



Pilton Bluecoat
Academy

Newsletter

5th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have one more week to go before we close for half term. Schools have not been instructed to remain open and we will be glad to get the eyeball rest!

While we edge towards the (hopeful) return date of the 8th March, I wanted to share some of the work we have been doing to prepare for the full return of your children.

Kate Dadswell has launched a reading strategy which involves a reading lesson every day. We are keen for children to experience high-quality texts from canonical poetry from Poe to more modern and inclusive texts, like 'Can You See Me?' a novel part-ghostwritten from an 11-year-old autistic girl.

Nothing will have more impact if you are trying to recover the lost ground during lockdown than focusing on reading. I spoke about this a little in my video explaining why we should not despair about the time out of school. You may have read an article claiming children will lose 'x' amount of earning potential due to the time out of school but this extraction doesn't take into account the steps schools will take to address this time away from the classroom...and address it we will!

The breadth of books is important for two reasons as I see it:

1) Children have a right to learn about famous texts, authors and cultural reference points. The highest-brow literature should not be preserved for those attending private schools but is a birthright of cultural capital for all of us. Every child who attends Bluecoat



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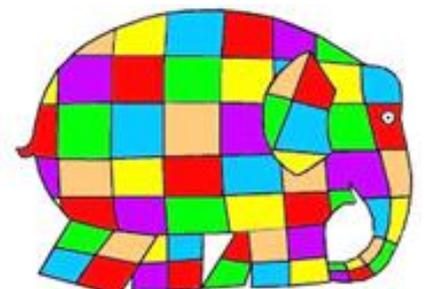
should feel comfortable sitting among the brightest and best, knowing they got access to powerful knowledge of their peers.

2) The second reason for breadth is to also step away from canon. To not just learn about Chaucer and Owen but also others, less represented by our historical leaning away from diversity. It is important to be heard and to see yourself in books. If you are an autistic child and have never felt heard in literature, you will understand less about the commonality of your experiences. Representation matters enormously when it comes to the stories we tell ourselves.

We have a clear offer of which texts we want every single child to experience and this will happen in class. But our library must support this experience. What good is it if we are inspired by a text and then we can't go and find it to read more? Therefore, we are ensuring that every single one of the 150 texts we want children to encounter will be sitting in our library by the summer term. We held virtually none of these texts and Lea Churchill has been phenomenal at organising this new deluge of books.

Reading should be part of the daily menu and we've just gone foraging for the best ingredients. It is a very exciting time to step into our library...

Dan Polak
Head of School





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Captain Tom Moore

1920-2021



Thank you.

"The sun will shine on you again
and the clouds will go away"

Find us on;

WEBSITE: <https://www.teamacademytrust.com/pilton>

Facebook: @Pilton Bluecoat Academy

Twitter: @teammattceo

Email: office@piltonbluecoat.devon.sch.uk



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#DevonVirtualGames

Skipping Challenge

Skipping Challenge. Now open. Closes: 5pm, Friday 26th March 2021

- Please see the separate Parentpay letter sent out by Mr Turner last week.



PE days & Friday Sports

For those children that are attending school, our PE days remain the same. Please ensure that your child wears their kit into school on their allocated day.

We are also alternating our Friday Sports with dance sessions, so please ensure your child continues to wear their PE kit to school on their scheduled Friday Sport week. Thank you.



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A case of HEADLICE has been reported in Year 5 this week. Please take the opportunity to check your child's hair this weekend and treat if necessary.

change 4 life

Food facts

Recipes

Activities

Lockdown lunches

Easy, low-cost recipes for speedy lunchtimes



Lockdown lunches and meal plans

Change4Life have created recipes and shopping lists for families which can be used to create lunches for around £15 each week. Please click on the following link.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/lunch/cheap-lockdown-lunch-ideas>



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Well Done!

Maya represented Pilton Bluecoat in the Devon school games, virtual Gymnastics competition for years 3 & 4 back in December and placed 1st in the whole of Devon.

An amazing achievement, you did us proud!

Thank you Maya



DATES 2020/2021

Spring Term	Summer Term
First day 5th Jan	First day - 20 th April
Half-term	Half-term
15 th - 19 th Feb	31 st May - 4 th June
Last day - 1 st April	Last day - 22 nd July



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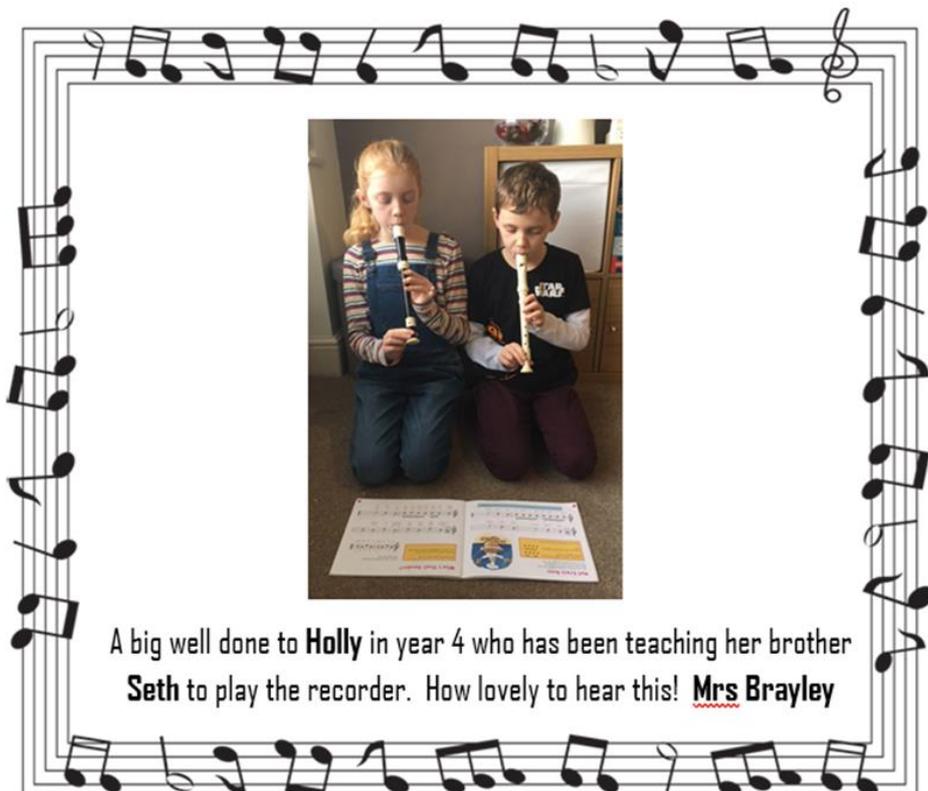
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Dinner Menu for week commencing 8th February 2021 - WEEK 1

Meal price is £2.34 per day, payable on Parentpay please.

JACKET POTATOES with a topping of choice of toppings are available every day

OPTION	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Purple Option	Cheese & tomato pizza & dough balls	Cottage pie	Roast chicken with roast potatoes & gravy		Golden fish fingers & chips
Green Option		Macaroni cheese	Sweet potato & chickpea roast	Hotdog with potato wedges	Nuggets & chips
Pasta	Tomato pasta			Tomato pasta	



A big well done to **Holly** in year 4 who has been teaching her brother **Seth** to play the recorder. How lovely to hear this! **Mrs Brayley**



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Celebrations Home & In-school

Friday 5th February

Work

Aiden, Bradley J, Cerys, Hamish, Mason, Neve, Reuben
for their Anderson shelter models.

Charlotte, Harry, Miley, Neve, Poppy for their Literacy
reports.

Nikita for great maths.

Elise, Heidi, Bradley and Meadow

Lola for her handwriting

Max, Lola and Meadow for their contributions

Oliver J & Elise for doing well on Timestables Rock Stars

Ella-Mae for great work and positivity

William P for amazing maths work

Isla S for great Maths

Oliver K for being delightful & always cheerful.

Contribution

Neve and Poppy



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Thank you to everyone who sent in photos of children playing their instruments - what musical schools we have! I have put the photos together to form a "music stage" which has been shared in the google classrooms this week. I hope your child has enjoyed listening to it. If your child starts to learn a new instrument (a cold lockdown half term would be the perfect opportunity!) it would be great to hear about it so I can share their story. Mrs Brayley

Pilton Bluecoat House Group
Lockdown Art Competition!

"A view from my window"

Closing date for submission is

Friday 12th February



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Just as a **pencil case** holds all the things we use at school, may God hold us, our family and friends safe in His hands.

Each one of us is unique just like the colours in a pack of **pencils**. Thank you God for our friends, be with them all, especially those who may be feeling a little blue or worried.

The world feels a little bumpy at the moment. Help us remember that like a **ruler** your love guides us when we feel wobbly or uncertain and that we can always lean on you.

Pencil sharpeners help refresh & sharpen our pencils just like teachers help us. Thank you for teachers who are working in school, online, or at home with their family. Whether they feel sharp, blunt or broken, remind them how much they are loved.

Like a **compass** draws a circle, may your love create a circle of hope around our school, now and in the future.

Amen



Pencil Case Prayer

WHY NOT USE THE THINGS IN YOUR PENCIL CASE
TO PRAY THIS PRAYER

