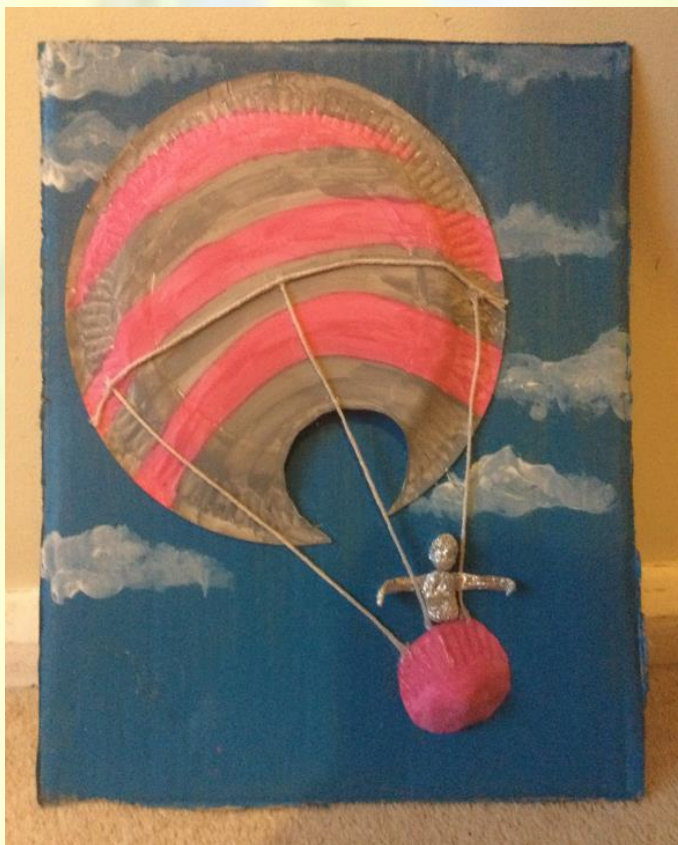
Information from [Guildford Family Centre](#)

A useful guide for parents about **Online Reliability**

Lockdown lunch ideas <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas>

## Class Pages

In **Year 5**, the children have been very busy with their home learning! Recently, we set the children a challenge to create a piece of artwork inspired by Darrell Wakelam, using materials from their recycling pile! We absolutely love the creations that the children made. These photos show some of their fun and creative pieces of recycled art - well done, everyone!









The **Year 6 Bubble** in school have created a collaborative colouring mural. It is on display on the window upstairs in the Junior block. We hope it brightens your day as you climb up the stairs!



The **Owls and Nightingales** have been learning about the seven continents of the world in Geography. We have tried to link our Art to this and when we were finding out about Africa the children made these wonderful creative animal masks. Can you guess which animals they are?







**Parrots** have been very busy since the beginning of term.

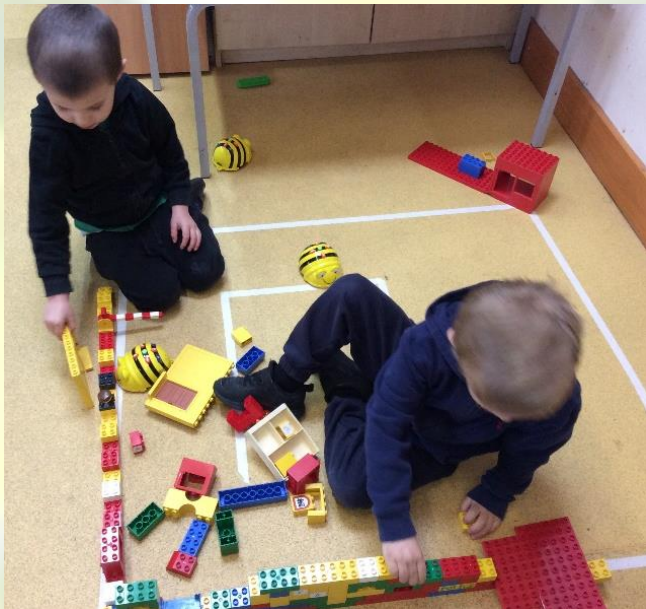
Amongst other things we have working on a story about travelling to the moon. Can you see our space helmets and moon boots? We also made some footprints on the moon.

We have worked on robots and instruction giving recently. We had fun following the instructions to make some sandwiches and then eating them. We also had to select the right size boxes for making our junk modelling robots. Imagine what would happen if your robot's legs were different lengths!

This week we have started working on the story Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We made ourselves some long hair from paper to see what it felt like to be Goldilocks. We also made some porridge - I wonder what it would taste like with different flavours added to it?



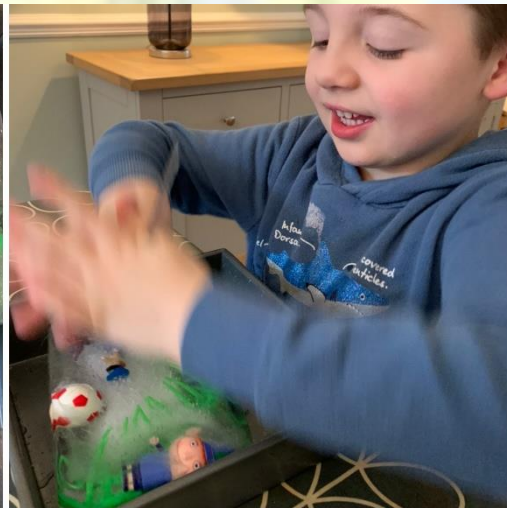








The **Parrots** have been busy learning at home too and Ms Boylett has really enjoyed seeing all their work and photos.



## Home School Link Worker

Guildford Family Centre offer **free virtual advice sessions and parenting courses**. Please see the attached flyer for all the dates available from February to May 2021. Below are more details regarding the virtual parenting courses – Parenting Puzzle.

# Virtual Parenting Puzzle

## 4 Week Course

Book your place on our FREE course now.

This Nurturing Programme helps to deal with those challenges in the family, so that you can have a calmer, happier life. Giving you the tools you need to get the best out of your family life.

**Understanding**

why children behave as they do

**Recognising**

the feelings behind behaviour (ours and theirs)

**Exploring**

different approaches to discipline

**Finding** ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children

**Learning** the importance of looking after ourselves



### Two new course dates:

**Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021 @ 10.30-11.30**

**Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 @ 10.30 -11.30**

Spaces are limited so please book your place by calling 01483 510 570

Proudly run by The Guildford Family Centre



@GuildfordFamilyCentre

**Appeer Community Interest Company** offer help and information for girls/women with with an Autism Spectrum Condition. For more information please see the flyer attached to this blog.





**SURREY URGENTLY  
NEEDS MORE  
FOSTER CARERS**

**Do you have a spare room?  
Could you open your home  
and heart to a child?**

Have you considered fostering? Meet a foster family in your local area and hear about their experiences.

Email foster carer **Cindy** at **[Cindyajmorris@gmail.com](mailto:Cindyajmorris@gmail.com)** for more information and/or to request to join the online event.

Call **07851654544** if you have trouble joining the event!

Find out more about fostering: **[www.surreycc.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/fostering)**



**Tuesday**  
**9<sup>th</sup> February 7:45pm**

**Friday**  
**26<sup>th</sup> March 7:45pm**

**Thursday**  
**8<sup>th</sup> April 3pm (half term)**

## From the Office

**Half Term** - School will be closed for half-term as planned (Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February)

**Inset Day** - A reminder that we have an **Inset Day on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March** therefore children will not be coming to school and remote learners will not have any work set in Google Classrooms on this day.

## **Admissions Information**

The school **Admissions Policy for 2022/23**, which is unchanged from that for 2021/22, has been determined by the Governing Body and is available on the school [website](#).



# Tailfeatherdance

## NEW JUNIOR DANCE CLASSES

**Fantastic Creative Dance classes for Primary School Children with additional learning needs.**

Tailfeatherdance has provided over 300 Zoom Dance classes since March 2020 for young adults with learning disabilities



### NOW IT'S THE KIDS' TURN!

**5 - 7 years**

**FREE TASTER**

**Saturday 6th Feb**

**9.30 - 10.15am**

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**6-WEEK COURSE**

**Saturday 27th Feb**

**9.30 - 10.30am**

**£36**

**8 - 11 years**

**FREE TASTER**

**Thursday 9th Feb**

**4.00 - 4.45pm**

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**6-WEEK COURSE**

**Thursday 25th Feb**

**4.00 - 5.00pm**

**£36**

**CREATE \* IMAGINE \* DREAM \* ACHIEVE \* TOGETHER**

The session will be full of fun, looking at themes through imaginative movement games, learning how we move as individuals and how to create dances together.

QUALIFIED & EXPERIENCED STAFF / ENHANCED DBS / PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

**To find out more, or to book your place:**

<https://www.tailfeatherdance.com/classes>

Tailfeatherdance@gmail.com

## Holiday Clubs

**Covid won't stop Boogie Pumps dance club bringing the party to your home this Half Term.**

Struggling to think of ways to keep the kids entertained? Boogie Pumps to the rescue!

We have a phenomenal timetable lined up for you with something to get involved with **EVERY DAY**.

All sessions will be on Zoom and allow your child to interact with others from the safety & comfort of their own home. [Click here for more information or to join](#)

BP will keep your kids happy, energised, entertained and possibly most importantly...occupied. This holiday they will not only learn new skills & build their confidence but make some really wonderful, positive memories.





We want to update you on what you can expect from [TAZ holiday activities during February half term](#). Following the most recent Government guidelines, we can only offer **limited spaces for children of critical workers and vulnerable children\*** ie those who currently have a place in school. (Proof from your school that you have a place may be required).

[\\*Click here to view the Government's definition of these categories](#)

Multi activity days will be available with smaller ratios for:

- Juniors 8 -11 years (1:6)
- Seniors 11-13 years (1:8)

Between 9.30 am and 4.15pm daily.

**Activities could include:** archery, mountain biking, low ropes challenge course, woodland skills – firelighting, cooking over the fire, den building, eco arts and crafts, orienteering and scavenger hunts, team challenges and games.

To make your bookings :

- Henley Fort, Guildford – [book here](#)
- High Ashurst, near Dorking – [book here](#)
- Thames Young Mariners, near Richmond/Kingston – [book here](#)

**Childcare vouchers now accepted for bookings at all three centres.**

The safety of our participants, their parents/carers and our staff remain our priority and our existing extra COVID measures are still in force.

We look forward to seeing those of you who meet the government criteria in February half term and everyone else, as soon as we are able to.