



# SPRING TERM

28<sup>th</sup> February 2022

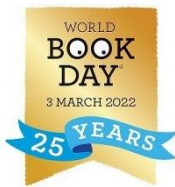
## Values at Stepping Stones

### The Value of the Week is Trust

This week we are focusing on the value of trust. Again, this is one of our core values. Last week we had some wonderful nominations from our taxi assistants celebrating the respect and patience on transport. During this week we will be encouraging the children to show trust by being honest, carrying out jobs of responsibility.

You could promote this at home and send in a home nomination. We would love to hear what wonderful things your child has been doing at home to show that they can be trusted.

World Book Day –  
A celebration of Our Favourite Books



During this week we will be celebrating World Book Day by sharing some of our favourite texts with the children throughout the week. Some of you may remember the staff made videos last year as Masked Readers. We shared these daily and encouraged the children to guess which staff member was sharing the text. We will be doing this again. We will release A Masked Reader Video Clip each day. We will share these in classes but please feel free to get involved at home too.  
On Friday morning we will be carrying out a range of activities linked to our favourite books. Please actively share books at home and encourage your child to have a favourite book to discuss this week.

COVID Updates and Illness





As you will be aware the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive COVID test result was removed on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> February. However, the guidance states that it is **recommended** for staff and children.  
Therefore, as an Alternative Provision school our staff are advised to continue using Lateral Flow Devices twice per week.  
We are expecting that any staff that test positive or any child who tests positive should follow the guidance and isolate for the 5 days / and until they receive a negative test result. We continue to have staffing challenges over the coming weeks.  
We ask that you continue to be vigilant around childhood illnesses.  
Last week we had a high number of children off school with a sickness and diarrhea bug. Please be advised that any children with tummy upsets of this nature are requested to be off school for 48 hours following the last episode of sickness and diarrhea.

Operation Encompass



Our school is part of Operation Encompass which works in conjunction between schools and Lancashire Constabulary.

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced any domestic abuse, or where the police have attended a home for different reasons and children from our school are present.

	<p>We have three Designated Safeguarding Leads – Alison Dodd, Micaela Armstrong and Jane Meacham. The DSL's receive information from other agencies such as the Police in order to ensure children have the best support in place following any incidents.</p> <p>We continue to ask parents / carers to inform school of any incidents, changes etc. that may cause your child distress and impact on their school day.</p>
<p><b>Keeping Children Safe Online</b></p> 	<p>Over the past weeks it has been brought to my attention that we have different children in different year groups on a range of apps and online platforms.</p> <p>We understand that parents / carers may choose to allow their child to access these apps / play on older games etc. We do want to bring your attention to the age restrictions and raise awareness of how you can keep your child safe.</p> <p><b>YouTube (13yrs)</b>– We have a number of children that have informed us that they are making videos and uploading onto YouTube. If this is the case: Can parents check what content your child is making and sharing. Is it appropriate? Are they putting themselves at risk?</p> <p><b>TIKTOK (13yrs)</b>– Again we have had children try to share their TikTok usernames and informing staff they are making videos and posting on this platform.</p> <p>Please can parents/carers check what their children are doing online and ensure they are kept safe from harm.</p> <p>I have added new help guides to the website....</p> <p><a href="https://www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/keeping-your-child-safe-online/">https://www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/keeping-your-child-safe-online/</a></p>
<p><b>PE Kits</b></p> 	<p>Can we please remind you to send your child in a appropriate PE kits for PE days.</p> <p>Most of our PE sessions are outside and therefore the children require a tracksuit.</p> <p>Please can you avoid putting your child in football kits or football tracksuits. Ideally, a plain tracksuit, t shirt, sweater (no hood), tracksuit bottoms, nothing too fancy.</p> <p>We ideally would like to keep sticking with children coming in on PE days in their tracksuit, however it is very much becoming a non-uniform day and not a generic plain tracksuit.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Diary Dates</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>School Closes for EASTER HOLIDAYS ON FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2022 AND REOPENS ON TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022</b></p>	