Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy new year to all members of our school community! I hope that you all enjoyed a restful Christmas break and are geared up ready for the adventures that await us all in 2022. All children have settled back into school extremely well and are enjoying their new topics.

This term our whole school BIG QUESTION is 'How will I change the world?'. During our first assembly of the term, children were asked to think what their Big Picture would be for the future. If there were no limits, how would they change the world? Please do take the time to chat to your child about this and perhaps share your own thoughts.

I would also like to remind parents that we have Openview Education visiting us next Wednesday 19th January to deliver a parent session on Online Safety for Parents. There are still places available so please book your place by completing this <u>Google Form</u>.

Finally, I would like to make a renewed plea to parents to ensure that their child reads regularly at home. I cannot stress enough how important practising this skill is to enable your child to access learning from across the curriculum.

Thank you for your ongoing support and here's to a fantastic Term 3!

Mr M Currie Head of School

COVID Measures - updated guidance January 2022:

All staff, visitors and parents must now wear face coverings when coming onto the school site. This includes on the playground, when picking up your child. Whilst this is not inside the building, it is a time when social distancing is more difficult. Please respect everyone in our community. Let's help one another keep our families safe.



This term we welcome our new Site Manager - Mrs Tritton

Hi my name is Karen, Mrs Tritton or please call me Mrs T. I have been a School Site Manager for about 6 years but have been in the school surroundings for 17 years.

I enjoy DIY, motorbikes and gardening and have a love of garden gnomes but my real love is my family. I have 3 children, 2 boys and a girl, along with 2 mad dogs and a tortoise.

I look forward to getting to know you all.



REMINDERS:

19th January
Online Safety Training
for Parents/Carers

26th January Parent Session 'Understanding Behaviour' 1:30<u>-3:00</u>

7th February Children's Mental Health Week 10th February Year 5 Parent Information Session - Applying for the Kent Test 11+



Congratulations to all of our winners!

Week Ending 14/01/2022

Nursery

Raven A & Keeley-Rose C

Reception Green

Adele T & Ratmir S

Reception Red

Thasya T & Matthew N

Year 1B

Alessia R & Amelia-Rose T

Year 1H

Eva F & Bettie L

Year 2Wa

Pearl N & Remi W

Year 2Wr

Alexander S & Lena M

Year 3F

Suki S & Jack C

Year 3S

Fatima J & Ameer H

Year 4B

Joanna K & Eduard V

Year 4C

Fatima C & Kacper P

Year 4N

Richy P & Lola R

Year 5A

Ksenjia S & Nilab A

Year 5C

Peris J & Brandon A

Year 5P

Lillie-Mae A & Leah-May T

Year 6S

Zarif H & Rubens L-F

Year 6W

Hollie H & Emily P

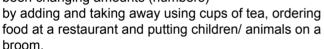
CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

Nursery

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a wonderful half term. Welcome to our new starters. They have settled well into the Nursery routine. Our topic this term is transport and we have talked about our experiences with transport. Our story this week is, 'Room on the

Broom'. We are learning to retell the story using masks and stick puppets.

In Phonics we have looked at rhyming words and the initial sound in words. In Mathematics we have been changing amounts (numbers)



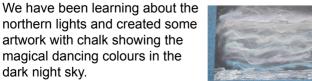
Our big question this term is "How can I change the world?" We will be talking about what we can do to make the world a better place for us to grow. We've been discussing our goals and dreams and we'll work hard to achieve them.

Year 1

Year 1 have had a roarsome start to the new term! We have been learning all about dinosaurs. This week, we had a special dinosaur experience day, where we had a virtual visit to Maidstone Museum and learnt all about fossils and how they were formed. In English, we have been reading Tyrannosaurus Drip. We have been

practising our descriptive language by designing our own dino habitats. In Maths, we have been working with numbers to 20, comparing them in different ways. In Science, we have been learning about winter and have been spending time outside exploring ice. We found ice triangles, rectangles and even ice in the shape of dinosaur teeth! We have compared winter in England and Finland, where it is much colder.





Reception

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope you had a nice break and charged the batteries for the new term. This week we've been looking at "Room on the Broom" and enjoyed making our own brooms and practising "magic rhyming spells".

In Phonics we have started set 2 sounds and we will be learning the following "special friends/digraphs": ay, ee, igh, ow, oo, ar, or, air, ir, ou and oy.

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"How can I change the world?"

We will be talking about what we can do to make the world a better place for us to grow. We've been discussing our goals and dreams and we'll work hard to achieve them.

In Maths we have been looking at number composition, thinking about different ways of making the same number (1+4=5, 2+2+1=5) and comparing quantities to see which group has more/fewer.

Please continue to support your children with their learning at home and have fun while learning together.

Year 2

Welcome back to Term 3. Year 2 have had a brilliant return to school. In the last week, we have been looking at the big question 'How can I change the world?. Please discuss this with your children at home as they

have some brilliant ideas!

This term, we are looking at multiplication and division in maths and the children have made a great start practising arrays using cubes and pictures. We have started our new class novel, 'The boy who grew dragons'. The children are really enjoying the story and learning about dragons. Please continue to read for 10 minutes daily with your child as this makes a big difference to their learning. Keep an eye out for our amended date for our plant experience day.





CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

Year 3

It has been fantastic to see the children return to school with such enthusiasm and excitement about their learning.

We are all reading *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo which the children are really enjoying. We are using this to support our writing of a diary entry where we will write as if we were Edward as he is thrown overboard into the Pacific Ocean.

In Maths we are now finishing our work on multiplication and division and we will be moving onto money which will include calculating change. Please support your child with their recognition of the different coins and paper money.

The children have been eager to share their knowledge of Europe as part of our Geography lessons. We have been using Google Earth to find out more about our amazing planet.

Year 4

Year 4 have made an enthusiastic return to school! We have got stuck in with our big question 'How can I change the world?' by discussing our dreams and goals for the future, we will continue to build upon these as the term continues.

For our first piece of writing, we are exploring ways we can change the world through the way we live in it by writing a non-chronological report. We have looked at 'What a Waste' to support our writing and discussed key environmental issues.

We have started our new maths topic of division. We have been dividing 2-digit numbers by a 1-digit, using our previous knowledge of place value, multiplication and the resources in our classroom. We have persevered exploring remainders.

We are enjoying discovering the continent North America in our geography lessons. We have used atlases to locate the 23 countries and explored the climate.

Year 5

Year 5 have had an amazing start to 2022. We have already began to explore our big question "How can I change the world" by thinking about our goals and dreams of the future. We will have a continued focus on this as the term progresses.

We have started our work on multiplication, by looking at multiplying 4 digits by 1 digit. Please continue to support your children with their multiplication at home as this will be invaluable to support with their progress.

In English, we have been having fun learning about narrative poems and will be contributing our own stanzas to the poem 'Grannie' by Vernon Scannell.

We have been exploring the continent South America. So far, the children have focussed on discovering facts about the different countries and their flags.



Year 6

Happy New Year and welcome back to Term 3. The children have returned to school refreshed and eager to learn and have enthusiastically accepted our Big Question challenge by identifying an impressive range of goals and dreams for the future. Some children were even brave enough to share their goals in our assembly this week! The children have discussed many ways they think they can change the world and it has been heartening to hear the empathy they have shown when considering causes they would like to help. There has been much talk of fundraising as a result.

We are continuing our WWII learning this term and in History have been using our learning of key figures to help us create micrography - the process of writing information over a traced photograph.

We had our first swimming lesson this week, and although some of Yr6 felt a little nervous beforehand, a great time was had by all and we are looking forward to going back next week.

