



SEBERT WOOD PARENT/CARER WEEKLY UPDATES

Another week has flown by and the new routines of school life now seem well established and the children are settling back happily and with enthusiasm.

However, you may be aware of problems nationally with COVID testing and may have seen that a local school appeared on BBC East to highlight their concerns about this issue. At Sebert Wood we have experienced the same problems with pupils and staff having to isolate due to themselves or a family member experiencing symptoms.

Capacity to get a test in the first place seems severely limited and once having obtained a test they are taking up to a week to come back. So far these have all come back negative and the child or member of staff has been able to return to school, but these timescales are proving very frustrating. For staff we have to put in emergency cover and although we are fortunate we have a great team of staff able to step up, it is very concerning as we move into the winter months that reduced staffing may become a serious problem and I sincerely hope that the testing regime improves significantly!

Have a lovely weekend

Mr Dewhurst

Friday 23rd October	PD DAY (school closed to pupils)
Monday 26th October—Friday 30th October	HALF TERM
Monday 2nd November	Pupils return to School
Friday 18th December	Last day of term for pupils
Monday 21st December—1st January 2021	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
Monday 4th January 2021	PD DAY (school closed to pupils)
Tuesday 5th January 2021	Pupils return to school
Monday 15th February— Friday 19th February	HALF TERM
Friday 26th March	Last day of term for pupils
Monday 29th March—Friday 9th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Monday 12th April	Pupils return to school
Monday 31st May—Friday 4th June	HALF TERM
Friday 16th July	Last day of term for pupils
Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th July	PD DAYS (school closed to pupils)
Monday 19th July—	SUMMER HOLIDAYS BEGIN

Year 6 Another productive week in Year 6; this week the children have completed their unique retelling of the myth, 'Theseus and the Minotaur', which have been great to read! There has been some interesting and some-what scary beasts introduced. In Maths, the children have demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of place value and rounding, which we have been extremely impressed with!

Next week, in both English and Maths, we will be completing some baseline assessments to show the children's current understanding, as well as highlighting gaps which we will need to ensure are recapped in detail.

In addition to this, next Thursday, 24th September whilst in school, the children will be having a 'Zoom' assembly here in class, led by staff at Sybil Andrews where they will be able to find out all about the school and what they have to offer, in readiness for making decisions on secondary schools.

It was great to see that everyone brought in their piece of homework, many to an impressive standard! We're looking forward to receiving their next piece on Monday.

A reminder please to all Year 5/6 pupils who make their own way to school and bring a mobile phone with them provided by their parents - that ALL phones should be SWITCHED OFF as soon as your child enters the school site. Finally, many Year 6 pupils are still arriving on the school site far too early. Whilst we appreciate the majority of children are walking or cycling independently to school now, please can we stress that they should not arrive before 8.55am at the very earliest.

Our aim is to avoid congestion on site and the staggered timings have been planned with this in mind.

Have a relaxing weekend, The Year 6 Team

Year 5 We have had a very busy week in Y5, with the children making an enthusiastic start with their learning of our new units of work. The fruit planets were a highlight of the week in Class 12! Ask your children if they can remember which fruits represented each planet and why! We have been very impressed with the Home Learning models of the solar system and sundials, as well as the artwork!

Continuing our Earth and Space theme, the children will be making Top Trumps cards based on the planets. In History, they will be writing a diary entry of a poor Victorian child. The children have been gripped by the opening couple of chapters of Cogheart and our English work will be based on this for the rest of the term.

Finally, a reminder please to all Year 5/6 pupils who make their own way to school and bring a mobile phone with them provided by their parents - that ALL phones should be SWITCHED OFF as soon as your child enters the school site.

Have a great weekend, Year 5 team

Year 4 Now that we are all settled in, this week has raced by! We have had some excellent homework handed in and our flag display in the Base is already looking great! Apologies for the confusion over Mathletics and spellings last week; Mr Tottie was absent, so Friday's lessons were altered. However, the children will be looking at Mathletics this week and should receive a personal login to stick in their Reading Log.

The children have also completed their Star reading test for Accelerated Reader, so have their new ZPD in their reading log. Quizzes will also resume next week. As it has been a while since the children have accessed a Star test or quiz in school, we will be repeating the Star test next half term and monitoring the quiz results weekly to ensure books are at a suitable level for your child.

In Science, we will be continuing our discussion on States of Matter to look at the behaviour of particles. PE lessons are discovering and improving football skills. In Music, we have continued our work on pulse and rhythms so that next week the children can compose their own pieces in small groups.

Instead of Geography on Tuesday, the children will be doing Art. We will be using paint, but sadly cannot use the painting aprons in school at the moment. Therefore, could you please send your child in with **something to cover their uniform** that you don't mind getting paint on. *For example, an old adult sized shirt or an old t-shirt work well.* Please send this in a named carrier bag, as it will remain on their peg for future Art lessons this half term.

Enjoy your weekend! Year 4 Team

Year 3 This week, the children really enjoyed our practical sessions about shadows (we were lucky with the weather!) We went outside and tried to lose our shadow. The children soon realised this wasn't possible unless they went in the shade!

We have really enjoyed seeing the first pieces of home learning. It is due in every Friday please.

Next week, in French, the children will be learning how to ask and say how they are. In English, the children have been listening to The Hodgeheg. They will plan and write a new chapter using verbs and adverbs which they have been practising. In Art, they will complete their Nefertiti heads. In PSHE, they will complete an activity which allows the children to identify things they have in common with others in the class. In History, the children will learn about how and why the pyramids were built and will make a mind map about them.

Each Friday, the children need to come to school in their PE kit. They need to wear trainers for the sessions so they can take part safely.

Have a good weekend, The Year 3 Teaching Team

Year 2 This week we have been telling the story of Finding Nemo by using actions to help memorise sentences. The children will be excited to perform this to you as their homework this week!

Next week we will see how much of the story they can remember and write for themselves. We will also look at how to spell past tense endings.

In Maths we are focussing on place value, thinking about how we can split numbers into tens and ones and represent this in different ways.

So far this term we have focussed on phonics, assessing each child to see what point they are at post-lockdown. We can then teach phonics at appropriate levels in preparation for the Phonics check later this year. Next week we will start hearing children read 1:1 with adults so we can judge appropriate home reading books for them.

Thank you to those of you who have sent in bottles, pots and plastic trays for our science project!

Have a great weekend, The Year 2 Team

Year 1 This week the children have had their first taste of science, art and handwriting activities. In literacy we will continue our work on 'Funny bones' and the children will be writing their own 'In a dark, dark' sentence. In maths we will be counting forwards and backwards and finding one more/one less from a given number. In science we will be going on a listening walk around the school and in art will be continuing our work on primary and secondary colours. Please could you ensure that your child has their reading book in school every day with their book bag. Please do remember to read at home with your child as much as possible and sign their reading log every time this happens. This helps your child so much and also means that we can change their book twice weekly.

Many thanks for your support, have a wonderful weekend.
Year 1 Team

Reception This week we have begun our topic called "It's good to be ME!" We have been looking carefully at our faces and using different mediums to make funny pictures. We have looked at emotion emojis and we talked about our feelings. Next week we will talk about ways we can be kind to our friends.

In Reception we have an activity called "Share and Shine" where one child a week is invited to share something special with the class. Please can you add photos or a favourite piece of music onto tapestry, as due to COVID we cannot bring things in. Sunshine class is Friday and Rainbow on Wednesday. Please be patient and wait for your turn to get an invitation to share and shine.

We hope you have a restful weekend, from the EYFS Team

Nursery We have had a wonderful week getting to know all the children in Nursery. The children are making many new friends and becoming more confident each day. Thank you so much for all your support and putting some fantastic family photos on tapestry. We have enjoyed sharing these with all the children and they have all created a wonderful painting for our 'It's good to be me' display.

Please can you clearly label your child's pack lunch boxes, drink bottles and clothes as we do not want any items to go missing.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing you all next week!
The Nursery Team