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Be kind, be ready, be curious….

**WEEKLY BRIEFING NOTES**

**5.2.2023**

**Key events**

To review the writing, maths and guided reading elements of our curriculum before half term to assess impact now they have been embedded.

**ABSENCE**

no Angela Jennings, No Dion, no Jane Jerz, no Charlotte Kennedy, no Lindsay Warren for lunch

**Prevent**

If you haven’t completed this please can you do so ASAP.

<https://www.support-people-vulnerable-to-radicalisation.service.gov.uk/portal>

**Careers week**

We have allocated a week in June (I don’t have the date at home) and I’ve placed a timetable on the staff room wall. Please ask people you know if they are willing to come and talk about their jobs and careers. It doesn’t matter which day in the week as I would like to get about 6 visitors a day if possible, so that children move from person to person through that week learning and hopefully inspriring them to want to move towards that career pathway. This is one of our most important pieces of work, inspiring our youngsters – professional footballers and Utubers aren’t the only pathway out there! I’m keen to get pupils who have come from us too, Prior will also help with this if we have names of pupils.

**Caretaking**

Caretaking is far more expensive on a relief basis that I expected so I am going to end this on Wednesday. Hopefully Michelle’s quad will be cleaned by then and the areas filled painted. But we will be completely without help again, I’ll make sure Matt is in to do the jobs that need doing. I can’t spend money unnecessarily or where I don’t think there is value.

**Geography/History/ICT deep dives**

Leaders have been working on the symbols for the linear themes and how we are going to represent the sticky knowledge independently within books. Hopefully these can be shared shortly. I love the idea of having a large symbol card with all the previous knowledge on the back so that reminders can be shared at the beginning of every lesson.

**Cover**

There are a few things going on this week, Allan needs to be out for an appointment, Michelle has a CP meeting that she must attend. As always, please can we be flexible with cover – I will always try to give back lost time when I can, but sometimes it just isn’t possible. Thank you.

**Deep dives.**

I think it will be really good for Teri and Claire and possibly Anne/Michelle to revisit maths, writing and reading over the next three weeks on a Tuesday. We haven’t looked at how the systems are working through school in a while, and I know these things happen every day so easy to look at. I hope this is ok.

**Reading books matching phonic level**

Please just check that children who are still on the phonic scheme are reading phonic books at their level. They can look at books for pleasure. But their reading book should definitely match.

**Smartlog training**

The reason why there are suddenly so many training bits to do is because the Trust have had a health and safety audit and many training elements have lapsed. There is no expectation to do it all now, and some of it could be done in the twilight if the RWI is complete. Do when you can and teachers will be given a staff meeting to do this next half term, Tas please put in a timesheet.

**Children’s mental health week**

Next week is children's mental health week, the theme is**"Let's Connect"**

Below are links to various resources. If possible, use your PSHE session to raise awareness of how we can look after our mental health- take ideas from the links attached.  I'll be doing something little each day, like mindful colouring, a walk around school, a quick yoga session, singing and dancing- just ideas that help them look after their wellbeing.

I'll do an assembly which the Headstarters will help me with. If they can come to my classroom tomorrow lunch time- they can bring their school dinner/ packed lunch.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/schools/primary-age-activities/#resources>

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/search?q=Children%27s+Mental+Health+Week&c=244&ca=23&ct=ks2&r=teacher&fl=0&fa=4.5.6.7>

<https://schoolofkindness.org/childrens-mental-health-week-2023>

<https://mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources/lets-connect-children-s-mental-health-week-2023-toolkit-of-resources/>

Please take lots of pictures so that we can put these on the website.

**Worry boxes**

Please can you be sure that you are using these. Sophie, perhaps in your mental health time, you can pop around and talk to the children about their use? This is their first point of call when it comes to getting help so needs to be used regularly and checked as frequently as required.

**AWARDS IN ASSEMBLY**

I want to begin to celebrate all of our curriculum in school. So each week I am going to ask the co-ordinator to make a certificate for their subject and if you deliver that to the children in the assembly. Can we celebrate resilience again this week?

**Homework/reading**

Please keep to reminding about homework and reading and ask the office to send a parentmail or ring any parent whose child is not reading and not bringing their homework in.

**PENPALS/CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Please keep your penpals going. I spoke to Helena about some within Europe, we will get them for each class but it is going to take time to build up.

**Staff meeting**

Sophie – is it a mental health staff meeting? This is what I have in my diary.

**Social media**

Please try to share something each week or more on social media so that all classes are represented. We have most families now on Facebook so we are getting our messages out to most parents.

**Parentshare**

Please try to get this moving and I’ll keep promoting parents to get signed up with this.

**PE – from Allan**

* Please remind pupils about the daily mile each morning and the activities that Sports Leaders are leading (ask pupils to look out for the leader's bright pink bibs and yellow armbands)
* Remember to have a movement break every 20min or so throughout the day – or whenever you feel the children are flagging, (Active classrooms is great for this <https://www.activekidsdobetter.co.uk/active-classroom> or be inventive 🙂)
* When you are producing your Medium-Term Plans and Topic webs, ensure that PE is included. Complete PE provides lesson by lesson progressive steps and the curriculum map has the learning objectives. External coaches can give you their steps and progression stages to add to the medium-term plans. Can I ask you to go back through your plans for this term and add the PE. If it being taught by the gym coach or the golf coach, I will ask them to tell us the skills and knowledge they are developing – It does not need to be in detail, just what the coverage looks like – passing between partners, space activities, partner work? These can be taken straight from complete PE
* When putting physical activities on FB or twitter try to use the phrases - ***We did ..... because it will....***e.g. we did a skipping lesson to improve our co-ordination. Why not see how many skips you can do at home?

**Assemblies**

I will do a child’s mental health tomorrow and I think Anne is doing a reading assembly on Tuesday. Sophie’s headstarters would like to lead an assembly later in the week, so look out for an additional one, to focus on the Mental Health week.

**Staff survey**

I sent this last week again, if you can please complete this as it will help SLT moving forwards.

**SLT**

We will be looking at a book scrutiny this week – possibly Wednesday as clubs get in the way of SLT at the mo.

**ELECTRICITY**

Please try to remember to turn off the lights when you leave a room. Also when you finish on a night make sure your windows are closed and that the lights are off to help the locking up process please.

**LITTER PICKING**

Please try to take a group out litter picking if you can - it eases the load with trying to keep the site tidy.

**LIBRARY BOOKS/OUR SCHOOL NON FICTION LIBRARY**

Please try to use the library if you can – reading for pleasure is going to be something we look at this term – so a library visit helps them to be independent in the books the choose for reading with an adult. I’m hopeful we can also look at classes joining again, older and young children sharing stories is benefical for both classes.

**LOVE OF READING**

I want to open the library and story sacks to parents before and after school shortly to continue to promote reading. Remind the children about all the wonderful books down corridors, these can be taken too for use.

**PSHE**

Dreams and goals – There is a lot more to it that jigsaw, British Values, financial, social, emotional etc – please add these to your plans when they are the most appropriate.

[Jigsaw (jigsawpshe.online)](https://jigsawpshe.online/welcome)

Username: TS117DL

Password: %JigsawPSHE21

**Tea Club**

If you want to be in this please sign up again and pay the £1.00 per week.

**CHILD PROTECTION**

Please remember to always be vigilant and pass any concerns that you have to me or Angela – there will be our weekly update at the beginning of staff meeting – Wednesday at 8.35am in my room for an update for anyone who doesn’t come to staff meetings.

**Low level concerns**

Staff safe is now working. Please try to see if this is working for you.

**SCHOOL REVIEW HEADLINES - these things are going to be our priority this term.**

Floor books - use these extensively.  Children can use these when speaking to a visitor to jog their own memories.  Perhaps a page per subject/topic - this is an alternative way of recording learning for some children.

Reading books - particularly those still on phonics - reading books must match their phonic level.  Reading for pleasure can be outside of this but it must be a book that isn't as part of our school system.

EYFS - we all need to know where the learning strands come from, that is EYFS - Michelle will continue to look at these and at the checkpoints onto the linear themes.

Curriculum leaders - we need to look at our curriculum and decide on end points for Christmas, easter and summer as you would for any subject.  Identifying whether children are at or below these statements - evidence will come from evidence me, books, discussion etc.  As co-ordinator you need to look at what has been taught in your subject across school and decide what we assess against.

Vocabulary - we need to make each stage of learning for the foundation subjects explicit in the sense of their vocabulary and what they need to use - co-ordinators need to be sure they are progressive.

Amy also spoke about putting post-it notes on your floor books for pupil voice, capturing some of what they are saying.

Kindest regards

Sarah

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| Monday | Sarah, Joanna meeting 11am Prior |
| Tuesday | Staff meeting – Mental health  Sarah Langstaff to look at budget  Roman day in Year 4. |
| Wednesday | Beth Cairns to see SR re careers |
| Thursday | DSL trainng for SR 9-12.30  SR out pm, funeral |
| Friday | Celebration assembly |