

12th March 2021



Mail on Friday

Redhill Primary Academy and Nursery Weekly Newsletter

Email us at: parentcontact@redhillprimary.co.uk

Full Reopening of School - Welcome Back!

We would like to say what a wonderful week it has been having all the children return to school. The children have spent lots of time reconnecting with their friends and the school staff, catching up on their experiences over the last few months.

Both the children and staff have thoroughly enjoyed the start of our Get Fit for Summer programme and all the lovely activities completed through our Calm Project.

Friday 19th March 2021

Red Nose Day

On Friday 19th March, your child is able to come to school dressed as a superhero or as their favourite World Book Day character in exchange for £1 to be donated to the Red Nose Day charity.

We are really pleased to support this worthy cause once again.

Please log on to your ParentPay account to make your £1 donation.

Thank you for your support.



Omegle - Warning for Parents

Omegle is an app and a website. In recent weeks, there has been a lot of reporting in regards to a surge in usage, particularly in teens and younger children. The BBC have reported that they carried out an investigation and found a significant amount of disturbing content.

Omegle has been around for many years, it isn't new and there have always been significant concerns. Essentially, it's a place which openly advertises 'come in and talk to a stranger'. You simply click a button and you are randomly placed in a video chat room with a completely random person. There's no age verification, no warnings and it's doubtful whether there is any meaningful moderation.

It has increased in popularity because certain high-profile influencers have been talking about it on TikTok.

According to the news report, videos tagged with Omegle have been viewed on TikTok more than 9.4 billion times.

We do not recommend you engage children with this but simply wanted to inform you about the Omegle app so that you can keep your ears to the ground.

You can view the BBC news article at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-56085499>

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations will be taking place on a PD Day this term, Thursday 1st April.

Therefore, please remember that your child will not be in school on this day.

Thank you.

The Masked Reader Challenge

As promised we are going to reveal who our sneaky masked readers were from last week's challenge. Were you able to guess them all?



Miss Farmer reading *The Twits* by Roald Dahl



Mrs Davies reading *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae



Mrs Fance reading *Stuck* by Oliver Jeffers



Mrs Richards reading *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak



Mrs Shaw reading *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* by JK Rowling



Miss Kibble reading *ABC Animal Rhymes for You and me* by Giles Andreae



Mrs Whiting reading *The Tummy Beast* by Roald Dahl



Mrs Davies (Y4) reading *Smelly Peter the Great Pea Eater* by Steve Smallman



Mrs Williams (Y3) reading *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae



Mrs Cartwright reading *A Squash and a Squeeze* by Julia Donaldson

PE and Sport

At Redhill Primary Academy, Physical Education and Sport play a huge role in keeping our pupils healthy and active. We place great emphasis on physical activity - within our curriculum teaching time, through extra-curricular clubs and by participating in competitions. We have been acutely aware that much of the enrichment in sport that we usually offer has been cancelled over the past year due to COVID-19; on our return, we have been really passionate about ensuring that our children have increased opportunities to take part in a variety of sporting activities.

Through our offer, we want to boost self-esteem, reduce stress, improve sleep, and prepare the children for a day full of learning. Henry and Mya, from Year 3, stated, "It makes us more awake and ready for the day." This is in addition to the benefits to the children's physical health. Two pupils from Year 6, Harriet and Zac, said, "We do it to keep fit but it is really good for our mental health to stay active too." Alongside this, we aim to provide opportunities for our children to develop numerous skills and values: leadership, collaboration, patience, discipline, perseverance, and resilience to name a few.

Therefore, we have launched a 'Get Fit for Summer' programme, where our children participate in a variety of sporting activities on a daily basis. We have increased our curriculum teaching time to three sessions per week and we are starting every day with a morning run within or around the perimeter of the school grounds. Dionne and Harvey, who are in Year 4, stated, "I like doing extra PE as it is fun and interesting and we get to practise more of our favourite sports." At lunchtimes, we offer running, football, bootcamp and multi-sports clubs. After school clubs are also available which include hockey, football, tag rugby, netball, dodgeball as well as a number of others. Ruby and Toby, two Year 5 students, said, "These clubs give us the option to do more sport which we couldn't do for a long time, allowing us to be active and to see more of our friends."

Our aim, through this approach of prioritising physical and mental health and well-being, is to help our pupils become happy and resilient individuals who have a life-long passion for physical activity, keeping their mind and body healthy.



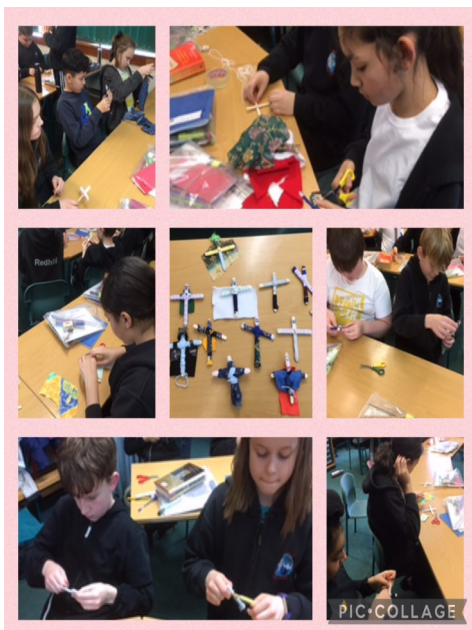
The Calm Project

This week is our first week with everyone back in school since Christmas. Over the past few months, we have all had to face something which none of us expected or could have prepared ourselves for. Some of us might be experiencing some emotions that don't make us feel great - we might be feeling anxious, worried, nervous, upset and disappointed. All of these feelings are perfectly normal and both children and adults experience these feelings. Therefore, this week the children have all been completing some PSHE every day of the week to try and help them identify, discuss, understand and manage these emotions. All children have explored key themes of spotting and sharing worries, settling thoughts, soothing senses and thinking of other emotions like hope and happiness

Here are some of the activities children were able to get involved in:

Creating a Birch Tree Forest

Year 6 focussed on soothing their senses exploring how listening to music, being creative and using mindfulness techniques can help calm our mind and body.



Creating Worry Dolls
KS2 considered how they share their worries.

'A problem shared is a problem halved'

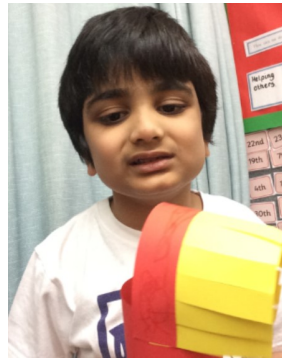


Calm project—Year 1

Calm Your Thoughts Art Work



Soothe Your Senses—Breathing Wands



Share Your Worries—Worry Kites



THIS WEEK FROM THE FRIENDS

Pastoral Care Dream Becomes A Reality Thanks to Construction Company

When The Friends of Redhill put out a rallying call for help to assemble the school's pastoral care building, little did we know that one of the country's best known multinational infrastructure groups, with capabilities in construction, support services and infrastructure investments, would come to our aid.



Press Release:

The Friends of Redhill, a group of parents and friends, who raise funds for extra school resources at Redhill Primary Academy in Priorslee, hit the press at the end of last year when they asked for help to assemble the separate pastoral care room, a stand-alone building they had worked hard to fundraise and purchase for the school.

After the building's foundations were laid in October, the group of fundraisers, often described as 'imaginative, creative and a little bit crazy' with their fundraising ideas, struggled to find the help they needed, that was until a team of construction experts from Balfour Beatty Living Places in Telford and Wrekin stepped up to assemble the summer house style building in the grounds of the school.

The Telford & Wrekin Council contractor team, who's day jobs include highway maintenance, highway resurfacing and delivery of major projects, arrived at the school and in just one weekend, put together the structure which now sits proudly in the grounds of the popular primary school which first opened in 1998.

"It's not often I'm stuck for words," said Pru McCarney, Chair of The Friends, "But when I heard Balfour Beatty had been in touch and were putting a team together to help us, I was actually speechless. The expertise and professionalism that these people brought to our project was amazing, we could never have done it without them.

“Long before the Covid-19 pandemic took hold of this country, we raised funds in readiness for our precious pastoral care building, of course without realising that its very existence would mean far more to the children than we could have ever imagined,” said Pru.

“Many of us have tapped into the incredible work that the teaching staff do, a Pastoral Care service that has been stretched at Redhill for many years, with one-to-one meetings taking place in busy corridors without the privacy children so desperately need when discussing their problems, so we set about raising the money to purchase this building in 2019.”

“It’s been a tough year for so many,” she continued, “but we have battled on and we just wanted to see this building up and ready for the kids this year and all those hundreds of children who will pass through Redhill in the years to come.”

Diane Chapman, Balfour Beatty Schemes Manager for Telford and Wrekin, said, “We are absolutely committed to supporting the communities in which we operate. It has been a pleasure to work alongside Redhill Primary Academy and The Friends of Redhill, on this wonderful project.

“We wouldn’t have been able to do it without the support of our valued supply chain partners, who have rallied together to deliver this essential pastoral care facility which will benefit hundreds of children for years to come.”

Cllr Lee Carter, Telford & Wrekin Council cabinet member for neighbourhood services, said, “The community support is part of the added social value commitment included in the contracts we negotiate with our contractors that support community projects across the borough. This project is a dream come true for the school and is one of many that are making a difference to local people’s lives. Well done to all the crews for a job well done.”

Cllr Richard Overton, chair of St Georges & Priorslee Parish Council, said, “This is a brilliant facility and I know how much it means to the school. A great job by everyone who has worked so hard to make this happen.”

Headteacher at the school, Claire Whiting, added, “We feel so fortunate to have the support of the build team in ensuring that our pastoral care building took shape, the finished building looks incredible, and I can’t thank the team enough who worked tirelessly throughout the weekend. We are, as always, so thankful to our wonderful PTA, The Friends of Redhill, who have once again accomplished something remarkable which will not only benefit the children who currently attend our setting but will support children for many years into the future.”



**Watch out for the grand opening of our Pastoral Care Room
in the weeks to come!**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MUFTI DAY FOR CHOCOLATE



FRIDAY 26TH MARCH

Wear your own clothes for our 'Chocolate Amnesty Day'!!!!

Plus, we have our popular Easter Raffle

Prizes include a family day out to Drayton Manor Theme Park, Cineworld tickets, a family leisure day at Revive Holiday Inn plus lots of yummy chocolate hamper prizes.....

The draw will take place on Tuesday 30th March

Further details and raffle tickets will be sent out next week

(Please note: Tickets purchased for last year's Easter raffle will remain valid – our 2020 raffle could not take place due to the first national Covid-19 lockdown)

YEAR 6 LEAVER'S HOODIES



Details and order forms will be sent out week commencing
w/c 15th March

YEAR 6 LEAVER'S PROM
DON'T FORGET TO SAVE THE DATE
WEDNESDAY 14TH JULY



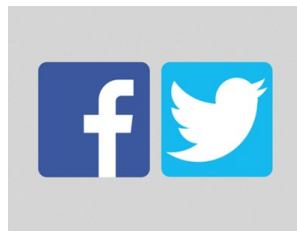
YES, WE CAN PROM IN '21 !!!!!

Further details including timings will be announced very soon!



Redhill Prom Kids '19.....

Don't forget you can keep in touch with us via.....



Facebook: Friends of Redhill Primary Academy

Twitter: @RedhillFriends

Email: Redhillfriends@outlook.com