



### **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE**

This week, we had to close a bubble in school due to two members of our school community testing positive for coronavirus.

Therefore, our reception and mixed reception/Year 1 classes are currently isolating returning on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November. There has also been a further confirmed case within the school but this has not affected any other bubbles. Due to the systems we have in place, we have been able to minimise the impact on the whole school.

All children who are isolating either because they could be close contact of a positive case in school or outside of school have work set for them on Seesaw daily. They also have access to various online learning platforms, such as Lexia, Reading Plus and Times Tables Rockstars. Homework is also set on Seesaw. If you have any issues accessing work set, then please get in touch with the school office. If your child is well and hasn't completed work after three days of their teacher allocating the work, then we will get in touch with you to see if we can support.

### **CHILDREN IN NEED**

What an excellent effort today to raise money for Children in need! Everyone enjoyed joining in with Joe Wicks in his final hour of his 24 hour PE challenge. Thank you for your kind donations. I'll let you know next week the final amount we raised. Well done!

*Mrs Swinburn*



### **REMEMBRANCE DAY**

Although things are different this year, we have still spent time this week remembering those who have served and made sacrifices for us. Year 5 have linked this to their work on World War 2. The whole school virtual assembly this week was based on remembrance, particularly looking at the words 'service' and 'sacrifice' and linking this to those who have helped us in the past and the present day during the pandemic. We also had a minute's silence on Wednesday to give our thanks to remember and honour those who gave their lives for our continued freedom.



### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

I have had a number of parents asking about breakfast club and when it will be starting again. It will be starting but at the moment I am unsure when. There are two things which are preventing this from happening.

One reason is that we are delivering the after-school club that is usually ran by the nursery as they cannot offer this at the moment due to restrictions. This means that I have had to arrange staffing around this. However, the main reason is I can't see how we can manage the number of children who attend breakfast club and safely maintain social distancing regarding bubbles.

Hopefully, we may be able to look at this again for after Christmas. If things change, then I will let you know as soon as possible.

### **LUNCHES**

There has been some disruption this week with hot lunches due to absence of kitchen staff. We have offered a school packed lunch with a cold sandwich to those who usually have school lunches from Wednesday until today. Our catering company have arranged for a cook to be in school on Monday, so normal service will resume then.

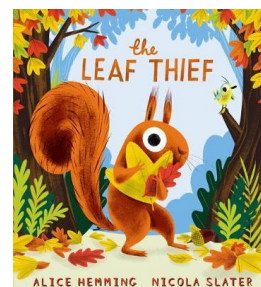
### **REMINDER: WINTER COATS**

St Micheal's and All Angels church (Mickey's Place) are looking for donations of winter coats for both adults and children. If you have any that are in good condition that you are looking to get rid of, then please drop them off at the church. Any donations are very much appreciated.

### **RECOMMENDED READING – NEW RELEASES**

#### **THE LEAF THEIF BY ALICE HEMMING & NICOLA SLATER**

A brilliantly funny picture book about seasons, written by Alice Hemming and illustrated by Nicola Slater. Squirrel is so cross. Yesterday there were loads of beautiful leaves on his tree, but today? Today some are missing and Squirrel is convinced that someone has stolen them... there's a leaf thief on the loose! Join Squirrel on a mission to find the culprit, and meet so many fun animals on the way, while you find out how the world takes on different colours as the months pass by. A laugh-out-loud book about the changing seasons, with extra information in the back for especially curious minds. Perfect as a companion reader to children learning about seasons in school. A brilliant picture book that explores feelings, moods and times where we feel out of control.



## **AUTUMN TERM DATES 2020**

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December

Autumn Term Reports (sent out to parents).

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December to Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 TEACHER TRAINING DAY

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 Children back in school

## **DOJO POINTS**

Check out our dojo/house point counter at <https://www.usworthcolliery.co.uk/children/house-point-counter>. Children are awarded points throughout the week for following the Colliery Code. This week's classes with the most house points are:

1<sup>st</sup> – 1JB    2<sup>nd</sup> – 6CJ    3<sup>rd</sup> – 2ES

## **TWITTER STARS**

Remember to check out this week's Twitter Stars! These are tweeted on: @TStarKS1\_UCPS or @TStarKS2\_UCPS. They also appear on @UCPrimary and on our website Twitter feed.

## **ATTENDANCE WINNERS**

These classes have the highest attendance this week. Well done everyone!

Whole school attendance – 94.4%

EYFS/KS1 – 1JB with 99.6%

KS2 – 5EP with 97.6%

**Mr Gary Wright**

**Headteacher**