



Good Shepherd Newsletter

Thursday 11th February 2021

Home Learning

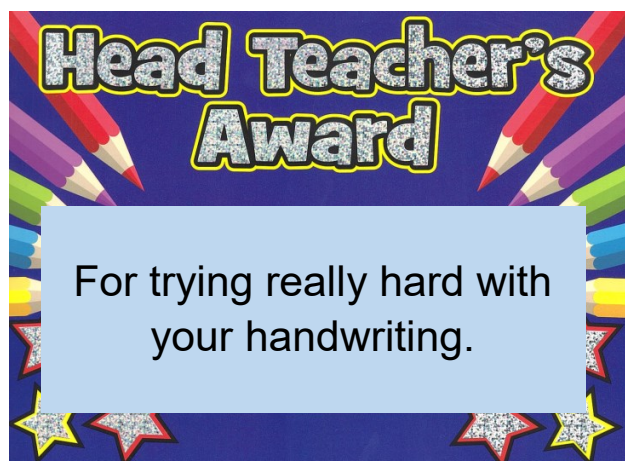
There will not be any Zoom lessons or google Classroom work on Friday or next week. Home learning will recommence after half term on Monday 22nd February.

Headteacher Awards

Well done to the following children for their virtual certificates:

Rec Weronika and Jayden
Y1 Kairi and Rukia
Y2 Adele and Joel
Y3 Janelle and Chika
Y4 Moturayo and Nathan
Y5 Alvin and Isabelle
Y6 David and Romeo

After half term, I will be looking for children who have consistently uploaded work every day this half term.



Wellbeing

Young Minds have put together some tips on how you can support your child's mental health during the pandemic:

[Supporting Parents Helpfinder](https://www.youngminds.org.uk)
([youngminds.org.uk](https://www.youngminds.org.uk))

School Reopening to all Pupils

I am sure that you are as keen as I am to know when all children will be able to return to school. Mr Johnson has announced that the earliest schools will return will be 8th March but there will be an announcement after half term with more information, so we shall have to wait and see.

Home Learning Survey

Thank you so much to all the families who responded to the home learning survey. We had a very impressive 99 responses and these were overwhelmingly positive with some helpful ideas for us to make even more improvements.

- 73% of you thought the length of the Zoom lessons was the right length.
- 76% of you felt that having two live lessons a day was about right.
- 70% of you said that the amount of work on Google Classroom each day was the right amount for your child.
- 88% of you stated that the level of difficulty of the work was about right for your child.

In addition, there were some really lovely comments, these are just a few of them:

"Well done to all the teachers."

"There's good communication and you ensure pupils' wellbeing."

"You encourage the children to work hard."

"You call weekly to check on the kids."

"You make sure the kids submit their homework."

"You're doing great, carrying everyone along."

Respect

Responsibility

Determination

Positivity

Teamwork

Good Shepherd Half Term Challenge

How many of these things can you do over half term?

- ♦ Learn how to make something to eat. It could be something simple like rice krispie cakes [Chocolate Rice Krispie cakes recipe - BBC Good Food](#) or something lovely and tasty like jollof rice [Jollof rice recipe - BBC Food](#) (these are two recipes I found online but you might have your own family recipes) or perhaps you want to try something different.
- ♦ Do a prayer doodle. Write some words from scripture in the centre of a piece of paper and begin to doodle. Pray as you doodle. You can find out more by following the link [Praying in Color / Praying in Black and White | Praying in Color](#)
- ♦ There are some craft ideas on this link [Virtual Half Term Camp | Barracudas](#). I'm definitely going to try the iris folding activity!
- ♦ See how many books you can read.
- ♦ Keepy uppy football. Can you improve your count over time?
- ♦ Do a treasure hunt. Find something around your home which begins with each letter of the alphabet.
- ♦ Put on a show. You could use puppets, teddies or you could play several characters.
- ♦ Play indoor tennis. Decorate two paper plates and stick a pencil onto each one to make a handle. Use a balloon as your tennis ball so nothing gets broken!
- ♦ Create a touchy feely bag. Use an empty PE bag and put 10 things inside the bag for your family to guess what is inside the bag. Here are some ideas: a coin, a pebble, a clothes peg, a pen, Lego.



Well Done Everyone

I have been so impressed with how children have engaged with the home learning and this is all thanks to you, as parents and carers, for giving your children the encouragement they need. It has certainly been a much harder half term than we were expecting and I know it has not been easy juggling home schooling and your own work.

They all need a very good rest away from screen time over half term so I have put together a Good Shepherd Half Term Challenge for them.

Have fun!



A Prayer for your Family

Today is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Lourdes is a place of healing so perhaps your family might like to pray to Our Lady to ask for her help for those who are struggling during this difficult time of lockdown.

Dear Lord Jesus, please increase our faith in your love and compassion, and give us the compassion and strength to help us to care for all those in need. Amen

Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and is the start of Lent, a time to reflect and think about ways we can be more like Jesus.



If you need to contact the office, please email if possible rather than telephoning as this is easier when staff are working from home.

office@goodshepherd.croydon.sch.uk

*Have a good half term
and stay safe,*

Mrs Day