

## **Headteacher's Blog November 2020**

### **Parliament Week**

Last week, as part of our learning about the UK Parliament, we held our House and Vice-captain elections. Pupils from Key Stages 1 and 2 took part in our democratic elections. The vast majority of Year 5 and 6 pupils chose to stand for election. Pupils can vote within their House Teams to elect their own leaders.

I am delighted to confirm that the following pupils were elected to represent their House:

#### **House Captains:**

**Red:** Sadie; **Green:** Olivia; **Blue:** Isla

#### **Vice Captains:**

**Red:** Suhmer; **Green:** Ruby; **Blue:** Matthew

Other pupils also have the chance to represent their peers, and our school, on the School Council, as Planet Protectors and Pupil Parliament members.

### **Covid-19**

There is a slightly updated risk assessment on the school website. Thank you all for working with us to keep everyone safe. I continue to be delighted that we are not one of the 90 Northumberland schools to have had a case within the pupil or staff community – long may that continue!

### **Google Classroom**

Despite a few initial issues, I am very pleased with how the Time Zone (Y5/6) pupils have engaged with this enhancement to their remote learning. Miss Baines reports very good peer support is happening within the group and use of this system will prepare the pupils well for High School, where it will continue to be used for pupil homework.

Please let us know if you need further help with this. We will be teaching Y3/4 pupils how to use this shortly too.

### **Budget**

As you may be aware from local and national news, schools are having to spend a much higher proportion of their budgets on cleaning resources, such as hand towels/sanitiser, and increased heating to counteract the ventilation needed. Sadly, suppliers are also cashing-in on this situation.

Thank you to our superb PTA for funding additional music, art and science resources, such as xylophones and data logging equipment, so we can continue to provide the best quality provision to our pupils, during these challenging times.

### **Remembrance**

We have been thinking and learning about Remembrance and will hold a minute's silence on Wednesday at 11am.

Thank you to Canon Tony for sharing with us an act of Remembrance Worship from pupils in a Liverpool High School, which we will share on Wednesday with our Key Stage 2 pupils.

### **Children in Need**

This Friday, we hope to collect donations for this worthy charity, as usual. Although we will remain in our bubbles for activities, if pupils wish, they can wear something spotty, but safe/warm enough to play outside in. Thanks!

### **Christmas**

Despite Covid-19 restrictions, we are finding innovative ways to allow our pupils to do as many of our usual Christmas activities as possible, albeit whilst safely on site. So, for example, pupils will still experience taking part in a Nativity or watching a professional pantomime, as well as partying in our bubbles.

Kindest regards,

Diane Lakey