



**BIGGIN HILL**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Part of the Charles Darwin  
Academy Trust

# NEWSLETTER

Term: Autumn | Issue 18 | Date: 29th January 2021



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN



Dear Parents and Carers,

Another week has flown by and we continue to be really pleased with how children are managing both at home and at school. We hope your children are enjoying our pre-recorded assemblies. We have now introduced some time for children to socialise over Google Meet, which will be on a Friday at some point during or after your child's Celebration Assembly. I hope this opportunity to interact and have a little down time will be something all children look forward to and a nice way to end each week.

This week, we conducted a fire drill in school. My apologies if this interfered with live lessons at all. Thank you to the children in school for their sensible conduct during this important drill.

In the Prime Minister's live briefing on 27th January, it was confirmed that schools will not be able to fully open after half-term. The earliest date our government has suggested is 8th March; this is very much a target date with a promise that schools will be given two weeks' notice for opening, but this is dependent on transmission rates, vaccination targets and the behavior of the virus. Once we know, we will let you all know.

We miss having all our wonderful children in school terribly. In the meantime, we are here for all our families - keep going, you are doing a tremendous job!

Have a wonderful weekend.

**Mrs Freeman**



### *Do you need any support?*

Please remember that we are aware of how difficult the current situation is and understand that this pandemic may have impacted families in different ways. If your family has been affected by bereavement and loss or are experiencing loneliness and isolation - we are happy to help and will do our very best to support you.

I would urge any families that feel they need any support to reach out to Mrs Sargeant, Family Support Worker and Inclusion Assistant.

Please email her directly at: [k.sargeant@bigginhillps.com](mailto:k.sargeant@bigginhillps.com) or contact the office to request a phone call.

## STARS OF THE WEEK

### *Home Learners*

Jill Barklem: **Sienna W**  
 Beatrix Potter: **Georgia B**  
 Emily Gravett: **Teddie C**  
 Eric Carle: **Joshua S**  
 Abi Longstaff: **Evelyn B**  
 Michael Rosen: **Henry B**  
 Helen Cooper: **Baxter B**  
 Jeremy Strong: **Amos K**  
 Berlie Doherty: **Zachary C**  
 Adam Frost: **Imogen K**  
 Michael Bond: **Jacob A**  
 Katharine Woodfine: **Annabella B**  
 Abi Elphinstone: **Lilya P**  
 Andrew Donkin: **Nick B**  
 Sinead O'Hart: **Finley G**

★ You are our  
**'Stars of the Week'** ★

## STARS OF THE WEEK

### *In school Learners*

Nursery: **Joshua H**  
 Reception: **Jacob D**  
 Year 1: **Jack T**  
 Year 2: **Bella C**  
 Year 3: **Amelia B**  
 Year 4: **Lily-Rose K**  
 Year 5: **Liam G**  
 Year 6: **George J**

★ You are our  
**'Stars of the Week'** ★

# EXAMPLES OF SOME AMAZING HOME LEARNING



## Reception



We have been learning about firefighters as part of our 'People Who Help Us' topic. Millie A has drawn this fantastic picture of a firefighter and written the initial sound.

Matilda W has drawn a picture of her favourite scene from the story 'Emergency' and added in the question "Who will you save now?"



## Year 3

How did that blossom turn into an apple?		
Seed	The seed makes trees and plants 'y'.	What are the different ways that seeds are dispersed?
Germination	Germination is where the plant is going around.	The seeds are around the trees people dig the seed out of the ground or people pick them out of the ground or they leave them to rot.
Sprouting	Sprouting means when the plant has leaves on the trees.	What role do bees play in growing of new plants?
Stem	The stem is where the plant has a long green bit.	The bees are attracted to the pollen and because they have lots of colours so they can make more food.
Pollen	The pollen attracts the bees so they can eat.	Did you know? Did you know that a tree can grow up to 52,500 cubic metres.
Root	The roots are the long white bits under the ground.	Did you know that pollen can attract bees?
What are the main stages of an apple tree's life cycle? The first one you do is plant the seeds. Next you water all the plants and let it dry. Then you open water to your plants.		

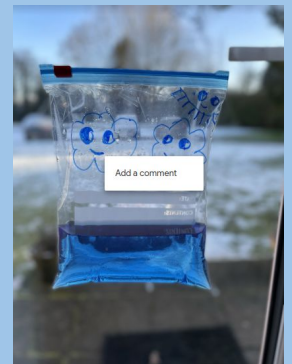
This week we finished our topic 'How did that blossom turn into an apple?'. Ellee A has produced this amazing 'Time to Shine'.

## Year 4

We have started a new literacy text about Ernest Shackleton and his voyage across Antarctica. We have been researching different crew members. Imogen K has completed this brilliant research.

Photo of your character: (To copy and paste, right click on the picture you want. Right click points into the box next)	
Name:	Thomas Frank McLeod
Nationality:	scottish
Job:	Able Seaman
Job Description:	A sailor with more than two years' experience
Interesting fact #1:	He was born at Stromway on the Isle of Lewis
Interesting fact #2:	He celebrated his 14th birthday in Australia.

We have been learning about the Water Cycle and making Water Cycle models in plastic bags. This model was made by Jeremiah K.



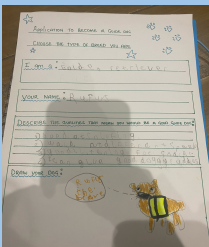
## Year 5

Dear diary,  
I am feeling BLUE today! I only wanted to stroke the little red squirrel but it ran away as quick as the speed of lightning. It put me in a foul mood. Then I saw her - the little girl with the sack- I think I hurt her. I snatched the sack of her and she fell. Why does everything always go wrong? Why are they looking at me that way? I didn't even want the stupid sack! And now...they are all after me. I feel worried because I don't want to be captured. I know just what to do. I shall burn the sack so there is no evidence.

Annabella B has been writing in the first person as the witch in our book 'The Lost Happy Endings.'

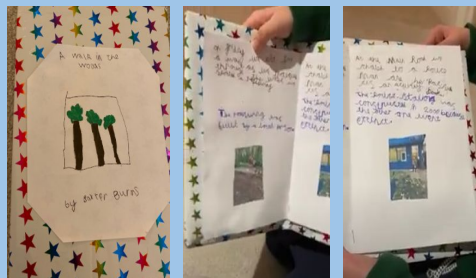
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## Year 1



We have been reading books about dogs and learning about how to be a guide dog. We pretended we were dogs and completed a job application for the role. Freddie Y's application was for a dog called Rufus.

## Year 2



Baxter C has produced this beautiful 'A Walk in the Woods' story book for his literacy task.

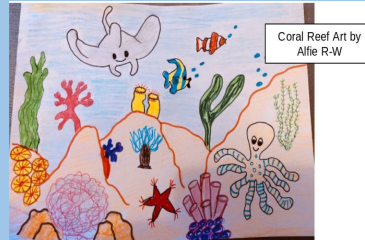


Khian G has been learning to draw astronauts as part of his work on Neil Armstrong.

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## EXAMPLES OF SOME AMAZING HOME LEARNING

This week, Year 6 completed their own coral reef themed artwork. The results were absolutely amazing!



From left to right: Archie R-W, Alfie R-W, Bella H

*We are seeing some brilliant work on Google Classrooms from all our home learners and some fabulous work in school from all our in school learners - you are all amazing!*

### YEAR 1

#### *History of Music - Guns N' Roses, Pavarotti and Stormzy*



For our History topic this term, we have been learning about how popular music has changed over the last 60 years. We have enjoyed listening to a variety of bands and singers from different decades such as Guns N' Roses, Pavarotti and Stormzy. We have asked our parents and grandparents questions about their favourite artists and decided which ones were our favourites too. We have also looked at how the ways in which we listen to music has changed. To do this we placed Cassettes, CDs, MP3 players and Smartphones on a timeline. We all had a great time making up our own band names and designing our own album covers.

**Miss Turner, Mrs Lucas and Mrs Churchward**

### YEAR 5

#### *Anglo-Saxons*



Normally in school we would have a buzz day at the beginning of every topic, so Year 5 decided why change? In our history learning this term, we are learning about the Anglo-Saxons. On Wednesday, Year 5 had an Anglo-Saxon day and one of our activities was cooking. Did you know the Anglo-Saxons sweetened their food with honey because sugar wasn't available? We also had a go at designing our own Pictish standing stone to show an important event.



**Miss Wigfield and Miss Elliott**

#### *Look out For - Home Learning Provision*

- The Good Morning message on Monday will now include an OPTIONAL well being activity for the week.
- A letter will be sent next week with suggestions about how children can continue to practice for their Maths Challenges. Again, this is additional to their maths work and is **optional**. We are providing this in response to parental feedback.
- Two live lessons a day - one English and one Maths.
- A weekly video that sets out a learning challenge related to another subject from the curriculum.
- A daily physical/PE challenge. Also see our letter dated 26th January regarding 5-a-day Fitness.
- Stories uploaded to our YouTube channel.
- A weekly pre-recorded assembly.
- Social time for children on a Friday.
- Curriculum Maps - have been uploaded to Google Classrooms.



## PUPIL VOICE Year 3

**This week, Pupil Voice was held with Year 3 children learning both in school and at home.**

**Are you expected to do your best and produce good work?**

"Yes."

"Yes you are because they want you to do your best."

"Yes because I always try to do my best writing."

**What do you enjoy most about your learning?**

"Learning new things because then I get smart."

"I enjoy science."

"Playtime... I love it!"

"When it is fun to learn new things."

"Discovering and learning."

**What are you working on to improve at the moment?**

"Three times tables."

"Four times tables because we are learning how to do it."

"My times tables because I sometimes get them wrong."

"Spellings."

**Tell me something you have mastered?**

"Handwriting because I have been trying hard."

"Literacy because I have got better at it."

"Maths."

"Reading books."

## COVID-19 UPDATES AND USEFUL LINKS

All the latest guidance can be found at:  
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

**NHS 'Change 4 Life'  
Easy and low-cost recipes during  
lockdown:**  
<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas>



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR INCLUSION TEAM



Hi everyone,

This week, we have included some information about Bromley Y, a wellbeing service offering emotional support for children up to the age of 18.

**This is their latest COVID-19 update!**

We are still here to support you and your young people throughout these difficult times. Most of our 1:1 interventions, workshops and other services are being offered remotely by telephone or video, so please don't hesitate to contact us if you need help.

The Bromley Y Team  
**Tel: 020 3770 8848**

**Mrs Sargeant, Family Support Worker and  
Inclusion Assistant  
k.sargeant@bigginhillps.com**

### IMPORTANT NOTE

We are working hard to keep everyone as safe as possible in school. I must ask that if your child or a family member within the household is unwell with any of the key symptoms, please keep your children at home and follow the government guidance. This is very important for us **all** in making sure everyone is as safe as possible.

**Mrs Freeman and Mrs Lawrence**



**HAVE A FANTASTIC WEEKEND AND STAY SAFE**

