



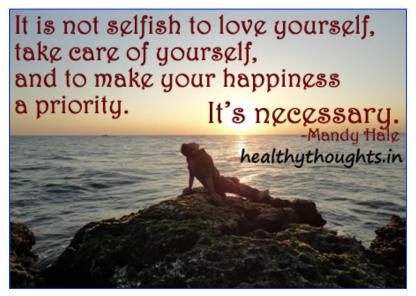


29th January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers

Another week has passed and no doubt it probably felt like all the others since Christmas! At the moment it is really important for all of us to find a few minutes each day that are just for us – this is not being selfish but allows us to spend the rest of the days helping our families around us get through these dark times.

But gradually light is emerging – we've made it through January and



we can feel the days getting longer and with every day of vaccinations being given out we get closer to school re-opening for all. I know some people are concerned about having the vaccination and I will talk about this more next week – for the meantime I wish you all a relaxing and safe weekend and pray for us all to be back together as soon as possible.

Children's Mental Health week 1st-7th February

Next week we will be carrying out a series of activities to help the mental health of our children. These will culminate on Friday afternoon with a new permanent feature – screen free Friday afternoons. Last week I told you that as adults we are spending too much time in front of screens and this is even more damaging for children, so hopefully our plans will help the children to enjoy some time away from screens. Some early ideas around simple art and cookery with some PE thrown in – more details next week

Remote Learning

KS2 Changes to timetable: From next week Y3,4,5 & 6 teachers will be having a second afternoon where they will not be contactable with the children – this will be on a Tuesday and will go along with the Friday afternoon that they already are not contactable so they can plan. However on the Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons Y3, 5 & 6 (**not Y4 – they will get an extra session in the mornings**) will get an extra session from 1.30-2pm from the teacher so please help your child to remember to log in on those days – see your Google classroom for more details.



Learning from home - Expectations

The staff understand just what a hard job you as parents have been given. To try and do your own work and support your children at the same time – you are amazing!

Anyone working in education has known for a long time just what a challenge it can be to get education right for all our children (it is not an exact science) but also just how rewarding it can be when you get it right. As we will continue online learning into mid-March at least, it is important that expectations for pupils are kept high so that all children can benefit from the sessions provided and be kept safe. It all works best when an adult can be close by during remote learning but we know how difficult this can be when you are trying to do your own work as well. We all know that the learning will be better for the kids once they are all back in school but at the moment our aim is to keep them learning as much as possible in these circumstances.

Please read through the following statements with your child and ensure that they understand these expectations and follow them in each lesson. They have been uploaded into each class's online forum for all children to view.

What I need to do to learn from home:

- I will attend all my lessons and be on time. I will make sure I am wearing appropriate clothes.
- I will make sure I am in a quiet place at home and will focus on my teacher and not bring things (such as dolls and cars) to the lesson that might distract me or others.
- I will stay quiet at all times, unless the teacher has specifically asked me to speak or turn the microphone on – this includes not interrupting the teacher whilst they are talking and making sure the TV is turned off.
- I will raise my hand as I would in class or use the 'raise hand' button I will not eat during the lesson (including my breakfast).
- I will not film or photograph any part of the lesson or the other pupils.

- I will put as much effort into my online learning as I would in class and I will ensure my camera is turned on at all times so that my teacher can see that I am concentrating.
- Finally, I will ensure that I complete my work after every lesson and upload it to Google Classroom by the end of the next day.

If you have any specific concerns or questions about an aspect of any lesson, please speak with your child's class teacher in the first instance who will, in most cases, be able to resolve these for you. If issues persist then please contact me on <u>ht@st-lukes.newham.sch.uk</u>

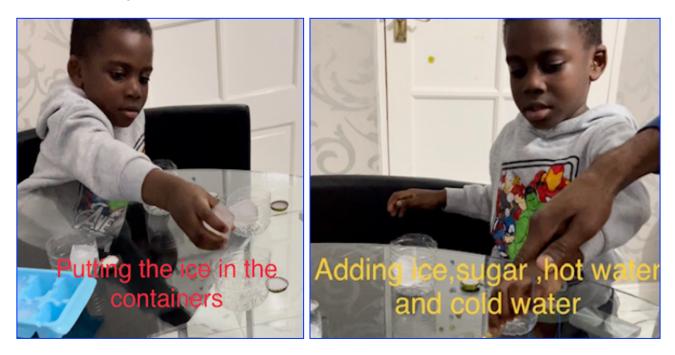
Holocaust Assembly

On Wednesday we held a Holocaust memorial assembly and recorded it for everyone at home to see – please take some time to check out the assembly on your child's Google Classroom.



Ice Melting Challenge

Well done to all those who took on our ice melting challenge homework challenge – MT from Y1 takes the challenge.



Please follow the link below to important advice and useful information from the *Specialist Children* and *Young People's Services*

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES: CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Until next week, have great weekend

