

Thought of the Week

Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better. – Maya Angelou

A message from our Executive Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Prime Minister has set out the next phase of the Government's response to coronavirus (COVID-19), including where restrictions on attendance at education settings can be lifted. As of 8 March, all schools will allow full attendance and school attendance will be mandatory for all pupils.

We will be delighted to welcome back all children on this day. We know they have missed their time in school and we have missed them! The few weeks before the end of term will allow them to spend time with their friends and teachers and get back into the rhythms of the school year.

The return to on-site provision for all children will be supported by a range of actions designed to minimise the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). Arrival and departure times will continue to be staggered and we ask parents and carers to please wear a face covering and adhere to social distancing. The school will continue to follow a robust programme of regular handwashing and enhanced cleaning. Children will remain in year group bubbles. Full details of the actions we are taking to minimise the spread of coronavirus are detailed in the letter sent out today.

Unfortunately, we will have to continue to ask parents not to enter the school grounds during drop off and pick up. Parents/carers will not be permitted to enter the school building without an appointment. Only pre-arranged visits to the school will be accommodated following the school's strict safety measures. We request that parents/carers visiting the school wear a face covering and maintain social distancing. You may contact the school office to arrange a telephone consultation or a virtual Teams meeting with a member of staff if a matter is urgent.

Please note that there may be a delay in teachers responding to parent's emails as teachers will be in class full time from the 8th of March. We appreciate your understanding and patience.

We would like to request all parents/carers to return devices (laptops and iPads) which were borrowed during the national lockdown. Please can we remind parents to ensure that all personal data including email accounts etc. is removed from the device before it is returned? We will not have any Team meetings on Friday 5th March and this will be an ideal time for parents to return devices. Parents/carers who have borrowed devices will receive a text message and a call from the office to arrange return of the device. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

IT'S WORLD BOOK DAY!



World Book Day is Thursday, 4th of March. As with many things this year, it will be slightly different to what we have done in the past but it will still be fun!

All children, whether they are learning at home or in school, are encouraged to **dress up as their favourite character from a book or their favourite colour.**

Costumes do not need to be elaborate and often the best costumes are created using items you already have at home and a bit of imagination. We would love to see their costumes! If your child is taking part from home, please share their photo to:

tnewman@riverhillfederation.onmicrosoft.com

There will be a special assembly with teachers sharing their favourite books. Please look for this on the website. In addition, every child will have received a book token (either from their class teacher or placed in their learning at home pack.) The tokens can be used at participating booksellers and swapped for one of the exclusive, new and completely FREE World Book Day books or used to get £1 off any full price book.

Happy World Book Day and Happy Reading!

How are you feeling?

Supporting children in understanding, expressing and responding to their feelings is key to supporting wellbeing. The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services have released this fantastic image of The Stress Relief Giraffe. It offers a clear visual for young people to describe their level of stress as well as some tips for coping.



THE STRESS RELIEF GIRAFFE

OUT OF CONTROL	WHAT YOUR CHILD CAN DO: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calm breathing exercises • Use visualisation meditation techniques • Body tightening exercises (progressive muscle relaxation) • Sigh to become fully present in the moment • Practice music therapy • Change location / surroundings • Use a stress ball / fidget toy • Give yourself a 10-second hug to boost their mood • Colour, draw, write, craft, etc. • Practice positive self-talk / words of affirmation • Exercise • Go outside • Play • Hydrate with water
SCARED OF LOSING CONTROL	
NERVOUS	
UNSURE	
CALM	

DKH Anti-Bullying Competition Winners

A big well done to our DKH Anti-Bullying Winners who wrote poetry, designed superheroes and performed raps during our competition in Autumn. It was incredibly hard for our DKH School Council to judge but we are so proud of all the children and are delighted to announce the winners as: Charles (Elder Yr 2), Kalina (Eucalyptus Yr3), Jacob (Yr 4), Olivia May (Yr4 Sycamore) and Candace (Hazel Yr5)



Star of the Week!



We would like to recognise the children who have been great examples of our school values and have shown true commitment to their learning, either in school or at home. Well done!

Nursery	Eliz , for always trying her best with her home learning and for always participating in our Teams Meetings.
Reception	Aarliya , for writing an amazing rhyming dinosaur poem!
Cherry	Fyn , for demonstrating empathy in the playground with his friends.
Willow	Zaccai , for reading out loud to the class during the whole class meeting.
Elder	Fawaz , for showing such a positive attitude to his work and trying his very best in class!
Palm	Lenny , for his excellent effort and producing great writing for his 'Owl Babies' story.
Beech	Mia , for her amazing dedication to home learning.
Eucalyptus	Hilary , for being really enthusiastic about our new English topic 'Pirates' and being a joy to teach!
Cedar	Joel , for writing a super description of the storm in our story and contributing insightful ideas for our food-packaging project.
Sycamore	Nya-Mai , for excellent listening skills and always being ready to share ideas.
Rowan	Gabriel , for his consistent hard work and participation and for behaviour that reflects our school values.
Hazel	Maya , for always having the correct attitude to learning and effort in her work
Elm	Melene , for her focus and perseverance in her studies on line graphs and pie charts this week.
Maple	Karis , for writing a great diary entry using all the main features.

Dates for the Diary



04.03.2021	World Book Day
08.03.2021	International Women's Day
15.03.2021	Science Week begins
16.03.2021	Hungry Caterpillar Workshop - Reception
17.03.2021	Hungry Caterpillar Workshop - Nursery
19.03.2021	Red Nose Day
31.03.2021	Last day of Spring Term – staggered early finish.
19.04.2021	First day of Summer Term – Staff Inset No children
20.04.2021	Children return to school

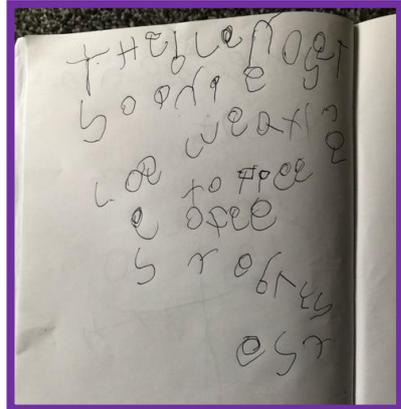
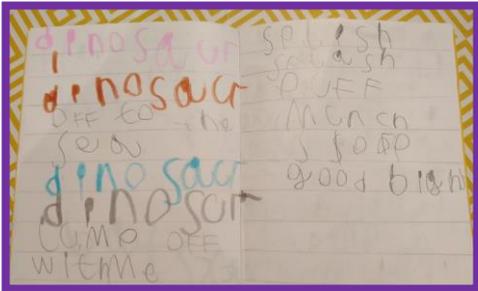
Express Yourself

Looking after children's wellbeing and mental health continues to be one of our top priorities. Some children have enjoyed being off school, while others will have really struggled – with the pandemic keeping them at home and away from friends. Others may be coming to terms with family problems, loss or changes to their living situation. Below are some more suggested activities which support communication. More information is also available [by clicking this NHS link.](#)



<p>13</p> <p>Draw around one of your hands and then decorate each finger with something you are good at</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Draw a comic strip of a fun time that you have had. Who was there? What did you do?</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Close your eyes and scribble on a piece of paper. Really enjoy feeling the freedom of just scribbling</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Can you draw something just with the letters of your name today?</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Draw a gift you would give to someone very special to you</p>	<p>18</p> <p>What do your worries look like? Are they monsters or something else? Draw your worries today and talk to someone about them</p>
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Look at some of the wonderful work our children have been doing at home!



Year 4 learnt how the Romans used mosaics to decorate their cities and Anya created this wonderful mosaic of a turtle. Well done Anya!

The War Department
Westminster
SW1
May 1940

Dear Parents,

Evacuation of children.

We are writing to you to inform you that your children are in grave danger. Parents are being strongly advised to evacuate them as soon as possible. If you do not evacuate your children they could get seriously injured or worse as you might have heard or read in the news. If you stay, you are putting your children in great peril. The reason behind this evacuation is, that Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Army are planning air raid strikes on key cities across the UK and we fear your city may be a target.

The safety of the countryside

If you do decide to evacuate your children which we hope you will, he will be evacuated to the countryside, which will be much less of a target than your city. He will have lots of fresh air and will be taken care of. He will stay with a nice family. He will be evacuated with his teacher and school, so he will have familiar faces around him. We ask you to please evacuate your child for their own wellbeing and health. We are sure he will love staying in the countryside if he is lucky enough he might even get to milk a cow or collect the eggs from the chickens. He might be able to help the shepherd herd the sheep with a gorgeous sheep dog! It will seem like a nice long holiday for him and don't you want him to have fun! The countryside is green and has fresh air and there will be hills and mountains to explore. It is very unlikely for Hitler to bomb the countryside so your child is better off in the countryside. As I already stated he will stay with a nice family and will be well looked after.

What your child will need to bring

When the evacuation program begins in your city you will need to pack as soon as possible, here is a list of things your child will need to bring: a spare change of clean clothes, a warm coat or raincoat for cold wet weather, food for the journey because it can last up to one day, a picture of the family if you have one, if you have any space you can pack a favourite toy or book and last but not least you must bring your gas mask just in case, you should already have a gas mask provided by the government.

The War Department of His Majesty's Government realizes the great sacrifices you will have to make. We understand how hard this decision will be for you, so let it not be forgotten we appreciate all you are doing for the future generation of this great nation.

Yours faithfully

The War Department.

Lydia and Alice in Reception have been writing some fantastic dinosaur poems. They are grreat!

Lola, in year 6, wrote a formal letter persuading parents to evacuate their children to the countryside during the blitz. Very persuasive!

DKH Allotment News!

We are delighted to share our exciting allotment news. Due to your generous support, we have been able to clear the allotment. We think you will agree that it is unrecognisable!

Before



After



We are also excited to announce that Mr Butt's efforts and hard work have paid off. Due to his dedication, we have secured a small grant through the Southwark Cleaner, Greener, Safer programme to continue to improve our allotment.

Soon we will be announcing a competition to create a sign for our allotment. We will also be asking for volunteers to continue preparing our allotment for planting. If you are able to help, please contact Mr Butt on dbutt@riverhillfederation.onmicrosoft.com.