



# PENSHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents,

This week has been Children's Mental Health Week and I hope that all pupils have taken time to focus on their well-being and perhaps engaged with some of the activities that I posted on the website. I will leave them there for the moment as they may provide additional activities for times when they are needed.



Today I had a well-being catch up with children from Year 3 and Year 4 – it was lovely to have a chat and see how they are. I will be offering this to other classes over the next few weeks. The intention is not to have a lesson but just a friendly chat and see how everyone is getting on. Today we talked about our happiness scale and our favourite movies.



Thank you to all those who sent me pictures of their great work – great to see so many positives and children thinking about themselves – so many positives.

Isabel made her own gratitude jar and filled it with the things she is thankful for. Well done Isabel !

## No Screens Day – Project Work

Early next week you will receive information about the choices of project work that your child can complete next Friday during our no-screens day. The work will vary depending on the age of the children.



## Captain Sir Tom Moore



Back in 'Lockdown 1' we were all inspired by the great endeavours of Captain Sir Tom Moore – he certainly was a role model and someone who demonstrated our school values of compassion,

friendship, courage and determination.

We also dedicated one of our cubbyholes in our art installation to him; Miranda Singleton created a wonderful portrait and other artefacts to add to the display. So Tom's memory will live on at Penshurst. Such an amazing person – I was also inspired by his magnificent efforts and started my 'run every day' challenge – today I have reached day 322. Next week's Headteacher Challenge is to design a new medal that brings together all the great qualities that Captain Sir Tom Moore had.

## Graduation – Miss Costen Year 1 & Year 2



This coming week Miss Costen will attend her virtual Graduation Ceremony from Brighton University. I know the parents from her class will join me in congratulating her on

her achievement. She has really settled into school life at Penshurst and is a valued member of the team. As a Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) the start of your teaching career is a steep learning curve – suddenly you are in charge of, and responsible for, a class of little people – it can be a challenge! Imagine then if you are in your first year of teaching and there is a global pandemic! My staff have all risen to the challenge of remote learning; Miss Costen is doing a tremendous job – I receive many emails from parents who want to share their thanks for the work she is doing; one parent wrote to me saying :

*Miss Costen is always so kind and encouraging, a great example of helping with the children's mental health.*

A great example of how the staff at Penshurst are role models of our vision and values.

## Welcome to Penshurst

This term we have welcomed a new pupil to Elm Class; Poppy-Pearl has now joined our Year 1 cohort. This is a rather difficult time to forge new friendships but I know that her classmates have made her very welcome during the live Zoom lessons. We extend a warm Penshurst welcome to Poppy-Pearl and her family.

## Collective Worship

Monday and Wednesday next week at 1.45pm – as we have no screens on Friday (for teachers and pupils) we will not have our usual 1.30 Celebration Assembly.



## Signs of Spring

I challenge you all to see how many signs of spring you can find when you are out for your exercise this weekend.

Take care and stay safe.

Best wishes, **Sue Elliott, Headteacher**