



Barnes Farm Junior School



# NEWSLETTER

No 18: 29<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021

29<sup>th</sup> January 2021



Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to thank all parents and carers for the support you have given our schools since the introduction of the new national lockdown at the start of term. Whilst our schools are only open to children of critical workers or vulnerable pupils, all our staff are working extremely hard to ensure that all children who are not on site can access the curriculum through remote learning.

The Prime Minister indicated earlier this week that the earliest possibility of schools opening to more pupils other than children of critical workers or vulnerable pupils would be 8<sup>th</sup> March. I must stress however, that this is the earliest date that schools *could* potentially open to more pupils and is by no means a definitive date. Like everyone, we are hopeful that these restrictions can be lifted as soon as possible but this can only happen when it is safe to do so.

## Children of critical workers

Schools are remaining open to the children of workers who are critical to the COVID-19 response and EU transition and who are unable to safely stay at home. We need to ensure that the number of pupils accessing the offer of provision in our schools is kept to the lowest number possible. Therefore, even if you are a critical worker, if your child(ren) can remain at home rather than attend school, on some or all days, then they should. Please only use the offer of provision when it is crucial for you to undertake your critical role. It remains the case that, wherever possible, all children should remain at home and be supported through a programme of remote education.

Schools are open to provide care to enable critical workers to respond to the crucial role you play in the response to the COVID-19 emergency, but you must also support your school and only use this offer of support if you have no alternatives for childcare for your child(ren). Clearly the more children and young people that attend school, the wider the risk of spreading the virus grows. I would urge all parents/carers who are critical workers to only send your child into school if there is absolutely no alternative. This will help schools to reduce potential transmission of COVID-19 in the wider community by minimising the numbers of pupils and staff on site.

## Half Term Holiday

The government confirmed this week that schools will close as usual over February half-term and are not expected to remain open to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers during that week. The last day of this half term is Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Please also note that Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February is a designated training day for all CLP schools and, as



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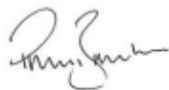


such, all our schools will be closed to all pupils on this day. CLP schools re-open for children of critical workers and vulnerable pupils only on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021.

Families who are eligible for Free School Meals will continue to receive vouchers over the half term holiday and your child's school will be in contact with you to inform you about this shortly.

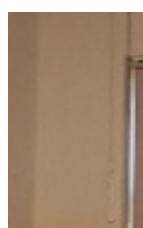
Once again, thank you for your support in these incredibly challenging times.

Yours faithfully



Paul Banks  
Chief Executive Officer

## Remote Learning Survey 2



9. Overall - how well do I think the school is managing the current provision?

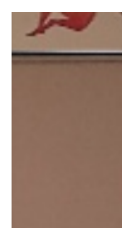
[More Details](#)

48

Responses



4.52 Average Rating



Last week's fortnightly parental survey on our remote provision was very positive again with some very useful feedback. As a result, we are looking to standardise the way we make our resources available online as well as further improve the provision for those struggling to keep up with the pace of the live lessons by signposting specific Oak Academy content that aligns with the broad teaching objective. The advantage with Oak Academy resources is that instructions can be listened to again and again if needed as well as greater levels of suitable work.

## Support to encourage reading at home

Attached to this newsletter is a great document, created by our Reading Lead Teacher, Mrs Crumlish, which has links and advice to helping to support reading at home. There are lots of different and inventive strategies you can use to keep this going so please take the time to look at it and let us know if they work!



## Children's Mental Health Week 1<sup>st</sup> Feb-5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2021

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Feb at 9:00am there will be a virtual assembly to support Children's Mental Health Week. This will replace the usual early morning work on Monday - please ensure your child logs in. Links will be on placed on Teams.



Ross McTaggart  
Headteacher



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## Free Training session for Parents on Teams

Is your child using Teams for remote learning? Are you frozen in fear about helping them as Microsoft Teams for Education is alien to you, and your child? Do you feel like it is just too scary to even try and get your device ready for them to use? Come to 2, two hour sessions where we will help answer any questions and give you a guided explore around TEAMS and any questions you or your child have. The first session will be offered online through ZOOM, just one click and you will be on, and the 2nd session we will get you online onto TEAMS, so you can experience what your children will access for their learning. This will open up doors for your children to learn, whilst remote learning is in place as well as help you to access online support that may be holding you back as a parent.

What have you got to lose? Give it a go!

Free Training on Teams session for Parents

Booking:

<http://bit.ly/trainingonteam4Feb>

<http://bit.ly/trainingonteam11Feb>

### ★ Stars of the Week ★

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Y6	Neda Kuleviciute Fern Berris	Kajus Ziedelis	Alice Tyler
Y5	Thomas Chunn Logan Walpole	Lily Crush Harry Brandrick-Smith	Anesu Dzimati
Y4	Oliver Parker Daniel Efiannayi	Ethan Page David Asoso	Harry Sykes
Y3	Joshua McElroy Sienna Snow	Joshua Logan Joshua Skillen	Daisy Smith

Rohit

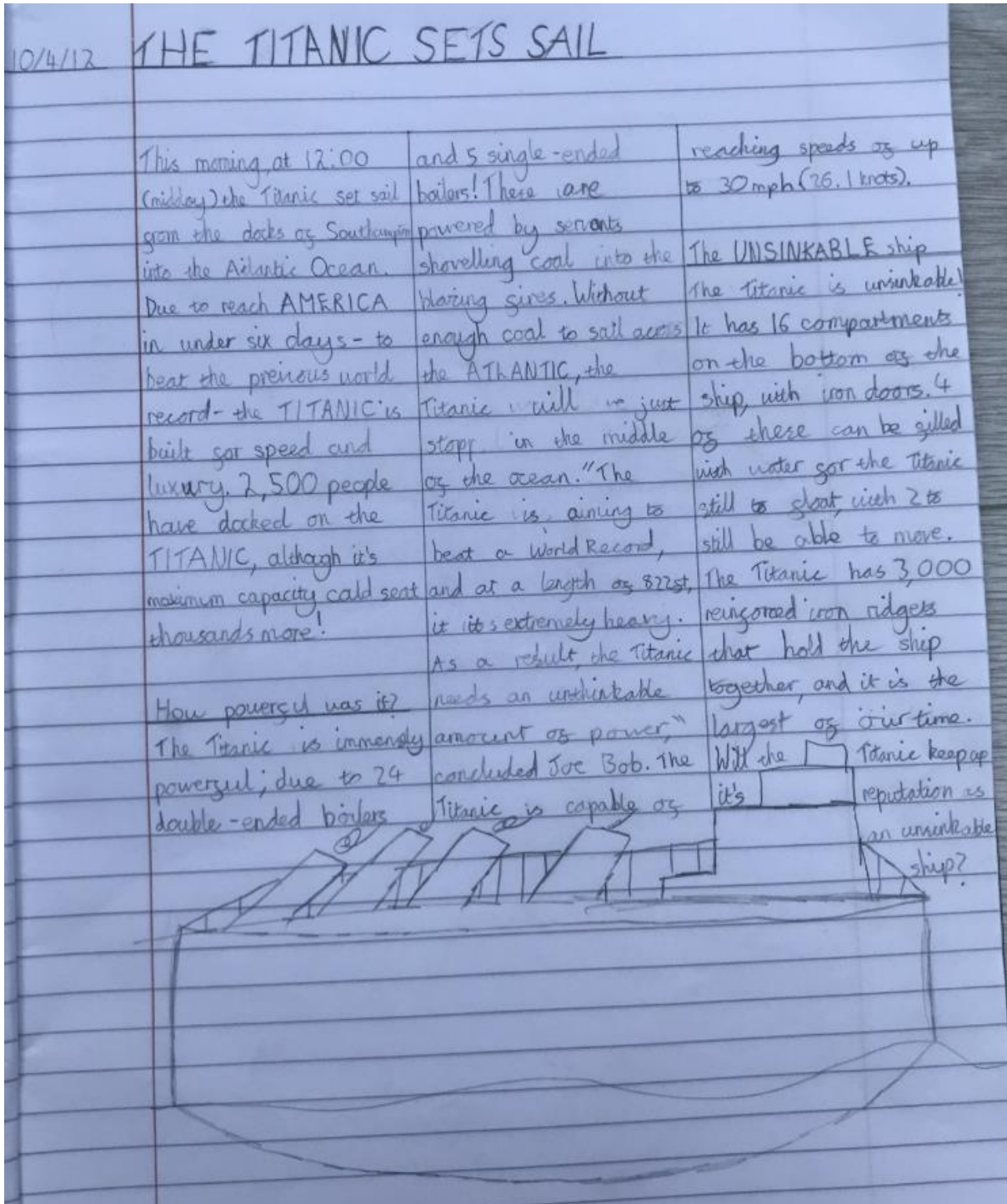


Copenhagen Artwork from Y4

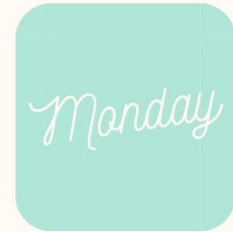
Emma R



Y5 Writing about the fateful sailing of the Titanic – by Jamie Gilbey



## Achievement from this week's Mindful Monday Activities





Mindful



Monday



Baking

