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Message from Miss Talbot

Dear Parents,

As you will be aware, for the last two years, we have submitted bids for funding assistance to the DfE to improve the quality of our perimeter fencing and school entry and exit points. We heard yesterday that at last, our bid has been successful and that our funding for the project has been granted. This is really brilliant news that will help to improve the security of the site and the safety of everyone.

The project looks at the entirety of perimeter security and will see higher metal fencing installed. This will provide a secure boundary but will be aesthetically pleasing as well. It will also include new gates at entry points for both pedestrians and vehicles, meaning that during the school day, permission will be required to enter the site.

I can't yet give you a timeline for when the work is likely to be completed as the current situation is obviously causing some delays in the undertaking of new projects but I will keep you updated.

We are also in the process of putting together a further funding bid to the DfE for repair work to the school roof covering the older part of the building dating from 1978. We hope that this bid will be submitted in the summer and that a successful outcome will be obtained in the autumn. As an academy the bid process is the way in which schools are able to secure additional funding that maintained schools can obtain from the Local Authority.

We are very fortunate to have a very well maintained building and these improvements will help to preserve its longevity.



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Sports Day

We hope that you all enjoyed taking part in our Virtual Sports Day this term. Lots of you took up the challenge and completed many of our sporting challenges at home. It's been great to see how inventive you have been.



Those children in school also took part, completing the activities across two days. Unfortunately, the weather wasn't always on our side, so our quick thinking teachers even completed some of the activities in the classroom! It was fantastic to see the children so enthusiastic about each event and seeing s u c h fantastic effort from them all.



We were also very impressed with the amazing medals that were made at home and at school. The edible ones looked particularly delicious!



Thank you to those who sent in your lovely photos of your Sports Day at home. We loved seeing you all. If you haven't done so already, have a look at the photos on the website and see who you can spot.

<https://godinton.kent.sch.uk/home-learning-school-closure-2020/virtual-sports-day-2020/>

So the big question is, which house was the winner?

Rochester: 101 House Points

Leeds: 107 House Points

Dover: 109 House Points

Walmer: 136 House Points

Congratulations to Walmer and well done to everyone who took part.



Bubble News...

We now have over 175 children back in school and working hard in their bubbles. Whilst we can't deliver a full curriculum at the moment, the children are receiving a balance of English, Maths and topic work across the week. We still have some limitations on the use of resources which means that we have had to be even more creative in the way that certain activities are delivered.

The children have adapted immensely well to the new routines that are in place and I have been so proud of how well they have come into school in the mornings—it's been lovely to see so many happy smiles.

We thought you might like to see some of the things they have been up to.

Year R have adapted to their new surroundings very well and are enjoying having their own pack of resources to use which is making them feel very grown up.



The Bubbles have been making really good use of the outdoor space and taking advantage of the lovely sunny weather we have been having. Some of our Year 2 and 3 children have been out in the woods and have been growing bean plants and keeping seed diaries.



There have also been some interesting practical and creative activities taking place as well. Middle School have been investigating ice and making ice skyscrapers, whilst Upper School have been mask making and weaving.

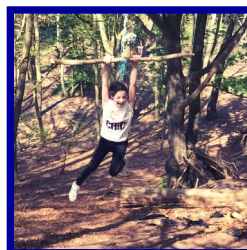


Everyone in school is missing those of you who are still at home and are looking forward to having everyone back together very soon.

Home Learning News...

Congratulations to all those children who have been working so hard at their Unexpected Adventure Trails at home. We have been very impressed with how well many of our children have engaged with the tasks set for them. We posted out 170 certificates to those children who sent in photographs of their amazing efforts in Term 5. If your child is working at home and you would like your child to have some feedback on their Adventure Trail work for Term 6, please send in some photos to the year group email addresses by the end of this week.

We have loved seeing the other things that you have been up to at home as well and



we're pleased that many of you are taking time to enjoy the outdoors.

Acts of Kindness

It has been lovely to know that during lockdown so many of you have turned your attention to thinking of others or looking at ways in which you can help good causes.

This month, Lucy C has been busy raising money for Buttercups Sanctuary for Goats in Boughton Monchelsea. The centre, which cares for 140 animals announced it was facing financial difficulties when it closed in May. Lucy, who regularly visits the sanctuary decided that she would like to help and set herself a sponsored challenge of walking 130 km during June. Lucy managed to finish her challenge 10 days ahead of schedule and in doing so raised £1,043 for the sanctuary.

Congratulations to Lucy for all her efforts. You can find out more about the work of the sanctuary on their website:



<https://www.buttercups.org.uk/>

Face to Face Sessions

We are very much looking forward to seeing the children at our after school face to face sessions in the coming weeks. This will be an opportunity for the children to catch up with friends and see their teacher. All the information about the sessions can be found in the letter sent out on Friday 26th June and subsequent ParentMails.

Please remember that if the weather is poor, the session will be cancelled. We will endeavour to leave the decision to cancel as late as possible to allow rain the chance to clear but without anyone making an unnecessary journey.

Things to keep you busy this summer...

Although lots of places are now opening up, enabling us all to get out and about a little more, there are still a number of exciting online opportunities for children to get involved with.

The James Dyson Foundation

The James Dyson Foundation, Dyson's charitable arm, introduces young people to the exciting world of engineering, encouraging them to think differently, make mistakes and realize their engineering potential. There are lots of useful resources on their website for exciting science and engineering projects.

<https://www.jamesdysonfoundation.com/resources/challenge-cards.html>

The Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge, presented by The Reading Agency, is delivered in partnership with public libraries and funded by Arts Council England.

The Challenge encourages children aged 4 to 11 to enjoy the benefits of reading for pleasure over the summer holidays, providing lots of fun and enjoyment as well as helping to prevent the summer reading 'dip'. The website contains a wealth of reading related resources.

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

Art Builders

Art Builders is a creative project for schools spearheaded by the Animate Arts Company, based in Kent. Their website contains lots of useful resource ideas for art projects that can be completed at home.

<https://artbuilders.co.uk/resources/>

Other News and Reminders...

- Please remember that a ParentMail has been sent out to each class with details of how you can order this year's class photo. As the photographers have been unable to come into school, this year's photo is an amalgamation of all the individual photos taken in the autumn. Details of how photos can be ordered can be found in the ParentMail from 23rd June.
- In the next few days we are hoping to receive further information from the Government about September and how this might look. Once we know a little more, I will provide parents with an update, this will include information about the children's transition to their next class and starting school arrangements for those due to start in Reception in September. Please bear with us and we will ensure that parents have all the information they need about next year as soon as we are able to. I would much rather give you information once I know what is being proposed than present a scenario which then has to change.

Year 5 parents have been advised that KCC are currently considering a proposal to move the 11+ to mid-October in order to allow the children time to settle back into school. I will let parents know when any final decisions are made. In the meantime further information can be found on the KCC website: Further information about the Kent Test can be found at:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/kent-test#tab-1>

Caught on camera this month...



Sports Report

Congratulations to Lilia and Amelie who enjoyed taking part in the active Rainbow challenge from Kent School Games in partnership with Kent Children's University. Well done girls for earning your medals.

The Kent School Games, 'My Active Rainbow Challenge' project helps you to stay fit and healthy at home, even if you can't go to school with fun, easy and creative ways to keep your bodies and minds active, as well as individual and home learning challenges. The Challenge is FREE for all families with school-aged children in Kent and Medway.

Kent School Games medals will be awarded for completing each set of seven activities, and returning the Active Rainbow checklist to the organisers by the end of August. This is something that everyone can join in with. Find out more at: [https://](https://www.kentschoolgames.com/my-active-rainbow/21931/my-active-rainbow-challenge)

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