

North Elmham CEVA Primary School Stibbard All Saints CEVA Primary School *Flourish Federation*



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Easter Newsletter March 21



Dear Parents/Carers

This week marks a year since we went into the first lockdown, a day that will remain in the memories of us all. When we learnt that schools would be closing for most children, shops and restaurants closed and most had to stay at home, away from friends, family and colleagues, we knew this was going to be a life like never before. For those of us working in schools it has been a year like no other – juggling bubble rotas, home learning, childcare, tackling new ways to deliver learning and managing the process of how to support both children in and out of school at the same time. Schools have been part of the frontline response to the pandemic, being key workers, ensuring other critical workers could continue to do their vital work, and continuing to help safeguard the most vulnerable children. Every day has brought a new challenge and keeping up with changes in policy for those of us working across services for children has been unimaginable and all the while we were worried about ourselves, the health of our families and colleagues, not really knowing how hard or painfully the pandemic would hit. Thank you to each and every one of you for the part you have played and I light my candle for us all and remember those who have lost their lives to this awful pandemic.

Contact tracing over the Easter Holidays

If someone has tested positive, either through an LFD (lateral flow test) or PCR test (polymerase chain reaction) within the first 48 hours of the Easter Holiday or has an onset of symptoms, please notify us via email – covid@flourishfed.co.uk. This email address will be monitored throughout the Easter holidays and we will take any necessary action required within our school setting. This email address should only be used to notify us of positive cases. If you do need to inform us, please provide the full name of your child/family, which school your child attends, who has tested positive in the family and the date the test was completed. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Staff Changes

We would like to welcome Alison Hudson who will be joining us after the Easter holidays and working across our Flourish Federation as an HLTA and qualified PE instructor. We also have a new Teaching Assistant at North Elmham, Mrs Nicki Forrest and Mrs Leonie Reeve will be joining us working across our Federation in both the Nursery and as a Teaching Assistant. Sadly, we say goodbye and thank you to Mrs Pattison, a Teaching Assistant at North Elmham who is going to still help children but now in the NHS. We wish her the greatest of luck.

However, we are still looking for a further MSA/Cleaner to join our lunchtime team at Stibbard. An advert has been placed on the Norfolk Schools vacancies website, but if you are interested, further details can be obtained from the school offices.

School Transport

Bus and Us will no longer be transporting students to Stibbard Primary after the Easter holidays, the new operator will be Sanders Coaches. From 12th April 2021, they will be operating the new contracts adhering to current timetables, and students will be able to continue to use their existing bus passes. Please contact the school office if you would like a copy of the bus timetable.

Use of Mobile Devices on School Premises

Please can we respectfully request that you do not use your mobile device whilst on school premises. The children's safety is paramount and there have been instances reported whereby parents have been using their devices inappropriately. We thank you for your cooperation.

Driving on School Premises

We allow parents to park on our school playground at All Saints. However, we have noticed drivers speeding in and out of the school site and worryingly children are crossing over to school independently. It doesn't need me to remind you that this is a disaster waiting to happen. Please be responsible and keep us all safe, none of us want to hear of a casualty.

Day of Calm

Both schools have enjoyed a 'day of calm' since we returned to school. Suzi, who works in partnership with the WNDSSP, visited and spoke to us about mindfulness and showed us some breathing activities to help keep us calm. We all then learnt some Tai Chi movements before taking part in our own Tai Chi routine. The superhero pose caused much hilarity, but taught us to stand firm and be grounded in our thoughts.



Nursery Red Nose Day

The children had an amazing day dressed up as red nose superheroes, raising a total of £16.50. Thank you to all who supported us on the day, we had a 'funtastic' day.



Nursery places

We have places available for the September 21 intake at the nursery, if you are, or you know anyone who is interested they can contact the nursery manager at nursery@stibbardallsaints.com.

Breakfast and After School Club

We have spaces available in our breakfast and after school clubs for children in the school. Please contact nursery@stibbardallsaints.com for further details.

Update from Governors

Dear Parents/Carers

Following the news that Ms Jones is leaving us at the end of the Summer Term we have advertised for a new Executive Headteacher. It is very important to us that the new Executive Headteacher will build on the progress that has been achieved since the Flourish Federation came into being and that we get the right person to sustain the improvements that have been made. We have a Federation wide Improvement and Development plan and we need a person who we are confident is able to deliver this.

Sadly, we were not able to proceed to interview from the first round of advertising so we will be re-running the advert again in the Summer term. Hopefully by then we will be coming out of the current lock down and it will be easier for prospective candidates to visit the schools. As we will not be able to appoint now for September 2021 the Governors will be working with the Local Authority and the Diocese of Norwich to appoint an Interim Headteacher for the Autumn term.

I would like to thank Ms Jones for all she has achieved at Flourish Federation and to acknowledge the improvements that have been made since September 2019. The Interim Headteacher and the new Executive Headteacher will have a strong foundation to build on as we go forward.

We will let you know as soon as an interim appointment has been made and with progress in recruiting a replacement for Ms Jones.

Robert Plant
Chair of Governors

Book Bites – Education Library Service

Summer Reading Challenge 2021: Wild World Heroes The exciting new theme for the Summer Reading Challenge 2021 has just been announced: Wild World Heroes will be arriving online and in libraries this summer. The Reading Agency have partnered with WWF for a very special nature-themed challenge that will inspire children to stand up for the planet. Wild World Heroes will feature amazing books, awesome rewards, and plenty of ideas for taking care of our environment. Stay tuned for more information, which will be online and emailed directly to you soon!

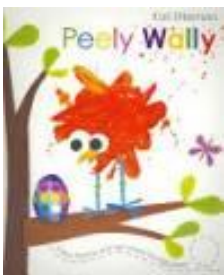
Enrichment Surprises

Since returning to face to face teaching, we have retimetabled our much enjoyed weekly enrichment sessions across the federation, via zoom. Mrs Budgett commenced with the life story of Sir Captain Tom written for children. It's a story about adventure and family with the strong message to never give up and think about what can be achieved when we can all work together, "because one step" has the power to inspire one hundred more."

His book; One Hundred Steps, ends with a photograph of Sir Tom proudly bearing his medals and afterwards the task for the children was to create a medal themselves to wear that passes a message onto others that can be read throughout the day. For example; Be Kind



The following week, Mrs Niven shared the story of 'Those Magnificent Sheep Flying Machine' by Peter Bentley and David Roberts. Afterwards Mrs Niven discussed the restrictive experience of lockdown whilst modelling her drawing. The children followed drawing a plane in their sketchbooks and imagined where they could go or would like to go when we are able to travel!



This week with the run up to the Easter holidays, Ms Jones shared the story of Peely Wally by Kali Stileman about a small bird who lived high up in a tree . . . One day she laid an egg . . . Ms Jones discussed the Scots expression of feeling a bit 'Peely Wally' - a bit off colour! Afterwards the children got messy and painted on greaseproof paper with their fingers to create their own peely wally that could be peeled off when dry to hang in windows during the holidays in order to cheer up passers by. This is a promotion of the Grayson Perry's Art Club lockdown challenge of hanging art in windows. Last year, nearly ten thousand people submitted their artwork to Grayson and Philippa's lockdown exhibition at Manchester Art Gallery. Hopefully they, like me, will be inspired to have some more fun 'creating' during the holidays.

Just a reminder if you need help during the holidays there's JUSTONENORFOLK tel. 0300 300 0123 <https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/> You can talk to a field of professionals for advice and support about sleep, emotional health, behaviour etc for all school age families.

May your peely-wally-ness quickly remove itself. Stay safe and well everyone.

Ms P Jones.

Executive Headteacher of Flourish Federation



