



Urmston

Primary School

12.02.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

We sent out a letter yesterday to thank you for all your incredible support over the past 6 weeks and indeed throughout this whole business. Although we haven't been able to do many of the things that we'd like under the circumstances, having such a close school community has enabled us to maintain as much togetherness as we can and that is incredibly important at the moment. We are very much looking forward to keeping this up and being able to continue this focus, whilst turning our attentions more intently towards our children's academic development when they (hopefully) all return on the 8th March...our fingers are very much crossed for this and we're sure yours are too!

Have a lovely half term week and we'll reconvene on 22nd February!

Happy Chinese New Year...to all!

This year is the year of the Ox and is symbolic of trust, reliability, fairness, patience, kindness, calmness, strength and methodical in approach. We're sure you agree that these are all attributes that we'll need as we move towards our 'normal' way of life that perhaps we've taken for granted! Here's to getting there!



Covid-19 update

With what we hope is just two more school weeks to go before re-opening, we've had no new cases since Christmas. However, we will be reviewing our risk assessment again and looking at re-introducing staggered start and finish times. We'll notify you of any changes but in the meantime, please continue to stick to the 2-metre social distancing, particularly when exiting the gates, and keep wearing those face coverings. Thanks as always for your help and patience.

A message from Mr P and Mr D.

Please see the link below!

https://zoom.us/rec/share/u8v8VV-CCCHoiPY4LI-egiTGxm6pfEuEQgzssxmNE_FizH_MIVGxK1BuyoTOJhf.QLF1xGDAhN07vuES

Half term track and trace and contacts

Can we please remind you that once we break up for the half term holiday, if your child shows symptoms and tests positive for COVID19 within 48 hours of being in school, please email school to let us know via s.parker@urmstonprimaryschool.com and m.doherty@urmstonprimaryschool.com. We will call you and ask for details so that we can contact Public Health and determine if any parents/carers need to be contacted to inform them that their child has been a close contact and would need to self-isolate. We will be on-call for contact tracing for 5 days after the final day of teaching, if emails and texts need to be sent to parents/carers. Therefore pupil contact tracing by school will stop by Wednesday 17th February.

Anti-Racism

We mentioned before how we aim to ensure that our school is truly an anti-Racist school and that we endeavour to create a school community that we all feel equally welcomed and valued in. To this end, we have signed up to work towards an Anti-Racist schools award and would really like to enlist your help in helping us work towards this. We will be holding an information meeting about this on 16th March at 6pm via Zoom. We will send the link after half term. In the meantime, if you feel that you can help or would like to get involved, please get in touch with Mr Doherty at m.doherty@urmstonprimaryschool.com.

LIP SYNC CHALLENGE #2

This is still open! Perhaps we can use half term to get our entries in!!!!

RED NOSE DAY

Red Nose Day is on Friday 12th March- we'll think of some whacky ideas to raise money so be ready!

International Day of Women and Girls in Science

Yesterday was International Day of Women and Girls in Science. It gives us the opportunity to not only show appreciation to our scientists, male and female, who have contributed hugely to the C-19 vaccination programs across the world, but also to look at the contributions to science that women have made throughout history. We have been doing a lot of work on our curriculum about this very thing and are very excited to introduce it to you all, from Agnodice to Marie M Daly! Watch this space!

PS—whilst we're on science, perhaps give this a look...

<https://curiousabout.glasgowsciencecentre.org/>



Screen-Free Fridays

Thank you for all your continued feedback. We are pleased that many of you have found the changes beneficial. It is so important that we continue to have a balanced approach to the many areas of learning that our children need. Hopefully such initiatives won't be needed for much longer!

A Safer Internet...

Thanks to those of you who attended the Safer Internet meeting on Wednesday led by Mr Doherty. There were some very useful and interesting conversations and much food for thought. For the recording of the first part of the session, which includes some useful tips on parental controls and conversations to have with children, please click

on the link: <https://zoom.us/rec/play/BUBU92->

[R1vPPq_k0sYxpiGAa1WnKgMO53SHHYUISkUbtOGcMsEeRtf7WV-dSJbp8qrPBxfdDKySffL1z.oNoYNbGgFTw5T4va?autoplay=true&startTime=1612886638000](https://zoom.us/rec/play/BUBU92-R1vPPq_k0sYxpiGAa1WnKgMO53SHHYUISkUbtOGcMsEeRtf7WV-dSJbp8qrPBxfdDKySffL1z.oNoYNbGgFTw5T4va?autoplay=true&startTime=1612886638000)

Being More...

We like to talk about how our children have 'been more', doing that little bit extra to make a positive difference to their own lives and the lives of others. They've been showing our school values in many, many ways over the course of the last year, and particularly since Christmas, and have needed to show super resilience and character. Well done to you all!

GRAYSON'S CHALLENGE!

On Tuesday, Grayson completed a challenge which shows what being more is all about. The picture above shows Grayson having finished the last of his 30 daily kilometre runs to raise money for The Toy House in Flixton. The commitment and resilience he has shown has so far resulted in over £900 (!) being raised which is a huge achievement! Well done Grayson...great stuff! If you'd like to contribute further to such a wonderful cause, please go to www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/graysonruns1kaday

PARENTS EVENINGS

Our parents evenings were due to be held during the week beginning 15th March. We feel that under the circumstances and due to the possible full reopening of school on 8th March, that these meetings may be more beneficial after the Easter holidays and we will get dates to you as soon as we can after the half-term break.

World Book Day - Thursday 4th March 2021



We have lots of exciting activities planned for World Book Day 2021 and just wanted to share a few of these with you in advance.

This year, there is no expectation for children to dress up, but if you have costumes at home and your children want to dress up for the day, we'd love to see the photos. Children in school may also come in costume too if they wish, but please do not purchase anything especially for the occasion.

There will be several whole-school activities taking place, plus class activities on Seesaw and also live sessions with authors, which we will send further announcements about closer to the time.

Here's a sneak preview at some of the activities though:

Masked Reader: Parent and child quiz. Teachers will record themselves reading a passage from a story and the children have to guess who each reader is.

Miniature Book Cover Art: Competition where children draw round a 2 pence coin and then draw the front cover in the circle.



*Activity adapted for EYFS parents to create larger circles for children to draw in, roughly the size of the top of a mug.

Hide and Read: Children hide somewhere in their house to read and parents or another person take a photo of their child (Must be a safe location) for everyone else to guess where they are. E.g. Under the bed, behind a sofa, tucked behind the curtains, in the shed etc.

Wish upon a book

Children to send in a request for a book they'd love to see appear in our library and why. Complete Wishing star template and email to: worldbookday@urmstonprimaryschool.com or upload to WBD Google Classroom account.

Let me take a 'shelfie'

Children to take a photo of their book shelves or where they store their books. Children can turn it into an artistic piece of photography too if they like. This can also be uploaded to CBBC and may be used on their website. (Children must gain consent to upload though)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/joinin/cbbc-book-club-book-shelfie>