



# PENSHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have all managed to stay warm this week despite the sub-zero temperatures. It looks like the weather is going to warm up for half term - fingers crossed.

After asking you to spot the signs of spring, mother nature came along and firmly told me it was still Winter! At school we have some daffodils poking up through the soil despite the snow!



The children in school had fun making a snowman on the front playground – we named him Frostie – today he has slowly melted away.



## Thank You

Today is our no screens day - I hope that everyone has benefitted from some time away from their computer screens. The teachers have also been given a no-

screens day; they were asked to work from home and take a breather – we all need to look after ourselves – teachers and staff have worked so hard this term to ensure that lessons have enabled pupils to continue their learning. The support staff team have worked with pupils 1:1 on bespoke zoom calls and those in school have supported the children of our key workers – providing these children with support to complete their remote learning. I am sure you will join me in saying 'thank you' to the teaching team. Of course the behind the scenes team have also continued to respond to your emails and kept you up-to-date with the many communications a lockdown creates!

## Safer Internet Day



Tuesday was a day dedicated to safer internet use; there are a number of resources on the school's website relating to this important area. I have left them uploaded so that children can have a look (and parents), there are some very useful tips and information about how to keep

children safe online.

## Get Well Soon

Amber in Year 2 had an accident earlier in the week and needed to undergo some surgery to her hand – Mrs Webster reports that she (Amber!) was incredibly brave

and was an excellent role model for our school value of Courage. We wish her a speedy recovery.

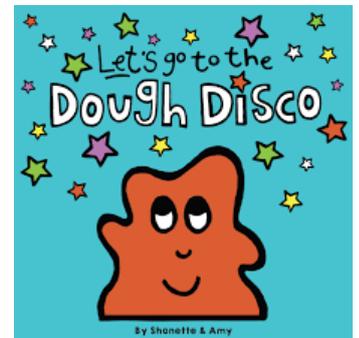
## Collective Worship

Numbers for Collective Worship sessions have been rather small for the past couple of weeks. I would ask you to encourage your child to take part in this important part of our school life – when we are in school we join together several times a week (in non-Covid times) to think about our school vision and values and how these are lived out through our everyday lives. The themes are general with the aim of supporting our pupils to have a strong moral compass. We meet on Mondays and Wednesdays at 1.45pm – pupils can take on a role within the session (if they wish) eg reading a prayer or poem. The office team can supply the meeting number and passcode.



## Early Years at Penshurst

This year we have welcomed some new members to our Early Years team. Although Mrs Foy and Mrs Poole have worked together before – in a Year 2 class – this is a 'first' for them at Penshurst. Both teachers are very experienced in teaching young learners; I am sure that the parents of the children in this class will agree - there is a real buzz of enthusiasm and energy in their approach! Despite the lockdown they have found innovative ways to keep our youngest pupils learning. Dough Disco seems very popular!



## Term 4

At the time of writing, I still have no further information on the re-opening of schools. As and when I receive further information I will be in touch. A quick reminder that on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February teachers will be using our INSET to finalise remote learning plans and prepare for the term ahead. Wishing you all a great half term - take care and stay safe.



Best wishes, **Sue Elliott, Headteacher**