

Rothwell Schools

# Rothwell Journal

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## Children's Mental Health Week

This week we have been encouraging children to join in with the Children's Mental Health Week. The theme of this year's Children's Mental Health Week is Express Yourself. Expressing yourself is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas, through creativity. It is about finding a way to show who you are, and how you see the world, that can help you feel good about yourself. We have been pleased to see children expressing themselves in many different ways.



During the week hands for mental health awareness week have been put up around the school to remind us to wave to people, as loneliness is one of the sad side effects of lockdown. We know some of you have also been joining in creating your own to display at home.



Here is a colourful example from Joey in Y3!

Thank you if you also joined us to wear bright colours to express yourself as part of our multi-day in school and at home. It was fantastic to see such a rainbow on our virtual assemblies today; we hope you enjoyed our stories which also formed part of our National Storytelling Week activities.

## Captain Sir Tom Moore

We were saddened to hear about the passing of Captain Sir Tom Moore this week who had been such an inspiration for many in the last lockdown with his fundraising efforts for the NHS charities. We know that he certainly made an impact on us all in the last year of his life but had dedicated himself throughout this life to the service and the support of others. This week, whether at home or school, we have been asking the children to reflect on his contributions and to remember what he achieved. If you are able, please take a couple of minutes as a family to discuss "What can we learn from Captain Sir Tom Moore?". We would be pleased to hear their children's ideas in the daily live sessions.



## 1:1 sessions

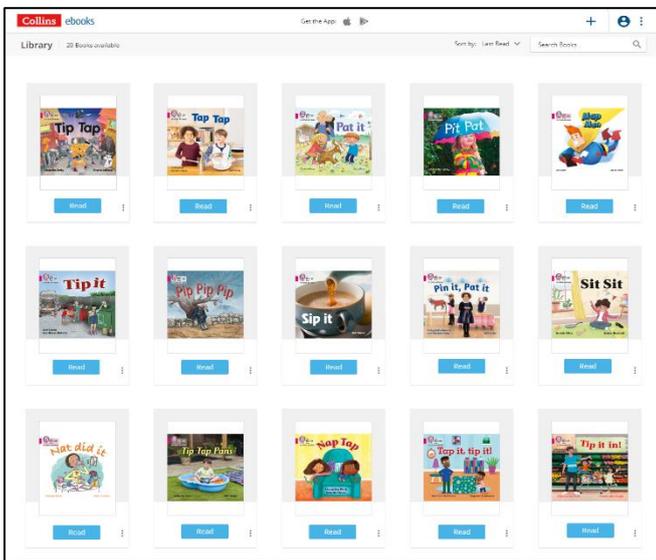
As part of our trial around 1:1 sessions we have added in our additional guidelines that we will be using:

- These will be conducted on Microsoft Teams for pupils in Year 1-6 and Zoom for EYFS pupils
- These sessions can only be scheduled by a staff member
- The child's video must be switched on and the session will be recorded as part of our safeguarding procedures and in line with our staff code of conduct.

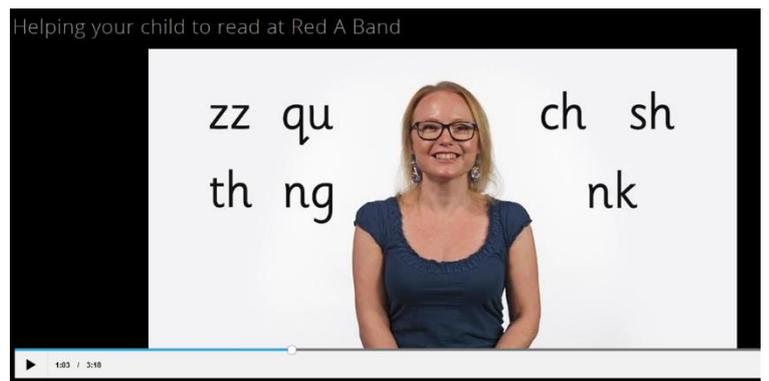
- Each child will be allocated a private channel as part of a separate support team and any recordings will be within here and expire after 21 days
- All sessions will have a learning focus

### New Reading Resources

We have continued to setup our brand-new virtual reading library from Collins called Collins Big Cat E-books. Every child in the school will have access to their own bookshelf with titles appropriate to their reading ability. We have begun issuing each child with a unique login which hopefully will be sent home to all pupils by next Friday. These will be set by the child's class teacher and we would encourage your child to read each book 2-3 times to develop fluency. The E-books platform will be able to work on any device with a browser as well as being available to download as a free app in the Apple App Store <https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/collins-ebooks/id1007196515> and Google Play Store [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.harpercollins.collinsebooks&hl=en\\_GB&gl=US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.harpercollins.collinsebooks&hl=en_GB&gl=US).



Phonics based books will be available linked to our reading bands and phonics groups. These will also contain videos for parents to show how you can help your child to read at home.



### Device Donations

We were delighted to receive into school last week a donation of laptops from Willowbrook Construction and Mr O'Neill. These are currently being setup but will give us an additional resource to be loaned out to families to support remote learning at home.



We would also like to thank Cathy Gilliott who donated another device which a family in the school community have been able to make use of.

Why not try a free training course on Microsoft Teams:

The training will give a broad understanding of how you can support your children.

You will be introduced to:

- Accessing the Office portal
- Navigating with Teams
- Class Teams: communication within, file management, assignment and meetings

Please register for the free training from the tablet academy here:

<https://learn.tablet-academy.com/courses/microsoft-teams-for-parents/>

## School Showcase and Lockdown Learning

We are pleased to be able to share with you some examples of things that children have been getting up to at home and at school during this time.

The Reception children have had a great time taking part in their PE sessions with JJ from Fiesta sports. They have been learning a dance which goes with the music from The Lion King. The children have enjoyed copying the actions and singing along to the song!



In Year 3 William has been busy at home running his own car shop. He has set his own prices and had his coins ready to practise giving change to his customers!

In Year 5 we have been looking at work on the viewer. We have been learning how to describe in detail including showing feelings/emotions. Children have also learnt how to use relative clauses and non-finite starters 😊

*As the sun began to set, the fluffy grey clouds danced in the sky. However, below the beautiful orange sky was a dark and dirty junkyard which was covered with lots of rusty old metal objects. The tall grey chimneys, which blew smoke, stood unsafely in the junkyard. Rhys W*

*Dear Diary,*

*I'm still mulling over what I saw yesterday. It woke me in the night. Every time I closed my eyes, all I could see was the face of the stone glaring back at me. It's cold dark eyes boring into me. I wonder if it is still there. Curiosity is getting the better of me and I need to know what it was! Maybe I should go back? What if there is more of them? What do I do?*

Jessica

*Intrigued by the mysterious object he had found in the box, Tristan put the viewer to his eyes to see what was in store for him. Unfamiliar images flashed before him. A whirlpool of colours flooded his eyes and fearful chaos filled his brain. With each click, his heart pounded harder and harder in his chest. Casting the viewer aside, the boy bolted from his room, leaving the terrifying object on his desk.*

Poppy

*Computer art by Ella, Year 5!*



In nursery this week we have had a super busy week and have had so much fun! We talked a lot about Captain Tom Moore and we really enjoyed reading a book that taught us all about his life. We celebrated Captain Tom's life by walking lots of laps of the school field (we didn't make it to 100). Tom must have been very tired after his walk! We then made our very own medals like Tom would have worn when he was in the army.

They were very big and shiny! We finished off our super week with a fire at forest school and toasted marshmallows and drank hot chocolate - yummy!



## Digital Safety Training

### **FREE Digital Safety training for parents and carers**

**Duration: 1.5 hrs**

The training is designed to equip adults with the knowledge to understand the potential risks associated with keeping children and young people safe online, while also covering the many positives of the digital world. During the training, attendees will learn about harmful content online, cyberbullying, gaming, live-streaming, grooming, popular apps and social media, and much more.

### **Workshop**

The workshops take place on Zoom.

### **Learning outcomes**

Through taking part in Digital Safety training, adults are able to:

- Recognise and respond to risks posed by online activity
- Explore how to have discussions with young people about digital footprint
- Explore boundary setting and other approaches to supporting young people
- Share own experiences and hear from others in similar situations
- Know where to get additional help

### **Upcoming Digital Safety training dates**

Workshops will be delivered virtually via Zoom.

 Wednesday 17th February - 4.30pm – 6pm

 Wednesday 17th March - 4.30pm – 6pm

### **How to apply**

If you are interested in finding out more and attending one of our training sessions, please email, [programmes@kidscape.org.uk](mailto:programmes@kidscape.org.uk)

## Snow Procedures

A reminder that in the event of any school closure due to snowy weather we will let parents know by text message after we have undertaken a risk assessment based on the school site and the number of staff safely able to travel in. This may mean on occasions mean that a decision is made early in a morning depend on the weather fallen overnight. Please make sure your contact details are up to date with the school office.

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

A reminder that we will still be working on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February, whether in school or at home. This was previously advertised as a training day but the training day was taken in December instead.