



Thurlbear Matters

12.3.21

Term 2

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www.childnet.com

Lots of online safety tips and games

www.somersetchoices.org.uk

One-stop shop for information for families

Contact Us

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Bible Thought:

'And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'

Corinthians 1

Welcome (fully) Back Mr Gillan

- **Having our pupils back in the building** has made for a very emotional week. It has been a joy to hear the shouts, laughter and socialising of the classes outside my window. I hope that you, as parents and carers, have had a more relaxing week, possibly! I know that there will be mixed feelings about returning to school and, for many families, your children have been doing a great job at maintaining the education standards whilst at home. We can now fully focus on the weeks and months ahead, ensuring the rest of 2021 is as successful as we can make it. I would like to thank all the school staff for their amazing efforts during these lockdown periods, as it has been a massive challenge keeping the online learning going simultaneously with teaching the pupils still in school.
- **Pick- up and drop off:** I believe the drop-off and pick-up systems are relatively successful, but I will be monitoring them closely over this next week to see if any adjustments are needed. This will mean we have had two weeks to take a look at the roads, the timings and the fluidity of the system. I thank you all for your patience and cooperation in our systems.
- **Year 1 Vision screening:** A letter has gone out to our year 1 families regarding vision screening. Please remember that you need to arrange your own local optician for your child to have a free NHS sight test. Contact schoolvisionscreening@SomersetFT.nhs.uk
- **Lunches:** Menus for hot lunches will be coming home on Monday. The orders will be for **lunches when we return after the Easter Holidays on Monday 19th April. This will include the Year 3 and 4 class.** We are hoping, in time, that Years 5 and 6 will also be offered a hot lunch once again, but we have enormous challenges with bubbles, space and the time to deliver all of this safely. We shall continue to order a hot lunch for children in FS & KS1 up until we break up. The current menu is on the website. If you feel your child will not like the lunch being offered on a particular day, please send them in with a packed lunch. Please bring back your menu by **FRIDAY 19TH MARCH.**
- **Calendar:** our website calendar is up and running with latest events and notifications. A parent has reliably informed me that you can sync it to your own calendars and, therefore, not miss any notices! When I know more, I will post it. Until then, please take a look online.
- **PTA Event:** Your brilliant PTA is organising another grand raffle, this time for Easter goodies. Tickets will be coming home to sell and this **Friday, 19th, we will be having a Dress Down Friday** to support it. Please bring in your contribution on the day and we will collect them for class reps to collect. The timeline will be:
Donations to be brought to School Friday 19th March
Deadline for tickets to be purchased Tuesday 30th March
Raffle Draw – Thursday 1st April
- **Masks!** I have had a lot of very positive feedback about our home-school online collaboration with Darrell Wakelam. Darrell joined us again to conclude his own mask work and take a look at some of our creations. I would like to make a whole-school display of masks. So, if you would like your child's mask on display, please get

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them to bring it in this week and I will safely store it until making the display. Your child will get it back once it is taken down! We are also planning something similar in the summer term, so watch this space.

Safeguarding Mr Gillan

- **Warm clothing:** we are trying to conduct as much PE and games outside, currently. Every class is maintaining a balance of physical activity and using their 2 hours a week minimum. This is on the school playground as much as possible to help with safe and positive practices. Please ensure your child has something warm to wear outside, such as a hoodie or track suit bottoms.
- **From home to school and vice versa:** we thank you for your continued cooperation with minimizing items travelling to and from home to school. Everyone has been so understanding with this. Your class teachers will have told you that we are trying to minimise paper homework for the same reason. Teachers will continue communicating with you on this and what items can be found where, whether on Google Classroom, Class Dojo or Tapestry etc.

The Week Ahead Mr Gillan

Friday: Dress Down Friday – bring an Easter goodie for class hampers.

Term 1 dates of interest

Dress Down Friday: They occur on the first school Friday of a new month. Here are the dates for the rest of the year:

23rd April, 7th May, 11th June and 2nd July.

