



# NEWSLETTER

## December 2021

### Message from the Deputy Headteacher

#### Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of this calendar year, it has been lovely to watch the children enjoy some of the festive activities that they were unable to participate in, this time last year.

I would like to offer a warm Thames View Miss Erica Storey who will be covering Miss Still's Maternity Leave from the 5th of January 2022. She visited school on Friday the 10th of December in order to meet her new class and plan with colleagues. Erica had a lovely day and is very much looking forward to joining us in January. We would also like to welcome Nicola Birch and Alex Jackson as newly elected Parent Governors.

May I take this opportunity, on behalf of all the Staff, to wish you all a happy, safe and peaceful Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Kind Regards

Wendy Riddington



#### Term Dates

**Term 3 begins:**

**5th January 2022**

**Term 3 ends:**

**11th February 2022**

**Term 4 begins:**

**21st February 2022**

**Term 4 ends:**

**31st March 2022**

**(Staff Development Day:**

**1st April 2022)**

#### Diary Dates for Term 3

**3rd Jan—Staff Development Day**

**4th Jan—Additional SDD—Queen's Platinum Day**

**5th Jan—Children return to school**

**6th Jan—Children return to Nursery**

**19th Jan—YR—Height, Weight, Vision and Hearing checks**

**W/c 31st Jan—Maths Week**

**3rd Feb—Enterprise Day**

**4th Feb—NSPCC, Number Day .. wear something with a number on it**

#### REPORTING YOUR CHILD'S ABSENCE:

Please can we remind parents to call the office / leave a message on the absence line or send an email to let us know the reason for your child's absence each day they are off. Thank you.



## ECO NEWS

### **DS Smith Cardboard Recycling**

Thank you to all of you who brought cardboard into school to support the DS Smith 'Young Recyclers' campaign. DS Smith partnered with five local primary schools to help children understand the circular economy, and how everyone, including children, can start making a difference to the environment. Results and awards will be presented in the new year, so we await our result with anticipation. Fingers crossed!

To find out more about the project, please visit:

<https://www.dssmith.com/recycling/about/media-centre/2021/10/schools-celebrate-launch-of-young-recyclers-pilot-scheme>



### **Litter picking**

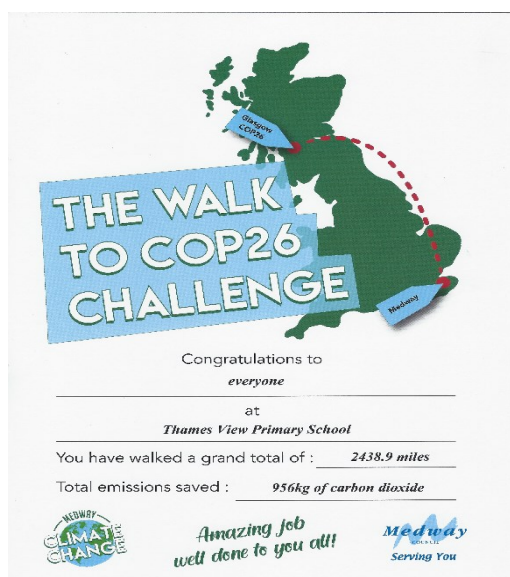


Members of the Eco Squad and their Green Team members have been working hard to keep our site litter free. The children in KS2 are tallying the litter to see the biggest problem, and unbelievably they collected 96 pieces of plastic during litter picking in Term 1!

We were lucky enough to receive funding from the **Rainham Eco Hub** and **Spice Fusion** to set up four litter picking stations around the school, comprising of litter pickers, gloves and bins, and we are very grateful to both of these organisations for their support of our project.

The children are definitely noticing less litter on site, and we hope you are seeing an improvement in the appearance of our grounds.

## COP26 Walk to School



Back in October, we took part in a Medway Council initiative to try as a school to walk the 416 miles to Glasgow, which was where the UN Climate Change Conferences was being held. Many thanks to all the children who took part and the parents who sent in their distances. We smashed the total! As a school, we walked a total of 2,439 miles! **Special mention must go to both Kanzi and Fortune class which both collectively walked over 375 miles. WOW!**

We are pleased to announce that we have been awarded a Climate Change Creative Classrooms prize from Medway Council. The winner of this award is Kanzi class who will be receiving a special treat during Term 3. Further details to be announced next term.

## Christmas Jumper Swap and Toy Sale

The PTA and the Eco Squad joined forces for the Christmas jumper swap and the toy sale with a view to stopping so many items ending up in landfill. Thank you to everyone who donated either item. We could have swapped many more jumpers, so hang on to them for next year ready to swap again! We are pleased to announce that we raised £117, to be split between the PTA and the Eco Squad.

Thank you very much for your support.



# EXCITING NEWS!!



I am delighted to be able to announce that Miss Still and her Partner welcomed their new baby girl into the world on Saturday 11th of December. A very exciting time ahead for them all.

Harper Rae arrived in the early hours of the morning, weighing 5 lb 15 oz .

I am sure you will join with me in wishing her and her partner well as they begin family life. What a magical Christmas they will all have.

## **A Message from Jodie Miller (Child Health Project Officer, Medway Public Health)**

Jodie will be facilitating courses in the New Year:

The seasonal period can be a challenging time for many families. There will be more sessions allocated on demand.

“I am pleased to advise we have 2 parent sessions coming up in January.”

**Managing emotional health and wellbeing for parent / carers. Thursday 13th January 10am till 11.30am**

**Supporting our children's mental health. Wednesday 19th January 10.30am till 12oclock**

Both sessions will be delivered over Zoom. If you would like to attend either or both sessions please email [childhealth@medway.gov.uk](mailto:childhealth@medway.gov.uk) and Jodie will send you the links.

## E-Vouchers for the Christmas Break for Pupils in receipt of Free School Meals

### **A message for parents of children entitled to Free School Meals**

Your eVouchers for the Christmas Break should be delivered on the 17th December.. Unfortunately, Morrisons shopping vouchers have had to be taken off the ordering system until January as they were experiencing a nationwide problem with their e-gift cards, so, if that is your preferred supermarket, you will need to select an alternative.

## MATHS WEEK

We will be having a Maths week beginning on January 31st, culminating in an Enterprise Day (where pupils can bring in small change up to £2 to spend at different 'stalls') on the Thursday, 3rd February.

On Friday 4th February, the children will be able to come to school in clothing with numbers on it for a small donation to the NSPCC.



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## Corona Virus anxiety- specific links

**Corona Virus:** How to protect your mental health: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-51873799>

**Coronavirus Medway Support** - for people who need urgent help, supplies or medication during the Coronavirus. 01634 306000

**Mental Health Europe:** <https://www.mhe-sme.org/covid-19/>

**NHS Link** with most up-to-date info on symptoms  
<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

**A Place 2 Be** Website offers several different ideas/ resources to use with your primary aged learner who may be finding the change difficult  
<https://www.place2be.org.uk/our-services/services-for-schools/mental-health-resources-for-schools/coronavirus-wellbeing-activity-ideas-for-schools/>



Also look up the **Anna Freud Centre on Facebook** for regular videos re: how to manage during this time

Please visit the Thames View Website where there are many other links that you may find helpful.

This includes The Hub of Hope:

<https://hubofhope.co.uk/>

Which identifies services within your area.