



# West Alvington Church of England Academy

Parent Updates Newsletter  
6th November 2020

Dear Parents

The children have had a great first week back after the half term break enjoying the sunshine in the adventure area. Thank you for using Tapestry and Google Classrooms to share home learning. It's lovely to see all of the exciting learning happening at home, a highlight this week was seeing all the fantastic river models that Oak class have been creating at home!

## Rivers Home Learning



### Rotary Club Competitions

Along with other schools in our local area we have been given the opportunity to take part in the annual Rotary Youth Competitions. These competitions are aimed at children aged 7-10 in Primary school as well as being offered to older year groups in Secondary School. This year the competitions are YOUNG WRITER and YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER. The theme for Young Writer is ' My Happiest Day ' and for Young Photographer is ' Wild Nature '. Shortlisted entries will be displayed in the Kingsbridge Library prior to the judging event, which will showcase the work of our school and children. The Rotary club are creating bespoke 'opportunity' prizes for the winners, who they hope will be announced at an award ceremony in January with teachers, children and parents invited. Winners at District and National level will receive other awards. Further information and entry forms are attached to the email along with this newsletter.

### Children in Need

This year we are asking the children to come to school on Friday 13th November 2020 dressed in spots and/or stripes – bring £1 donation.



### Covid 19 Updates

As you will be aware, we have entered a second national lock down this week. On this occasion schools and nurseries will remain open. We continue to follow government guidance and update our risk assessments accordingly. As a result of these continual reviews, before half term, we asked parents to wear face masks at the beginning and end of the school day. Thank you for your continued support with this. Although it does appear that children are less affected by the virus, our staff are at risk and it is important that we keep them as safe and healthy as possible so that we can maintain continuity for the children and their education.

The guidance published this week did not include any major changes to the system of controls required in school. As a Trust and, in line with other Trusts, we have made the decision that staff will be able to wear masks outside of classrooms, such as in corridors and communal areas and where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. They will not wear a mask when working directly with children either in small groups or teaching classes. Most children are now used to seeing people wearing masks in shops or other public places so are unlikely to be phased by this. However, we would appreciate it if you could take some time to explain to your child over the weekend that this will be happening. Teachers will also carefully explain to children that they may see adults in school, as they already have in the case of visitors to school, wearing masks and that this is to keep them safe.

Teachers have started this half term by reminding children about the importance of handwashing and hygiene in keeping us all safe. Thank you all for your support in maintaining social distancing and wearing face masks at drop off and pick up times.



It has come to our attention that parents are driving quite fast when driving through the village when dropping their children off in the mornings, could we ask that our parents drive slowly when entering and leaving the village to keep our families safe. Thank you.

Have a great (hopefully sunny) weekend.

With best wishes

Miss Coombe