



West Lodge Primary School Weekly Bulletin

Respecting each other, learning creatively, challenging all.

Friday 5th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are all well. I know the children are very excited to be returning to school on Monday – at school we are all looking forward to seeing everyone return and to have the school full again. The children have done so well with their remote learning – but we are all eager to get back to experiencing learning in the classroom once more. Our aim is to maintain continuity of learning as much as possible and ‘crack on with the curriculum’ on Monday.

A reminder that all the key documents outlining our plans for the return of all pupils are located here: [Return of all Pupils - March 2021 - Key Documents](#) . The link for the recording of the presentation, where we talked through our return to school plans, is here: [Plans for the Return of all Pupils - March 2021](#) Passcode: A*+Me^83

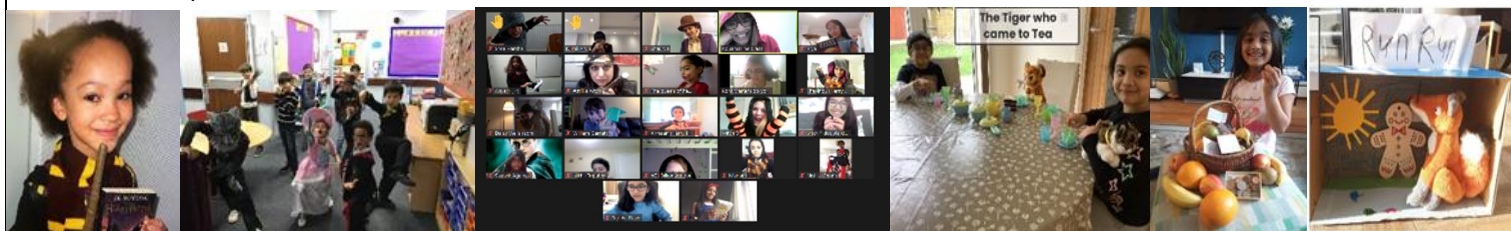
Thank you for providing your feedback via the parents’ survey – if you haven’t yet had a chance to complete the survey, it is live until 4pm tomorrow – here is the link [Survey for Parents & Carers](#) .

There has been a lot of talk in the press regarding pupils needing to catch up, their loss of learning and describing them as the ‘lost’ generation. We don’t feel it is helpful to talk in these terms – I have included a link to a powerful article on this topic and also a link to the Ted Talk referenced in the article:

[Why we mustn't trap pupils in a single story of loss - Leora Cruddas](#) ;

[Ted Talk - The Danger of a Single Story - Chimamanda Adichie](#) .

We have talked about our return to school in terms of ‘**building forward together**’ rather than catching up – we feel that it is important to recognise the whole range of experiences that the children have had over the last year. There are aspects of learning, and areas of the curriculum, where there are gaps - we will continue to assess carefully and adapt the curriculum accordingly to ensure that teaching is well-targeted to address these. There are, however, lots of other stories to tell: the varied perspectives that have been gathered; the resilience that has developed; the creativity that has been demonstrated; the independence that has grown; the closer relationships that have been fostered with family; new skills that have been mastered. Our theme of Spring into Health encapsulates our focus as all pupils return to school and we work together to develop healthy bodies, healthy minds, healthy friendships and take steps to help create a healthy world.



The pictures above show some of the children’s recent learning: Lexi – or is it Hermione? Year 3 and their wonderful World Book Day costumes; a Year 5 World Book Day celebratory Zoom call; Aarav and Aniva recreating The Tiger who came to Tea; Amisha with her very own fruit stall and Rafie’s story scene from The Gingerbread Man.

Please remember to continue to follow the public health guidance. From Monday, at drop off and pick-up we will have over 1000 people in and around the school site – so it is vital to continue to follow the guidance. **Please remember to avoid congregating at the school gate or meeting up in the park after school.** The news that surge testing is now taking place in North Wembley, as the South African Variant has been found in this area, is a reminder to stay vigilant.

Well-being Tip of the Week

Have a Chat!

Whilst for many of our children the return to school next week will bring much excitement, the chance to reconnect with their friends and teachers etc, for some it may bring anxiety. Talk to your children about how they are feeling, and remind them that nothing at school has changed since they were last there - consistency and routine is reassuring and settling.

‘Life is 10% what happens to you; 90% how you react to it!’

Thank you for your continued support.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend!

Jim Dees

