










LEARNING NEWS

WEEK 5TH OCTOBER 2020

<p>The Value of the Week</p> 	<p>This week's Value is Tolerance</p> <p>We have had some great values' nominations over the past few weeks. It has been wonderful to see the vast majority of children showing respect, trust and kindness. We are all 'tolerating' the many changes around school. I am sure we will have some wonderful nominations this week.</p> <p>Thank you to the parents that have also messaged in value nominations from home.</p> <p>For Mrs Greenwood's video please click on the link https://youtu.be/o7i4S8oegLs</p>
<p>Learning Links</p> 	<p>Class teachers have messaged and confirmed meeting dates. Again, thank you to the parents that have requested a meeting. It is great to see you and it will be great to share your child's learning with you.</p>
<p>COVID- 19 Update</p>  <p>Keep safe</p>	<p>Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI) Ofsted</p> <p>On Monday 28th September we were informed that Ofsted / HMI Inspectors were to visit the school on Tuesday 29th September. This was not a graded visit or inspection. This was a random selection visit to discuss the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Context – How has the school managed the lockdown, the impact on school, staff, pupils and families. - Attendance – Is attendance back to a similar level? - Safeguarding - How did we keep children safe during COVID lockdown and support the safe return to school etc? - Behaviour – What changes and adaptations have been made to the behaviour policy and practice? - Curriculum - Are we ready for remote learning in the future.... Our current curriculum and what did we do over lockdown. <p>It was a very busy day discussing everything the school and staff have done through lockdown and to provide the best support for children returning to school. The information provided will be used to inform a research paper and be part of sharing good practice. No observations or visits to class were undertaken. The inspectors were pleased with the school and thanked the commitment to ensuring children return to school, make progress and have their emotional, social and mental health needs met.</p> <p>A very brief letter will be published over the coming weeks.</p>
<p>Routines and Structures</p> 	<p>As previously mentioned, the vast majority of children have settled well into school and are responding well to the new timetables, support, learning and displaying safe, respectful behaviour.</p> <p>However, we have had a small minority of incidents where children have hurt, spat, attempted to bite etc. We will always do what is best for the child and staff. In these tricky times our staff safety and well being is a priority. We have a very tight team of staff and if staff become injured / ill and can not attend work then this will impact on the school's ability to offer full time provision.</p>

	<p>We are aware of schools having to close bubbles and the school due to staff shortages, positive cases of COVID etc. We are doing everything we can to keep the school open to all children. We therefore would encourage you to promote the school rules of safety, respect and learning to a high standard within your home.</p> <p>We value your support and know that to have the most impact it is best to work together.</p>
<p>Internet Safety</p> 	<p>Last week I mentioned some of the issues arising around what the children are going on at home.</p> <p>It continues to be a concern. We have a high number of children accessing games that are not age appropriate. They are also fixated on these games and sharing their details. This is impacting on the teaching and learning.</p> <p>We would encourage parents / carers to visit the following website and access the free materials to support your understanding.</p> <p>As a parent it is a minefield! It is continually evolving and although the internet is great it can also cause significant mental health difficulties in children and young people.</p> <p>https://nationalonlinesafety.com/hub/view/guide/what-parents-need-to-know-about-online-content-10-tips-to-keep-your-children-safe-online</p> <p>https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/what-parents-need-to-know-about-gaming-disorder-1</p>
<p>School Fundraising</p> 	<p>As we cannot hold our usual Fairs and fundraising activities we are looking for ideas and parental support to help us raise funds.</p> <p>This year we have the goal of improving the physical health of our children through encouraging healthy eating, exercise and widening their food choices.</p> <p>Our first goal is to purchase a fruit and salad trolley where the children can visit through the day to pick up healthy snacks. (Our children prefer cut up fruit and veg and often leave it when it is whole)</p> <p>If any parents would like to be part of a Friends of Stepping Stones (PTA) and support coming up with ideas please email office@steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk</p>
	<p>Just a gentle reminder – though the weather is gradually getting colder now, we are of course continuing to ensure all of the children get plenty of fresh air through the day. Please ensure your child is coming to school with a coat and jumper.</p>
<p>We continue to thank you for your support, engagement and positivity. Everyone is working really hard in school to provide the best support for your child.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Have a lovely week.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mrs. Dodd and the team at Stepping Stones School</p>	