



# Hague Bar Primary Newsletter



29<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## **Cats Day**

Miss Lucas has organised a very special day for the whole school all about cats. This will take place on Friday February 5<sup>th</sup>. Whether at home or school, young or not, you are welcome to dress-up and take part. Thank you Miss Lucas for doing this – I always like it when adults in school use their own hobbies for inspiration, as it adds further dimension and diversity to the curriculum.

## **Online Learning and Equipment**

We have now had three full weeks delivering education in multiple ways, and the over-whelming feedback received is that this is going very well. Once again, I offer our resources of support and equipment. Please contact me if you would like any help. The four Chromebooks from the DfE have not yet been received by school.

## **CV19 Testing for Staff**

All adults on site now have the option to take twice-weekly Lateral Flow Tests which give a result within 30mins. If we have a positive result within the staff then as a precaution, the relevant bubble will be closed until a result is confirmed by an additional test. This is The True Learning Partnership policy and Derbyshire County Council recommendation. If a further positive result is received, then all children within that bubble will need to isolate for 10 days. If the second test result is negative, then all can return to school.

## **Wider Opening after Half Term**

I was disappointed that our nation has not yet reached a sufficiently reduced infection rate to allow schools to welcome back all children after February half-term. Parents home-schooling: you have my absolute sympathy. You are all doing an amazing job multitasking your home life, work life and educating.

## **World Book Day**

This is a lovely day schools celebrate all over the UK. At Hague Bar we invite the children to dress-up as their favourite book character and share that a book with others. We plan special activities based around books throughout the day. This year World Book Day is meant to be on Thursday March 4<sup>th</sup>. Given the announcement of schools not opening for all until after March 8<sup>th</sup>, I will postpone this until we have all the children back in school. You may begin thinking about costumes though.

## **Staff Absences**

You may already be aware that we have several long-term staff absences which have sadly impacted on some of our amenities. As is the case with all staff absence issues, the reasons are confidential, nevertheless they are significant enough to necessitate a prolonged period away from school. I hope like us, you wish them well and hope to see them again soon.

Furthermore, I imminently need to take a period of leave, the timing of which I have no option over. During the last two weeks I, along with Governors, TTLP and school staff, have been preparing alternative leadership for my planned absence.

Mrs Heather Taylor, Headteacher at Disley Primary School, and her Assistant Headteacher, Mr Jake Nicklin, will be on-site at HBPS several times each week to support our school. Additionally, we are fortunate to have a good balance of experience within the staff, and for day-to-day issues Mrs Garside will be guiding the school. I am incredibly grateful for such an accommodating team -both close by and within TTLP; all are taking more on each day to ensure your children are given the very best and continued education whether at home or school.

## **Cancelled SATs and other Primary Assessments**

- Year 6 KS2 SATs and Science Assessments are cancelled.
- Formal Year 2 teacher assessments in reading, writing and maths are cancelled.
- The Multiplication Tables Check for children in Year 4 is cancelled.
- The Y1 Phonics screening check is cancelled.

If teacher assessments are required for transfer to high-school for example, then we will follow all guidance and do these in a professional and fair way for each child.

## **Food Help**

A local charity donated several bags of food to our school families. Please, if you would like a selection to collect, do let us know and we will arrange this.

I hope you are all keeping well.

Kind regards

Rachel Parry  
Headteacher

