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Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

As always I hope this weekly update finds everyone well and safe!



**Thank you for your support and understanding during the last 8 weeks of lockdown.**

I think that everyone within the school community deserves a **GROW** award in some shape or form for how well we have all adapted; how hard we have all worked and as always how we have all come together and worked as a team within the school community! This has created significant challenges not just with accessing technology and working from home but with emotions being tested during this time. The good news is that school re-opens for all on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March**. This is fantastic news for everyone and we are looking forward to working with and supporting your children face to face again.

On Monday of this week, we sent you out updated guidance on how the full return to school will be managed from next week and we really hope that you have taken the time to read it carefully. As mentioned last week, lockdown is not over, schools re-opening is just the first stage of the roadmap set out by the government. The reduction of mixing with other households presently and continuing social distancing is key to us all returning to normality and that goal of the 21<sup>st</sup> June. Of course, we must also ensure safety for everyone when the school reopens and a lot of our current good practice prior to this lockdown will continue and we will as always update you along the way if there are any changes.

Normally, at this time of year we would be writing to you to organise parents' evenings this term. However, as we have been working remotely since January and we are only just returning back to face to face teaching, these will be postponed until the summer term. This will enable us to work with your children, settle them back into school with their routines and learning and to identify next steps for them. As before, children will be given notes home if the class teacher needs to make contact with you and as always you can contact the class teacher via the class email or school email if you need to make contact and they will try and respond within 24 hours during the school week.

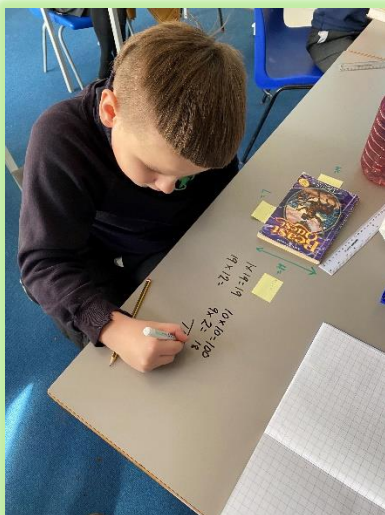
In my letter Monday, I explained that we would be sending you the opportunity to complete a short questionnaire about your child and their experiences throughout lockdown, as well as being able to communicate any observations or concerns. **Please select the link below** to do this and complete the questionnaire by no later than **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March**. This will support teachers greatly with the provision they provide your child in class.

### [Fir Tree Lockdown Survey](#)

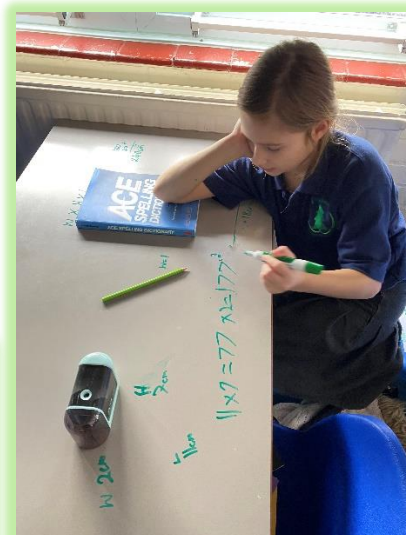
So as we come to the end of home learning for all (and hope it will remain this way) let's explore what our Fir Tree community has been up to both inside and outside of school this week!

## Amazing Fir Tree Work:

Following on from the engineering project last week, in Year 2 they decided to attempt to build using spaghetti and marshmallows at the weekend. Breanna also added a spaghetti giraffe to the house. Great job Breanna - looks like it was fun!



Year 5 have been working on area in Maths this term. They have been very creative when calculating and using the outdoors too - good job Year 5!

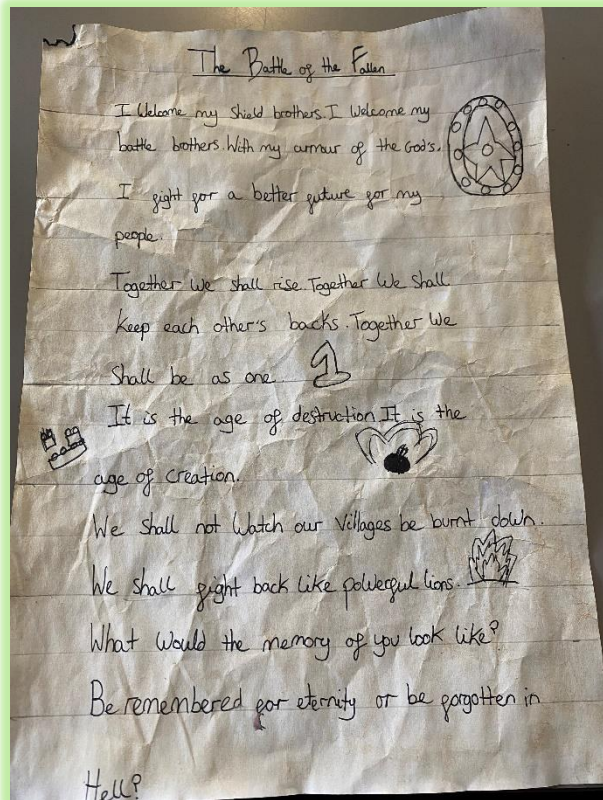


Year 2 have been practising their sewing skills for D&T. Megan - sewed flowers onto her bag; Sophia - created outfits for her dolls and Phoenix - practised different stitches. I am so impressed you three, I will be bringing you some trousers to hem for me!



This week Year 1 have been telling their alternative 3 Little Pigs stories, practising Once Upon a Time and story language. Mrs Hayton was very impressed with the oral stories in school: Veronica - 3 Little Chickens; Shaylen- 3 Little Sharks; Lexi - 3 Little Cats and Rudi - 3 Little Siamese Fighting Fish. Well done Year 1!





## Victory speech

24/02/2021 10:16

I welcome my friends, I welcome my blood brothers. I will guide you with my sword of victory. On this day we stand not together but as one!

Fire of death. Rain of life.

No longer shall we cower to our enemies. Do you want to burn in the fires of hell or be worshiped by Vikings everywhere?

Hearts will have their last beat,

Dagger will shatter lives, but your name will live among us, your spirit will ride the wind, your bravery will be remembered.

God will guide us to victory, he will rain fear into your enemies' hearts. God will give you strength, he will rain fear into your enemies' minds.

Let your swords guide you,

Make a barrier of shields,

Grab your bow and arrow and lead the way, Fighting for our future. Fighting for our lives.

I can't promise you will all

Make it out alive but I'm sure of one thing, you are a hero to us.

We will fight until the bitter end!

Victory will be ours!

**Miss Burton is very proud of Year 5 and all their work composing victory speeches as part of their History focus. They have all worked incredibly hard. Attached are Keeleigh's, Lily's and Tejas' speeches from TEAMS. In school, they crumpled paper then tea stained it to write their final speeches on, here is Gabriela's. Outstanding work Year 5!**

## The Victorious Battle Speech

22/02/2021 11:01

I welcome you fearless warriors, I welcome you my iron-willed brothers. I call upon you to stand courageously beside me as our swords rain down on the earth. I call upon you to stand victorious with me, you're one true heir sworn to the throne. Together we will win this fight and take back our land! For freedom and glory!

Together we will be champions. Together we will be victorious. Together we will find a better future.

It is the fire of death. It is the light of life. It is sword day, it is a day of reckoning. It is a day of freedom, it is a day to celebrate.

No longer shall we hide in shadows like a ghost, it is time to fight like the ferocious blood-thirsty wolves we are. We will feed on the blood of our enemies. We will consume them. Conquer your fear and I promise you will conquer your death!

Where will you be? Will you be a pile of bloody broken bones or be feasting in glorious victory?

This day we honour our ancestors! This day we fight! Catapults will crumble, shields will be shattered, horses will trample the enemy as they charge, lungs will be sliced and deflated, eyes will be gouged out, the desperate screams of slaughter will be heard for decades, until corpses lay still and silent.

I cannot guarantee you will come back in one piece. But I can guarantee you one thing. That, if you fall today, you will not fall alone. Your soul will be remembered in the light of fire, a flame that will burn forever.

Trust in your strength. Trust in your bravery. Trust in your courage. That, God will grant you victory with no regrets and rain fear into the hearts of your enemies. A rain that will bring a storm of defeat.

Gather your weapons, grab your flaming bow and arrows and light up the sky in victory. Let your swords burn in an inferno of justice and triumph. With every blood splatter, let your courage strengthen. Fight for hope, glory and our future!

## Conquest

25/02/2021 09:02

I call to you warlords, warlocks and victims of war, I will fight for a better future. My dagger shall storm blood everywhere and in the end we will be victorious. I am not doing this for myself, I am doing this for all of us here. We shall rise up and conquer our enemies.

We shall stand together in union. We shall keep each other fighting. We shall raze those who oppose us. We shall avenge the people who we have lost. We shall make a final stand.

This is the month of the fallen. This is the month we rise. This is the moment of destruction. This is the moment of creation. This is the week of hatred. This is the week of forgiveness. This is the week of hatred. This is the week of forgiveness.

No longer shall we be tyrannised by these Norman oppressors, who pillage like angry ghosts. No longer shall we lose hope when we are surrounded by bloodshed as chaotic as a starved lion. No longer shall we lose battles and be as weak as a fluffy kitten.

When a silent breeze corrupts the battlefield, I will be successful and walking through England's lush green strawberry fields. Where will you be? Living in brutal injustice or standing triumphant with your leader.

Battle axes will be broken. Daggers will be destroyed. Swords will be shattered. Attack, defend and stay strong in battle.

I cannot promise your survival but if you perish today, in Elysium, your bravery will be known as a solid rock, which can never be destroyed.

God will grant you victory with no regrets and rain anguish into the hearts of your enemies. God will help us and not think otherwise. He will grant us power and in the end we will be standing on the battlefield with pain but victory!

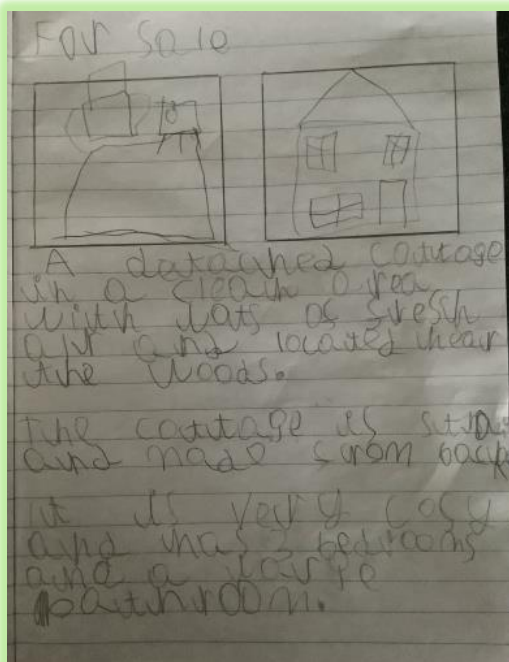
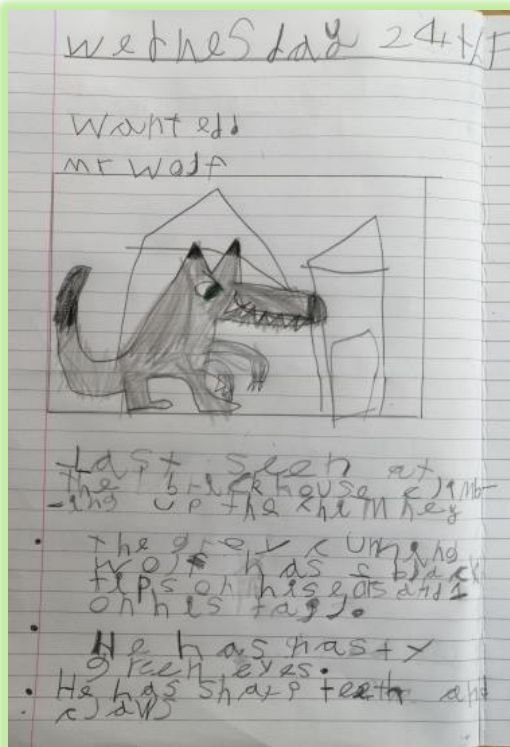
Let your swords burn in an inferno of glory and honour. Let your ancestors, who have fallen in the battlefield, blaze a path for you on the road to glory. Now, grab your swords and fight for the better future we are hoping for.

**Congratulations to Logan in Year 4 who has achieved his 150 nights of Reading - a super achievement, well done Logan!**

**Jonah in Year 1 did lots of work for engineer week - one activity was making the outfit for Teddy - looks fabulous!**



Mrs Hayton was very impressed with the writing in Year 1 this week! Bella wrote a super advert for the Three Little Pigs brick house for sale and Jonah and Hassan created a great Wanted Poster - well done!!



A huge well done to everyone working at home and in school since the beginning of January – we are immensely proud of all of you and your efforts; once again you have all been lockdown heroes!

We mentioned last week that Red Nose Day is back on **Friday 19th March** and this year it's never felt more important to have some fun and raise money to support people living incredibly tough lives. We need the power of funny to turn laughs into lasting change. Funny can change things. It can connect us. It can be the difference.

At Fir Tree this year we will be having a sponsored 'Superhero' Challenge within our bubbles. I can now reveal each superpower and what the children will be doing!

Class	Superpower	Sponsored event/s
Nursery	Patience	Practicing Patience
Reception	Nature Detectives	Activities relating to nature
Year 1	Supersonic radar ears	Listening missions
Year 2	Agility	Being active each hour of the day and an assault course
Year 3	Creativity	Will create an entire Roman Village in a day
Year 4	Teamwork	Problem solving and a team quiz
Year 5	Innovation	A class art collaboration
Year 6	Supercitizens	Activity Challenge

We will be asking for donations towards Comic Relief by sponsoring your child to take part in the events above and showcasing their class superpower. This is to be made via ParentPay, thank you.

Link to ParentPay donations page: [Comic Relief at Fir Tree](#)



We look forward to Monday, to seeing all the children again. Thank you in advance for supporting us with all the adaptations and measures we have put into place ensuring that drop off and collections are swift and safe.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes



Mrs L Wood  
**Associate Headteacher**

**Help keep each  
other safe  
Don't stand too close  
at the gates**



 **West Berkshire**  
COUNCIL

### Travelling to school safely

- if you live a short distance from school, walk, cycle or scoot to and from school wherever it is possible and safe to do so;
- avoid sharing a car with anyone outside of your household or support bubble;
- if you are using public transport to get to school, plan ahead and allow more time for your journey;
- when you are travelling by public or dedicated school transport, don't forget to:
- wear a face covering (unless you are exempt, including if you are aged 11 and under). It is important you wear them for the entirety of your journey, including inside a bus or train station;
- social distance where possible;
- wash or sanitise your hands regularly;
- be considerate to fellow passengers and staff.