

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Dear Parents and Carers.

I hope you have all had a good final week to the term. This term has been hard work for us all and I know that we have all deserved this welcome break. This week I have really enjoyed observing the children, parents and teachers demonstrating what great Understand Others Bears they all are. One of my memories of this lockdown will be the kindness shown by everyone during such a difficult time. I hope you as a family have experienced the supportive community in which we live.



A big personal thank you to the school team who have worked so hard to provide a good support system for our community this term. Our office team, lunch break supervisors, teaching assistants, caretaker, cleaning team and teachers have all had increased expectations on their roles and responsibilities as a result of COVID. I am so proud of all that you have offered.

We are planning to have a **book change the first week back** for all the children that are learning remotely on **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 11am – 1 pm**. It really would be lovely to see you and it is great encouragement for the children to have new reading books each week. If you are unable to make this time slot, please let your class teacher know and we will make alternative arrangements for you. Children who are coming in to school will have their books changed by the Year Group teacher during the week.

### Highlights of the week

Class	Highlight
Giraffe Class	Mrs Warren and Ms Fletcher are super proud of Giraffe class this week - they have been thinking about the "Understand others" bear and in their tasks writing about people who are special to them and care and look after them. It has been amazing to read the lovely writing - lots of children sounding out the words themselves, working hard to form their letters correctly and remembering their finger spaces. Great work Giraffe Class!
Zebra Class	Miss Blackburn cannot believe how big the Zebra's brains are growing. They are amazing at recognising our digraphs and trigraphs and are beginning to recognise teen numbers! They were even able to guess what was missing from our tray in our tray game during our live story time session. Also, they are all brilliant dancers and hopes everyone enjoys Phonics disco as much as she does 😊
Penguin Class	We have had a brilliant week of learning in Penguin Class. The children have been finding information out about Buzz Aldrin and Buzz Lightyear. We compared the two Buzz's and used the conjunction 'because' to explain why they are different. Then we were imagine bears and became Buzz Lightyear

	for our hot seating activity! Miss Lee and Mrs Trafford are so proud of you
Lion Class	We have had a wonderful last week of term in Lion Class. The children have been fantastic mathematicians by working out the missing number in their number sentences and hunting for 2D and 3D shapes in their houses. Miss Mackay, Mrs Dalton and Mrs Trafford are so proud of you!
Leopard Class	Wow, what a brilliant week of learning we have had. We are now experts at division and can even solve division word problems. We have been imagine bears this week and have written poems about an osaurus animal. We have had some great ideas such as a merosaurus and a tigersaurs and our poems are amazing. Well done everyone you have all worked so hard this term, thank you. Have a restful half term,
Dolphin Class	The Dolphins have been Dazzling Dolphins this week. We have mastered division within the 2,5 and 10 times tables and we have also created our own creatures to write poems about using all 4 sentence types.We have reached the end of Fantastic Mr Fox and are looking forward to reading more books by Roald Dahl after half term.

Our school team are looking forward to welcoming all of our children back , hopefully early in Term 4. We are starting to plan ways to support our children with the transition and manage their mental well-being and academic areas to focus on.We have the children at the heart of all our plans. Postponing book week until the first week all of the children are back, will form part of our recovery curriculum, as we think it will be a lovely engaging way for children to mark their return back to school. More information about our plans will follow when hopefully we will know the date!!

Many thanks for your support and kindness shown to my staff this term. It is really appreciated by us all. Thank you.

Kind Regards

Mrs. Kirsti Harris

Headteacher



Our local authority are aware that there are many families who might be in need of some extra support. They have asked us to share this information with our families to help people get the help they need.

#### **Winter Grant Scheme**

The Winter Grant scheme aims to help meet immediate needs and really support those families who are struggling to afford food and utility bills (heating, cooking, lighting) and water for household purposes (including drinking, washing, cooking, central heating, sewerage and sanitary purposes), or other related essentials.

The financial support could include more practical items such purchase of blankets or more expensive items such as boiler / oven repairs or perhaps even a replacement oven if the existing one is broken beyond safe use / repair.

Parents and carers contact CAB on 03444 111 444 or the Council on 0800 953 7778 Quoting Winter Grant funding.