



Our High Meadow Community 'Thought for the Week'



Charlie Mackesy

A HUGE thank you and welcome back!

I am going to start our first newsletter of the new academic year with a HUGE thank you! Thank you everyone for reading and following all of our guidelines carefully. You all turned up at the correct times and safely managed the children's transitions through the school gate with speed and smiles! We are thrilled that every child has been sent in with anti bac wipes to clean their lunchtime spaces and every child has risen to the challenge of doing this with confidence and pride!

As with any new processes, we are learning as we go along so from next Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September, we are slightly tweaking the drop off times. Our new reception children are beginning a staggered start next week so there will be more parents at the school gate, some of them will be completely new to the school so we have built in an extra 5 minutes for the early years phase. The slightly tweaked morning times are as follows...

Timings	Year groups
8.35am – 8.45am Car AND foot drop off	KS2, Years 3 and 4
8.45am – 8.55am	Early years, Nursery and Reception
8.55am – 9.05am	KS1, Years 1 and 2

We will see how this goes and tweak again if required. Please remember to keep your child off the space where the KS2 cars pull in, we need to keep everyone safe.



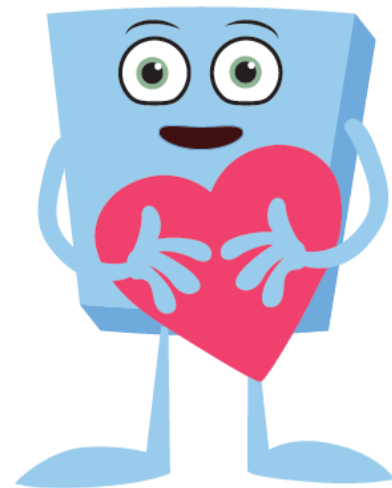


### Recovery Curriculum

This week and next week, your children are learning through the 'JIGSAW Recovery Curriculum' This is a range of lessons where children have the opportunity to safely explore their feelings and reflect on all that has happened over the past 5 months. We need to empower our children with the language to talk with confidence about their emotions and the impact their emotions have on how they feel. We will be framing lots of the conversations within the context of 'Zones of Regulation' Children will learn that no emotion is 'bad' but will be taught a range of strategies to help manage them.

Lesson plans focussing on:

- a) Welcome back to school including a temporary Jigsaw Charter to support respect for personal space (social distancing), hygiene, etc.
- b) Belonging and feeling safe at school
- c) Reconnecting with friends at school
- d) The Coronavirus explained and keeping safe and well
- e) Managing worries, fears and anxieties
- f) Being positive and looking forward to learning
- g) Gratitude and appreciation
- h) Loss and bereavement



It would be really helpful for all children, if conversations about the 'Zones of Regulation' were carried on at home, so to empower you with the same knowledge, we have attached the PPT that Mrs Garbett shared at our whole school staff training. We hope you find this useful.

### Fortnite!

As we have progressed through the Recovery Curriculum children have obviously been sharing what they have been doing over the holidays. It has been wonderful to hear about beautiful woodland walks, soggy tents when camping, days with nannies and grandads and days out on bikes, they really have had the most wonderful of times!

We know that many children will also have accessed lots of wonderful activities online too and lots of children have talked about games on CBBC and Cbeebies. However, we are a little concerned that some children have been playing on Fortnite. Although we cannot control what you choose to allow your child to access at home, we do have a responsibility to highlight the dangers that your child may be exposed to if they access games that are Pegi rated higher than their chronological age.





If a child does tell us that they are playing on Fortnite or any other inappropriate games, then we will get in touch just to say that we feel it isn't safe.

Please see below information from UK Safer Internet Safety regarding Fortnite. The full article can be found here

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/parents-guide-fortnite-battle-royale#:~:text=Fortnite%20has%20a%20PEGI%20rating,frequent%20scenes%20of%20mild%20violence.&text=This%20PEGI%20rating%20only%20takes,or%20on%2Dscreen%20text%20chat.>

" Fortnite has a PEGI rating of 12, PEGI have said this is due to the: *'frequent scenes of mild violence. **It is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age***'. This PEGI rating only takes into account the content in the game and not the contact element, where players may be exposed to **swearing and offensive language** from strangers in voice or on-screen text chat."

Important safety points:

Though we believe it is not appropriate for the children at High Meadow to be playing Fortnite, below are important safety tips.

- As Fortnite is an online game you will play against players of different ages from across the world. You **can** turn this communication off in your setting or choose who you play against. You are also able to block or mute other players who are behaving in an inappropriate manner.
- In order to play Fortnite you have to create an account. To create this account you need to provide an email address (which you will have to verify) and display/user name. However you are not asked your age in order to create an account.
- In Fortnite you can report players who are behaving inappropriately by using the in-game feedback tool located in the game Main Menu, you can also make a report by emailing the creators of Fortnite.

Thank you for supporting us in helping keep your child safe online.

### Do-Jo and Tapestry Platforms

Now that all children are back to school, teachers will share snippets of learning in their class throughout the week. This will be showcased on either the Do-Jo platform (previously Homeroom) or Tapestry (for EYFS) platform. Although during lockdown, this may have been used on occasions to communicate with the teacher, now we are back at school I would like to request that all communication to the teachers is done via the child's reading diary or via an email to [admin2569@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2569@welearn365.com). The sharing of videos and pictures from home is no longer required now that your child is back learning in school full-time. A gentle reminder to also please not comment on any of the photos uploaded onto the learning platforms. The class Do-Jo and Tapestry snippets will also replace the weekly class SWAY newsletters. You will however, still receive weekly phonics/SPAG newsletters to help you support your child's reading. Thank you for your support in this.





### Kindness Cushion

In the past, all of the children have had the opportunity to win the Kindness Cushion for a week in their class. For this half term only, instead of kindness we will be awarding the cushion for MANNERS. We are encouraging children to use their please and thank yous all the time, holding the door open for friends and being 'perfectly polite' to everyone they see.

### Meet the Teacher ZOOM Meetings

Every year we run a Meet the Teacher meeting for parents so teachers can introduce themselves and share their expectations and curriculum for that year group. We will continue this but via ZOOM this year. If parents are unable to attend the ZOOM meeting, a copy of the PPT will be sent out upon request. The ZOOM meeting invites will be emailed to you. The dates are...

Date and time	Year group
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 3.30pm	Year 2
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 3.30pm	Year 3
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 4.15pm	Year 4

### Water Bottles

Due to building work, this week and next week we have been unable to use the drinking water fountains to fill up the children's new school water bottles. Instead, we have provided every child with a shop bought water bottle. There is therefore no requirement to send a water bottle in to school unless it is part of your child's packed lunch. We will start filling water bottles again w/c 14<sup>th</sup> September.

### Shining Stars Assemblies

Up to three children in each class, will be awarded a Shining Stars Certificate for demonstrating any one (or a mixture) of our Learning Powers. We will restart the assemblies w/c 21<sup>st</sup> September but due to Cov-id restrictions, they will be pre-recorded. We will then share the recordings with the parents of the children who have received the awards. We will continue to also share photos of the children and their awards in this newsletter every fortnight. Here is a gentle reminder of our Learning Powers...





### Multi-Sports After School Club

We previously communicated the Marcus Painter would be re-starting Multi-sports after school club next week. He has now changed this and it will start w/c 14<sup>th</sup> September. It will now also be football NOT multi-sports. A letter will be sent out next week with further details but the year groups and timings still remain the same...

Day and time	Year group
Tuesdays 3.00pm – 4.00pm	Year 1 and Year 2
Wednesdays 3.15pm – 4.15pm	Year 3 and 4

### Parent Consultations

We will once again be running October parent consultations this year but again, due to COVID restrictions, they will be run as a 10 minute online ZOOM meeting. They will be available on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October between midday and 6.00pm.

You will be sent a reminder of how to book online early next week. The booking portal will go LIVE at 9.00am next Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September.





Our Value for this half term is 'Generosity'

**GENEROSITY**

**QUOTES & QUESTIONS**

Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out. *(Frank A Clark)*

"If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one." *(Mother Teresa)*

Have you ever been **generous** without telling anyone?

Remember one small way you have shown **generosity** to one person. (You don't always have to do big things for lots of people.)

A community flourishes when people plant trees under which they will never sit. *(A Greek proverb)*

Use what talent you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those who sang best. *(Henry Van Dyke)*

'God loves a cheerful giver.'

2 Corinthians 9.7

When has your **generosity** served to help future generations?

Have you ever been put off doing what you are able to do because someone might be able to do it better?

Our Personal, Social and Emotional 'Jigsaw' theme for this half term is

'Being Me in My World'

We are learning to...

- Help others to feel welcome
- Help make our school community a better place
  - Think about everyone's right to learn
  - Care about other people's feelings
    - Work well with others
- Follow the Behaviour Rules – Safe, Ready and Respectful





And finally a HUGE welcome to our new teaching staff

Miss Davies – Year 4



“I am delighted to start my teaching career (I was a solicitor previously) with the wonderful Year 4 Hedgehogs at High Meadow. I am passionate about providing a brilliant education for children that will help put them on the path to achieving all they could wish for”

Mrs Repton – Year 1



“I have been teaching for 14 years, covering every year group from reception to year 6. I enjoy being creative, reading stories, spending time with my boys and...eating chocolate! I’m looking forward to joining Year 1 Blackbirds and being part of the amazing High Meadow Team”

Kindest regards

Mrs Debby Hughes – Head teacher [head2569@welearn365.com](mailto:head2569@welearn365.com)

Mr Jonathan Smith – Chair of Governors [governors2569@welearn365.com](mailto:governors2569@welearn365.com)

