



# Thurlbear Matters

12.11.21

Half Term 2, week 2

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## Our Christian Values:

Thankfulness,  
Hope,  
Friendship,  
Wisdom and  
Trust

## Our Christian focus for this term is:

# HOPE

Our classes will focus on this value around school and in our collective worships, led by Mr Gillan and

## COVID Update: Thurlbear Response

Mr Gillan

**Today, the Director of Public Health for Somerset** is advising schools to remain in an Amber warning state **until the end of November**. The request is as follows: "Following the letter to each school dated 21.10.21, from the Director of Public Health for Somerset, we have again risk assessed schools in Somerset. Whilst infection rates are declining in some parts of the county overall, our rates remain high; our local rates remain significantly higher than the England rate. Based on the risk assessment, we are advising all schools to keep in place the previously recommended measures until the end of November 2021."

### My response to this is:

- **Maintain** our current guidelines including minimising visitors into the school building during the school day.
- **Staff** maintaining their face coverings whilst walking through school and down our narrow corridors and **asking** families to wear face coverings when picking up and dropping off on our site.
- **Maintaining** our high level of cleaning and sanitising around school before, during and after school hours.
- **We WILL** be bringing back after school clubs led by Mr Gunstone. Why now? I believe we can effectively risk assess our clubs in line with PH advice **and** deliver our clubs after school. I feel the assessment of risk and mitigations will show that the benefits of these clubs to the wellbeing of pupils will outweigh the potential risk of our outdoors provision. We know who is attending our clubs and what needs to be done should there be any cases. Stretching this club embargo any longer than we have, currently, risks undermining our work together in terms of patience and understanding. Therefore, clubs will begin on Monday of next week. If you have signed up, your child will be included in the register.
- **We WILL be attending** any outside sports events, for example the **cross country re-scheduled for this Monday**. Why? This is for very similar reasons to the above point.

I hope this shows our commitment to both the current guidelines but, also, to our pupils' needs as a learning community.

individual  
classes.

## Online Resources and Safety:

1. [www.swiggle.org.uk](http://www.swiggle.org.uk)

Safer online searching – it creates search lists from educational sites only. Please do give it a go at home, as it should bring up some very interesting sites for home projects / research.

## Contact Us

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## Bible Thought:

"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

We are a proud part of the Diocese of Bath and Wells:

[www.bathandwells.org.uk](http://www.bathandwells.org.uk)

# Learning around School Mr Gillan

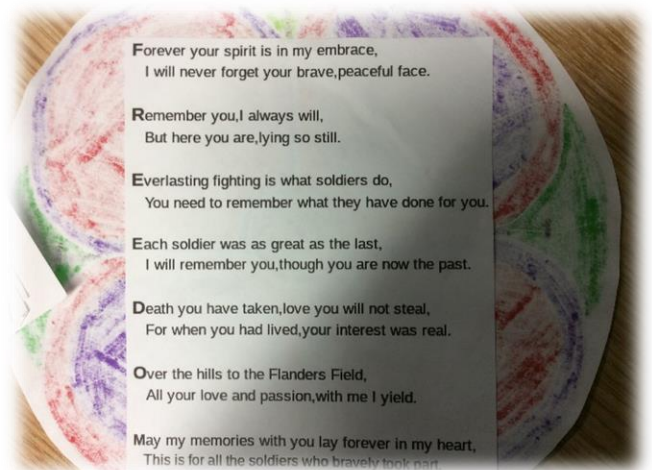
It has been a very busy learning week, with a huge amount of learning going on across the classrooms. I have been so impressed with the language, vocabulary choices and verbal reasoning shown by all of our pupils, from the youngest to the oldest. Remembrance Worship

took centre-stage, Thursday, with an impeccable silence observed outside by the school in their class lines. They came adorned with their poppies and designs and really took my words to heart during our time. So many have stories of great-grandparents (I forget how young they are!) and the sacrifices that were made, or evacuations to this area where families then settled later in their life. It was an absolute privilege to listen to their stories and I made sure I listened to every story.



Year 5 and 6 have shared their brilliant boats with me! We discussed what made them so successful (or not!) and read their reports in Learning Journeys. It is crucial that our pupils look at their standards ACROSS the curriculum and, as OFSTED say, maintain the high quality of writing across their books and not just in Literacy. The pupils took great pride in not only their boats, but in their paragraphs

of thoughtful written prose. Across the school, pupils have been involved in some high-quality creative writing and none more-so than year 4. Their poetry connected to Remembrance Day has been so powerful. **What did they do?** Inspired by online poetry they had investigated, Miss Crook jotted down powerful words that had featured and



Forever your spirit is in my embrace,  
I will never forget your brave, peaceful face.

Remember you, I always will,  
But here you are, lying so still.

Everlasting fighting is what soldiers do,  
You need to remember what they have done for you.

Each soldier was as great as the last,  
I will remember you, though you are now the past.

Death you have taken, love you will not steal,  
For when you had lived, your interest was real.

Over the hills to the Flanders Field,  
All your love and passion, with me I yield.

May my memories with you lay forever in my heart,  
This is for all the soldiers who bravely took part.

challenged the class to create their own edited poetry. It did not need to rhyme, but did need to capture the mood and power of the moment. As you can see from this example, the results were fantastic.

Chestnut Class have been learning a story through creating story maps and retelling the tale until they are superbly efficient in the flow of the story. Here you can see an

example from them. What do you think the story is (notice the 3 'something' at the start)?

Keep checking your Class Dojo stories / Tapestry for the latest photos and updates from teachers. There are some brilliant photos being published to keep you in the loop.



This week, we have really been keeping in touch with nature, the wonder of God around us, and finding those moments of spirituality in a busy day.

Cornelia and Lilly have started a real 'thing' by colouring leaves at break time and then placing these back out into nature so others can find them. At lunch, I have been having a wonderful time with Y5 and Y2 with these things in the photo – nature's helicopters! Who

knows (without google) what tree it is? I must have spent 3 hours over the school lunch week collecting them and throwing them into the air. If your child has a pocketful, it is my fault. Ewan: you are an expert launcher!

## Safeguarding Mr Gillan

No outstanding messages, other than to please be aware that the Public Health message is that a child with ANY of the COVID symptoms should be kept off school and taken for a PCR. Their words are: "A persistent cough is one of the principle Covid-19 symptoms so they should not be in school and they should book a PCR. You are able to refuse entry if you believe that they are posing a risk to the school community." As always, please talk to us if you are unsure.

# The Week(s) Ahead

Mr Gillan

**Monday:** Mr Timms piano sessions

**Monday:** Yrs 4 – 6 cricket club

**Monday:** Kings' Cross Country 4pm

**Tuesday:** Years 3 and 4 Tag Rugby Club

**Wednesday:** Years 5 and 6 Tag Rugby Club

**Friday:** Mr Lloyd drumming sessions

**Friday:** Mr Snowden guitar sessions

**Friday:** Years 1 and 2 Multi Sports Club

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> December, 7<sup>th</sup> January, 4<sup>th</sup> February, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup> April, 6<sup>th</sup> May, 10<sup>th</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> July.**

And finally.....

Miss Kelloway wanted to give a special mention to Raffey, who last week, heard about the charity 'Children in Need' and said she wanted to do something for the children. She loves art, so she decided to do a 'Paint-a-thon'! For every sponsor she received, she painted a Christmas card. The challenge was though, that she only had one minute to complete each card! The cards are going to be given to local elderly people, who may be alone during the festive period. Raffey has raised a brilliant £160 for Children in Need. We are so proud of Raffey's thoughtfulness and for doing such a kind thing to help others!

