

The Kentmere Post

December 2020



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Headteachers' Update



We are rapidly approaching the end of another busy and exciting term. Albeit a little different to the usual December, we have done our best to ensure that it is as educational and enjoyable for the children as possible. We hope that you liked the little videos which classes prepared for you. Our Christmas picnic lunch was a success and the children were surprised and intrigued by the chocolate sprouts!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely holiday and happy and healthy new year. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Values and Virtues Nominations

Each week staff nominate pupils to be recognised for key qualities and attributes and these are shared with the whole school during our virtual celebration assemblies. Those pupils who are nominated receive merits, have their pictures placed on our 'Values and Virtues Tree', as well as their names recorded in our keepsake book. We are so proud of the behaviour and attitudes of our pupils and this is why we love celebrating their special qualities.



We can't heal
the world today,
but we can begin
with a voice
of compassion,
a heart of love,
an act of kindness.
mary davis

This months focus - Compassion

2020 has been an incredibly challenging year, for some more than others. Therefore it seems appropriate to remind everyone about the importance of compassion. This quality cannot be underestimated in its importance, and the impact that it can have on the recipient.

Class Updates

EYFS

During Forest School we have been developing our physical skills and our forest school area by planting trees and hedges. We read the instructions together on how to plant them and what was needed to help them grow. Ask your child about what we did.



Reception

Even though the weather has become colder, the children in Reception have enjoyed venturing outdoors and exploring the forest school area. We have been observing the trees change colour and have noticed more and more leaves have fallen as the weather has become colder. After reading Leaf Man in our English lessons, we realised that some fallen leaves are blown by the wind and go on exciting adventures! One Leaf Man even flew into our classroom window! We welcomed Leaf Man to our class and decided to collect our own leaves and make Leaf Man some leaf friends. After reading Leaf Man, we decided that we wanted to see more trees around our school, so we decided to work together as a class to plant some new trees in our forest school area. We look forward to watching these trees grow and can't wait to see what other changes occur in winter – we have our fingers crossed for snow!



Year 1/2

At Kentmere we strive to give the children as many different opportunities as possible so we have produced our Enrichment Flight Path which tracks age appropriate experiences and challenges as the children move through the school.

In Year 1 / 2, the children have been learning skills they will need throughout their life such as putting on a pillow case. Although some found this tricky, they all persevered and enjoyed themselves.

We have introduced a range of traditional activities such as hopscotch and playing conkers. The children learnt how to draw their own hopscotch and developed their skills of hopping from box to box. Conker smashing was also a firm favourite with lots of smiles all round!



Notice to Parents

Please note that mobile phones should not be used on the school premises as part of the safeguarding strategy. When you are coming to collect your children please put your phone away and enjoy a conversation with them to find out about their day.

Feedback from Questionnaires

Many thanks to all those who have taken the time to complete and return the questionnaires. There were some really helpful and positive comments which were well received after what has been a particularly challenging year. Also we would like to remind parents that although we are operating in unusual times, please do contact the school by phone (01706 647533) or email office@kentmereacademy.co.uk if you have any questions or information to pass on to class teachers. Another option is to pop a note inside the child's reading book as they take these out in class each day.



Science <ul style="list-style-type: none">To name parts of the body.To investigate the height of children in our class.To know that the eye is an organ we use to see.To investigate our senses.To investigate the best material to protect our ears.	Music <ul style="list-style-type: none">To understand the concept of pitch.To create a pattern using two pitches.To understand the concept of tempo.	Forest School <ul style="list-style-type: none">To explore the Forest School area using senses.To create a senses collage using natural materials.To tie a knot to create a picture frame.	Art <ul style="list-style-type: none">To create 3D human forms.To work together to create a large piece of artwork using collage.	Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none">To add and subtract numbers within 10 (Year 1).To count in steps of 2,3,5 and 10 (Year 2).To add and subtract numbers within 100. (Year 2)
Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none">To locate and describe the Arctic Ocean.To locate and describe the Pacific Ocean.To compare and contrast two different oceans.	PSHE <ul style="list-style-type: none">To learn the importance of, and how to, maintain personal hygiene.To know what constitutes and how to maintain, a healthy lifestyle.	KENTMERE ACADEMY AND NURSERY CURRICULUM TOPIC WEB FOR PARENTS Autumn Term 2 Year 1/2 Memory Box	RE <ul style="list-style-type: none">To know that we all belong to something.To learn how Christians know they belong.To learn how Muslims know they belong.	History <ul style="list-style-type: none">To recognise how we can use our memory.To recall significant memories from the past.To begin to describe similarities and differences between historical artefacts and pictures.
Computing <ul style="list-style-type: none">To understand what an algorithm is.To use the Repeat and Timer commands.To know what debugging means.	PE <ul style="list-style-type: none">Invasion Games (Outdoor).Gymnastics (Indoor).	Enrichment <ul style="list-style-type: none">Teddy Bear's Picnic – 9th November 2020	D&T <ul style="list-style-type: none">To explore memory boxes and materials.To design and sew something onto bins using a running stitch.To design, make and evaluate a memory box that is decorated with bins.	English <ul style="list-style-type: none">InvitationsRecountsCharacter DescriptionsNarrativePoetryDiaryInformation Text

At the beginning of each term the children bring home a topic web and homework menu which gives you an overview of their learning for the term. These are also available to view on the school website <https://www.kentmereacademy.co.uk>. We will also send home a covering letter with this in January to give any further details. Please can we also encourage you to visit the school website which has year group sections and curriculum sections to give you more information. We upload posts regularly to facebook and twitter as a way of sharing our work with families.

Unfortunately we are unable to visit the local care homes as we have done in previous years due to the pandemic. However, our musicians and class choirs have prepared some wonderful videos for them which we hope they will enjoy watching.

After School Clubs

Once we can allow bubbles and classes to mix we will reinstate the free after school clubs which have been a huge success over the years and offer a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities from sports, art & craft, music and technology.



E-Safety



- Online safety should be on everyone's checklist this year

Are you aware of what your child is up to online?

Being online is an integral aspect of everyday life and it's important that children develop their computing skills for the future.

While technology is exciting, it can also pose some risks and it's our responsibility, as teachers and parents, to ensure that they are safe online.

What can you do to keep your child safe online?

- You can check how safe the apps your children are using on the NSPCC website www.net-aware.org.uk
- You can check the age restrictions on apps and games
- You should talk to your children about what they are doing online and who they are talking to.



Internet safety tips you can promote with your children

1. Don't give out personal information such as home address, school name or phone number
2. Never send pictures to strangers
3. Keep passwords private
4. Tell an adult if you receive a mean or strange message
5. Don't download anything without permission, it may contain a virus that can harm your device

If any parents/carers have any concerns about the safety of their child then please contact the school as soon as possible.

Foodbank at Branches Christian Fellowship, 1 Wesley street, Smallbridge, Rochdale. Saturdays 10:30am to 12 noon

We have friendly teams who open up and provide a cuppa, biscuit and chat while you wait for your food. We're also open as a **Place of Welcome** during Food Bank, so you can just pop in for a brew and get to know some friendly faces without accessing the food bank.

If you do need help from the Food Bank, remember you'll need to get a voucher from a referral agency. These include health centres, children's centres, Citizen's Advice and in our area, Kentmere School. Once you have your voucher, pop along and we'll help you through the process.





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