



Maybury News

Believe. Succeed. Achieve.

A Message from Mrs Merritt

There is no escaping the fact that home schooling presents us *all* with challenges. Whilst we have been delighted with the feedback and support we have had for our remote learning and continue to make adjustments as a result (with staff availability being a driver in this and meaning some changes for planned links may be postponed at short notice). We appreciate that many of you may have been working from, or having to stay at home since March last year and this is tough for you and your family.

We naturally enjoy socialising and doing different things to help create wonderful family & friendship experiences. Whilst many of us may not have been able to do the things we had planned over the last few months, it is always important to reflect upon the 'bonus' time we have spent as families and the memories we have made. Sometimes the simplest things bring us the most joy and make us recognise how lucky we are.

I look forward to the day when we can get back to a more 'normal' life; when we can pop and see friends and not worry. I know we are not at that point yet and we still have a way to go, but this is a year of hope, a year when what we have longed for will become a reality.

As a school we recognise we all need to focus on everyone's mental health. It is important to remember the 5 ways to Well-Being:

- To connect
- To keep learning
- To be active
- To take notice
- To give

We have had really positive feedback following the introduction of "Well-being Wednesday" which include non screen activities. These will continue after half term, please share photos of what you have been doing on these afternoons with your class teacher. We love seeing what the children are doing at home! We will also be introducing "Feel Good Friday" sessions which will provide children with fun activities to complete as a class or group and provide opportunities for the children to interact with each other.

Now more than ever we all need to help our children and ourselves to stay as positive and resilient as possible. I appreciate that this can be hard when we are faced with uncertainty, but your efforts as parents and carers have a huge impact on your children. **You are all doing an amazing job**, even if it doesn't always feel that you are.

Connection is key for us all and as we get through the next few weeks it is more important than ever that we all support one another. Maya Angelou (a poet) said, *'The area where we are the greatest is the area in which we inspire, encourage and **connect** with another human being.'* **Please remember that you are never alone and there is always someone to talk to at school – we are all here for you as a community – ring the office, drop your teacher an email and we will get back to you!**

Together we will come through this stronger, and when we come out the other side of this we will celebrate, whilst remembering the sacrifices we have all made. Remember that if things at home get challenging, take a break, let us know and have a well-being afternoon at home. This could mean a film, some exercise, baking, reading or a board game.... Just a few ideas.

The recent **announcement from the Prime Minister** about schools not returning before the 8th March may have caused upset and frustration. As a school, we are mentally "chunking" this time and you may wish to do the same to break the time down into manageable chunks, taking a couple of weeks at a time. The next two days will take us to half term, a time to take a break from learning, whether you are at home or school, and to enable us *all* to re-charge our batteries. All staff in school are working tirelessly to support all your children and our families and I am very thankful for them and their continued dedication.

A message from Mrs Merritt

A date to look forward, on **Monday 22nd February we have the magician Jamie Raven, who appeared in the 2015 series of Britain's Got Talent, who** will be delivering an assembly on line for all our children at 2:30pm, so put this in your diary for after half term. You must not record this assembly. Please use your child's name, to provide access. Please ensure your child has their video on and is on mute when they enter. It will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to see each other, they won't be able to talk to each other, they will just listen to the assembly. At the end of the assembly Jamie will teach the children a magic trick, if your child is in school please send a pack of playing cards to school that day and if you are at home it would be great to also have a pack of playing cards ready. You will be able to access this assembly by clicking on this link:

[Please contact class teacher for Zoom link](#)

The aim of this assembly is to inspire the children and to help them think of life beyond the pandemic, as well as have fun watching it. Thank you to everyone who joined our live zoom assembly last week with Rhys Stephenson!

What will re-opening look like?

The truth is we have not received any guidance to what re-opening will look like. As soon as we do, we will make plans and inform you. We want all the children back and we do not want to be closed again, but need to wait to be told when we can do this!

Is Monday 8th March realistic?

The simple answer is we do not know. After half term, Monday 22nd February, we have two weeks until this date and the Government have said they will give us 2 weeks notice... so, we **may** be able to inform you of our plans, depending on any government announcement being received, shortly after we return from the half term break. We usually hear plans at the same time as you do on the news... so please keep this in mind. We will share any plans with **you as soon as we can**.

Test and Trace over half term

Please note that as we break for half term we are required to be involved in track and trace 2 days after the last day of teaching.

If your child gets COVID symptoms 2 days after Friday 12th February (either Saturday 13th February or Sunday 14th February) and they have a test that comes back positive, you should contact the school. You are able to email the school on info@maybury.surrey.sch.uk to let us know up until Tuesday 16th February by 10am. This would be to inform us that your half term plans will be to isolate for 10 days, and we will be in the position to inform any other families whose children have been in contact with your child during the last couple of days at school.

If your child develops symptoms after Sunday 14th February, you should not contact the school. Instead you should follow the governments track and trace procedure www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works.

Chrome books

We have given out a large number of Chrome books to support remote learners. I would like to say a huge thank you to the kind generosity of Christchurch in Woking for purchasing 6 chrome books for our school and to the Shah Jahan mosque who have also started a fundraiser for us to raise money to buy additional Chromebooks. A huge thank you to Christchurch and the Shah Jahan Mosque for your kindness and support.

Take care, stay safe and best wishes to you all.

Mrs Merritt

Headteacher



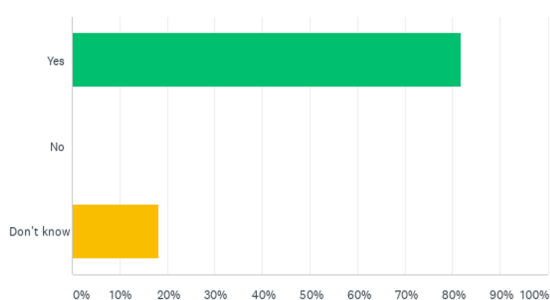
Remote Learning Parent Survey

Thank you to every parent/carer who completed our remote learning feedback survey. We were overwhelmed with the positive comments and responses we received. I wanted to share these with you and outline any actions we are taking following your feedback.

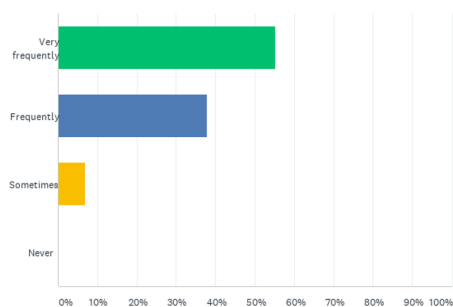
Comments

- Remote learning is really good and helpful
- Very good overall
- Much improved communication
- There has been lots of work to keep my child busy.
- Thank you for all the teachers who are helping and support my child's learning remotely during the lockdown. Really appreciate the hard work and effort being put in. Once again a big thank you to the school.
- Impressed by the connect with the teacher and their quick response
- Lots of positive changes compared to first lockdown. Daily google meets with teacher & class fellows are great.
- Thank you for all support

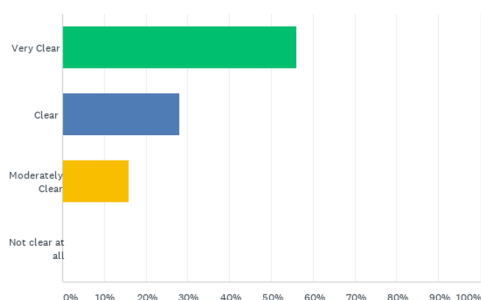
Has provision for remote learning improved at Maybury Primary since the first lockdown?



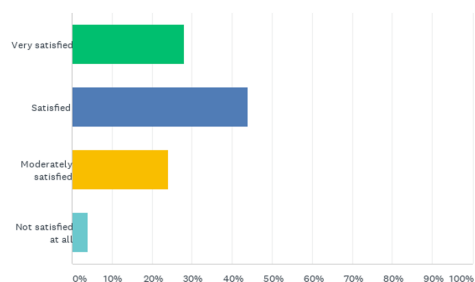
How frequently does your child receive teacher feedback on their work?



How clear has the communication from the school been?



In general, how satisfied are you with the school's remote learning arrangements?



Comments	Actions
Some parents had requested additional exercise books and writing equipment.	We have texted parents to inform them they can request these via the class email addresses. Please ask and we will arrange to drop these to you. Handwriting packs and exercise books have been made for parents to collect.
More interactive video ,story and some fun and games	We will also be introducing Feel Good Friday every Friday afternoon, these sessions which will provide children with fun activities to complete as a class or group and provide opportunities for them to interact with each other. We also be running live zoom assemblies every Monday some with special guests.
Increased non screen time and activities	We have now introduced Wellbeing Wednesday afternoons these are fun, creative non screen time activities for your children to enjoy with you.

100 challenge for Captain Sir Tom Moore

Captain Sir Tom Moore showed determination and perseverance when raising money for the NHS. We want to think about how we could learn from his life and pay tribute to him by trying our best in all that we do and try to remember to not give up when things get tough.

This week Maybury School will be taking part in the 100 challenge to celebrate the life of Captain Sir Tom Moore.

Have a go at completing something 100 times, this could be 100 star jumps, walking 100 steps, reading 100 words, drawing 100 pictures... be creative!

We would love to see pictures of you completing your 100 challenge please email them to your class email address.

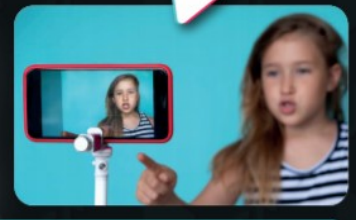


Online Safety



What parents need to know about

TIKTOK



TikTok is a video-sharing social media app available on iOS and Android which lets users create, share, and view user created videos in a similar manner to Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat. Its main draw, however, is that users can record and upload bite-sized looping videos of themselves lip-syncing and dancing to popular music or soundbites, often for comedic effect, which can then be further enhanced with filters, emojis and stickers. TikTok has been designed with the young user in mind and has a very addictive appeal. At the beginning of 2019 it skyrocketed in popularity and has featured near the top of download charts ever since. Estimates suggest that it now has anything between 500 million and over 1 billion monthly active users worldwide.

Safety Tips For Parents

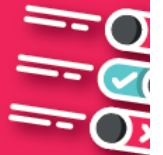
TALK ABOUT ONLINE CONTENT

Assuming your child is above the age limit to use TikTok, make sure you take the time to talk to them about what they are seeing on the app. Have an open dialogue, get them to give you their opinion on what is appropriate and model the correct behaviour. Go over why they shouldn't give out private information or identifiable photos and be positive and understanding. In the long run, getting them to think critically about what they're seeing goes a long way to keeping them social media savvy.



USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Undoubtedly, the easiest way to safeguard your child on TikTok is to make sure their account is set to private. This means only those users your child approves can view, like, and follow their content. Setting the account to private may dash with your child's goal of social media superstardom, but it will keep their account secure from strangers. This setting can be enabled under the privacy and safety menu by pressing the ellipsis in the 'me' tab of the app. To be extra safe, there are additional controls available to toggle such as who can send comments and messages, among other options.



ENABLE RESTRICTED MODE

In the digital wellbeing section there's the ability to turn on restricted mode using a PIN. Restricted mode filters out content that is not age appropriate although it should be noted that this isn't always 100% fool proof. When enabling restricted mode, parents should still be vigilant to what their child is watching and take note that the algorithm moderating content is not infallible.



MODERATE SCREEN TIME

As entertaining as TikTok is, you can help your child moderate their time on the app by making use of the digital wellbeing section. Under the screen time management option, you can limit the daily allotted time allowed on the app in increments ranging from 40 to 120 minutes. You can also lock this preference behind a PIN number which has to be inputted in order to then exceed the daily time limit. This way your child can get their daily dose of memes without wasting away the day.



MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Even if it doesn't make you popular, keep a close eye on what your child is viewing and sharing on TikTok. Whilst the app has moderation tools, videos can still slip through the net so it's important to regularly check in on what they're watching. Understanding and learning the app yourself is a great way to get to grips with it. You could then even watch some videos with your child, turning it into a bonding opportunity also.



LEARN HOW TO REPORT AND BLOCK INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

With the proper privacy settings in place, TikTok can be a relatively safe space for your child to express themselves. However, in case something does manage to slip through, make sure your child knows how to recognise and report content that isn't appropriate and get them to come to you about what they have seen. TikTok allows users to report offenders and comments within the app. You can also block individual users by going on their profile.



Home learning Newsletter



Try some of the strategies below to help you feel better on days when everything feels a bit much:

- Dance to your favourite song.
- Have a drink of water.
- Do some colouring.
- Think of a happy memory.
- Take 5 deep breaths.
- Write down how you are feeling.
- Make a list of the things you are good at.
- Imagine or draw your favourite place.
- Think of 3 solutions to your problem.
- Talk to a friend online, on the phone or video call (ask permission from an adult first).
- Do 10 star jumps.
- Smell your favourite smell.
- Hug a teddy or someone in your household.
- Think of the 3 best things about your day so far.
- Ask for help if you need it.

Boredom Busters

We are all spending more time at home than usual at the moment.

Try some of these simple indoor activities to stop you getting bored:



- Get creative with those boxes from online orders. You could make a castle, a rocket or a tunnel.
- Make a sock puppet.
- Make playdough or slime.
- Write and perform a play or a dance. You could also make tickets, a poster and snacks for your performance.
- Write a letter to a friend or relative.
- Have an indoor picnic.
- Learn to juggle.
- Plant some seeds—cress is easy because you only need: a yoghurt pot, some cotton wool and some cress seeds. Make sure you keep the cotton wool damp but not too wet. You could even decorate the yoghurt pot too.

Photography challenge

Photography is a great way to appreciate the beautiful, unusual and colourful things around us!

During the half term holidays we would like to challenge you to take photos of the below things:

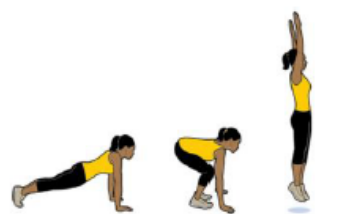
1. Something wintery
2. A shadow
3. Something colourful
4. A family selfie
5. Something that gives you hope.



Keeping active

Well done for those of you who completed the squats challenge in the last newsletter.

How long does it take you to complete 15 burpees?



This week we would like you to do some burpees: You might also like to complete a PE with Joe Wicks or a Cosmic Yoga over the half term holidays (both can be found on YouTube).

Times Tables Half Term Challenge:

We have set up some times table tournaments for the half term holiday on Times Table Rockstars. Remember, the more times you play, the more points you will earn for your class. There is a Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 competition running until Monday 22nd February. Make sure you contact your teacher before half term if you have forgotten your login details.

Academic Dates 2020/2021

Autumn Term 2020

1st September 2020 to 18th December 2020

Half Term 26th October 2020—30th October 2020

Spring Term 2021

4th January 2021 to 1st April 2021

Half Term 15th February 2021—19th February 2021

Summer Term 2021

19th April 2021 to 19th July 2021

Half Term 24th May 2021—4th June 2021

(Please note May half term will be for 2 weeks)

INSET Days—SCHOOL CLOSED for training

Tuesday 1st September 2020

Friday 18th December 2020

Monday 4th January 2021

Tuesday 5th January 2021 (this has replaced the INSET on Monday 19th April 2021)

Tuesday 20th July 2021

Wednesday 21st July 2021