

# NEWSLINE

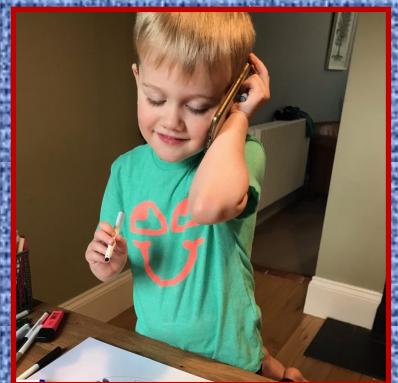
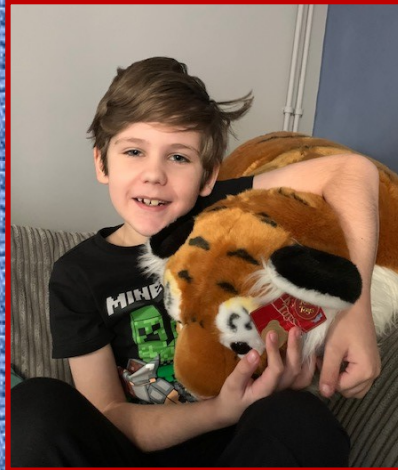
January 2021  
Issue 2



## North Primary School and Nursery

A Town Centre School with a Strong Community Ethos

Celebrated our 126th anniversary on 12th November. Visit [www.northschoolcxxv.com](http://www.northschoolcxxv.com)



## HOME LEARNERS OF THE WEEK GALLERY

Kiera, Jude, Saskia, Steven, Jack, Olaf and Toby

I spent Monday afternoon chatting with the home learners and their proud parents. It was lovely to listen to them talking about their work. Maths activities seem to be the most popular. These children have stood out to their teachers not just because of the amount of work they are doing but how hard they are trying to do the tasks they are finding trickier. The older children are also posting their own comments and questions about their work. The children tell me they are finding ways to keep busy and get fresh air when they are not doing their home learning. What they all miss about not being in school is seeing their friends of course but some are able to keep in touch through online games and/or social media. Well done home learners. I wonder who will be the next home learners of the week?



### Monday Assemblies

It would be helpful to get some feedback from children and parents on these assemblies. Children: what did you find interesting? What do you like about that subject? Did it inspire you to make something? Parents— was there enough information provided? Did it improve your understanding of the subject? Next assembly ART.



### TERM DATES

Friday 12th February	Last day of half term
Monday 22nd February	Return to school
Friday 26th March	Final day of spring term
Monday 12th April	First day of summer term
Monday 12th April	Year 6 residential, Osmington Bay
Thursday 27th May	Last day of half term
Tuesday 8th June	Return to school
Wednesday 21st July	Final day of school year

## LAPTOPS

The Government is supplying all schools with laptops for "disadvantaged children who do not have access to a device and whose face-to-face education is disrupted." We have received 26 laptops to loan to children who fit this category. This has presented us with a tricky decision. We are offering the laptops to the oldest children in the school first. The government has announced this week that more laptops will be delivered. At this stage we do not know how many and when they would be expected to arrive. Mrs. Walker, our IT technician is configuring the 26 and they will be distributed this month.

### Free School Meal Food Vouchers

Mrs Sancassani has been working hard to get parents registered for the food vouchers. Hopefully the system will work and the vouchers will be available from the week beginning the 25th January.

### Click and Collect

Mrs. Catchpole has come up with a brilliant idea of a click and collect service for parents who have run out of resources for home learning. Details to follow.

## NURSERY NEWS

### keeping the school community informed

At the beginning of Lockdown the decision was taken to treat the Nursery the same as the school and open along the same lines. This was within the rules before they were changed. Now the government is also insisting that Nurseries will only get funding for children who are in attendance or who would but parents have made the decision that it is safer for the children to stay at home and comply with the national effort to suppress the transmission of the virus. Obviously if we thought it was safe to open the Nursery in full we would have done that already. Over the weekend of the 16th/17th, it was confirmed that if we do not offer to open the Nursery in full we would not get full funding for this term for the children registered. Apparently the hours the staff spend providing remote learning, interacting with parents on Tapestry and keeping in touch over the phone do not count. That ruling could mean a loss of funding of up to £30 000, putting the future of the Nursery in jeopardy. This has put all Early Year providers across the country in a terrible position. We have no choice but to offer to open. Meetings have been held with Nursery staff. Mrs. Hooker and Miss Suttinwood spent the 19th and 20th speaking to every family. The School Risk Assessment will be updated. From Monday 25th the Nursery will open a morning bubble of 8 and an afternoon bubble of 8. We are very grateful to the parents who have agreed to continue to keep their children at home. Nursery parents will be informed of the new arrangements.

Jayden has been doing some brilliant home learning. Can you work out what is happening in this picture?



### Domestic Abuse—important information

COMPASS is the single point of access helpline to support victims of domestic abuse across Southend, Essex and Thurrock. Access to your local domestic abuse support services will remain unchanged throughout the national lockdown. The COMPASS helpline 0330 333 7444 is open every day:

- 8am - 8pm, Mon - Fri
- 8am - 1pm Sat - Sun

Outside these hours there is information and national 24 hour numbers available on their website <https://www.essexcompass.org.uk> where you can also make an online referral and will be contacted within 24 hours.

### National helplines:

National Domestic Violence Helpline - 0808 2000 247  
 National LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline - 0800 999 5428  
 Respect - 0808 802 4040  
 Men's Advice Line - 0808 801 0327  
 Shelter - 0800 800 4444  
 NSPCC Helpline - 0808 800 5000  
 ChildLine - 0800 1111  
 Samaritans - 116 123