

Good morning everyone,

As I write this final official lockdown newsletter, I feel a huge mixture of emotions. However, the overriding emotion is one of thanks:

**THANK
YOU!**

Thank you to all you as parents from us as staff – for your constant support and kind messages throughout these unprecedented and difficult times.

Thank you for keeping your children safe at home and for providing wonderful home learning experiences and opportunities. As I said in one of my first newsletters, as parents, we will have spent the last 9 weeks worrying – Are we doing a good enough job? Will my children be ok when they go back to school? To think of just a couple. But let me reassure you, in years to come, I know your children will remember this time, as a time spent as a family, enjoying being together, playing together, laughing, sharing, eating together and let's be honest - arguing together! I promise you, they won't remember the worry and the stress and the uncertainty and that will be because you've all done a great job!

Thank you to the parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. This week, I have had to ask you to make a very difficult decision. Thank you to those parents who have decided to send their children back to school - I want to reassure you that following a staff meeting on Wednesday and in depth risk assessments that have been completed, the staff are looking forward to welcoming your children, hopefully on Tuesday 2nd June. (Subject to the Government's announcement on 28th May). You will have received further information on Parent Hub yesterday and we will be phoning all of the parents of the children that we are expecting on Monday 1st June.

Thank you to those parents who decided not to send their children – for whatever reason. As a school we fully respect everyone's decision. Please be reassured that all home learning overviews will continue to be sent out weekly. Once / if we are back, a member of staff will be phoning you all to see if there is any other way that we can support you at home, providing additional materials etc. Please keep sending in photographs and updates of what you have been doing at home, via the class email, so we can share these with the children who are in school!

Thank you to all of our parents who are key workers for all that you have done and continue to do and to your children who have joined us every week, since Monday 23rd March. They have all been simply fantastic. Further on in my newsletter there is a little tribute to all of them.



A massive thank you to the AMAZING staff at our wonderful school. For writing weekly newsletters (thanks Mrs Masters for the inspiring idea!), for producing excellent learning overviews for each year group, for supporting the children of key workers when they have been in school, and supporting each other. To the TAs who have been busy preparing a wide range of creative, exciting activities for the children to do on their return to school. To Mrs Dowler for putting together the fantastic video that we sent to you all, To the office team for everything they have done and continue to do, ensuring school has been able to still run smoothly. To Mr Williams and his cleaning team, for being in everyday, cleaning our school and helping so much to prepare us for re-opening. To Mrs Hill in the kitchen for preparing grab bags and delivering them to our families and to the Governors, for their support and advice throughout this difficult time.



Finally a huge personal thank you has to go to the members of staff on the Senior Leadership Team.

To Mrs K Price (our School Business Manager), Mrs A Price, Miss Skirving, Mrs Dunckley, Miss German and Mrs Pickett – who will be our Acting Deputy Head from September. I simply could not have done my job without you. The constant, unwavering support and kindness that you have shown me, has got me through what I can only describe as the most challenging time I have ever experienced in my career. You have gone above and beyond for me, our school and our families and I will be forever grateful.

THANK YOU
for being particularly amazing



I appreciate that this situation is not over yet; but what I am confident in is that we will all come through it together and as a school community, I know that will be stronger for it.

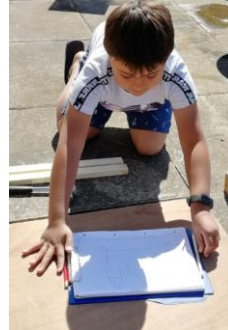
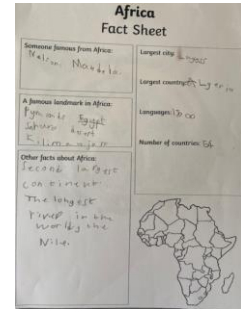
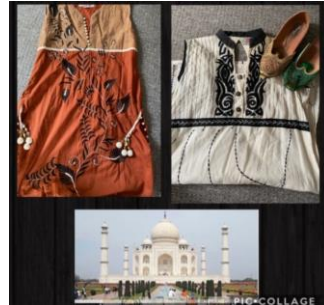


I hope you all have a great half term and I look forward to seeing you or hearing from you all very soon. Take care and lots of love,
Mrs Cook x

BUSY LITTLE BEES

Even though this is our last official lockdown newsletter, I really hope that I will be able to send something out after half term. Thank you so much to everyone who has shared their photos and sent in emails to let us know what you have all been up to over the last 9 weeks!

A special mention must go to the Kinsey family and the Prosser family, who without fail, every single week have provided us all with pictures and exciting updates - thank you! Here's a quick look at what you guys have been up to this week:



KEY WORKER CHILDREN – YOU ARE A CREDIT!

Elle, Jaimee, Daniel, Beatrice, Isabel, Megan, Faith, Charlie and Eddison, thank you for being such a pleasure to spend time with over the last 9 weeks. Whether it was just one day or lots of days - you have all been amazing.



VIRTUAL PRAISE

Here is a list of all of the children who have been praised this week by their class teachers! It is great to see the fabulous things that you have been up to:

Class	Name	Reason
RJ	Oscar	For all of the wonderful learning that he has been doing at home and for regularly contributing to the class newsletter.
RP	Phoebe	For her wonderful contributions to the weekly class Reception newsletter.
1M	Daniel Zainab	For his great Science and DT shelter. For her moon research.
1/2C	Iris Rose & Lillian	For all of the lovely activities that she has been doing at home. For learning to play the piano.
2M	Charlie Gracie	For the many and varied home learning activities they have completed since lockdown began.
3K	Issy	For working with her family to produce a fantastic DT shelter.
3/4S	Liam Jamie Lexi	For his Egyptian work. For completing all his cub challenges. For completing all her cub challenges.
4H	Mia-Sal & Evan	For completing 19 fasts over the lockdown – she is aiming for 22! For their enthusiasm towards the Egyptian house project.
5B	Will Noah	For his mountain research & his amazing volcano model. For his brilliant working model of the Earth, which opens to reveal the layers of the Earth and the core!
5/6F	Ben	For completing lots of research on Yetis linked to this term's text and presenting it to his mom.
6P	Christopher	For excellent teamwork in producing a fantastic DT shelter.



BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUTS

Just because we are not in school, doesn't mean we can send lots of happy birthday wishes to everyone who are celebrating this week!



Happy Birthday to

Connie, Jack and Nathaniel

SAFEGUARDING AT AMBLECOTE

Even though we are not at school at the moment, we don't stop caring about you all.

If there is any point when you feel that you might need some help, advice, or just someone to talk to, please email: info@amblecote.dudley.sch.uk. This email is checked regularly throughout the day and someone will get back to you.

Many teachers have also been refreshing their knowledge on bereavement and how we can support our school community during difficult times. If there is anything that we can do as school to help you or your family, or you want to inform us of your family circumstances, so that we can support your child, please email: info@amblecote.dudley.sch.uk and a member of staff will contact you.

Even whilst we are all away from school, it is important if you have any concerns about the safety or well-being of a child to call the children's services referral and advice service on **0300 555 0050** during office hours (9am - 5pm), contact the Emergency Duty Team on **0300 555 8574** (out of hours).