

Friday January 28th 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

January is almost over and Christmas now seems a distant memory and in school we continue to remain busy and work hard to learn new things and engage in exciting activities. Year 5 in particular have had an interesting week.

Year 5 Trips and visitors

Year 5 went to Nell Bank on Monday and had some teachers and students from Horbury Academy down for a STEAM day on Wednesday. At Nell Bank, the children were able to kickstart their topic on rivers by finding out about tributaries, river currents and rock erosion. In the afternoon, the children took part in orienteering, which developed the children's map skill knowledge. During the STEAM day, the children learnt all about global warming and the part they can play in tackling this key issue. They carried out investigations whereby they analysed ice caps to assess how carbon dioxide has increased over time and worked in teams to save polar bears from melting ice caps. They also discovered key information about animals whilst handling them.

Think for the Future

The school has this year invested in a mentor programme to support some children in school. This will begin next Tuesday and continue for the rest of the school year. We have identified children for whom the pandemic has had a negative impact on their ability to learn effectively and those children who have anxieties about school and learning. Our mentor Miss Hague will work with groups of children each week from Key Stage 2, on raising their aspirations and building their self-esteem and confidence.

Covid cases

I have today attached, along with this letter, a communication from Public Health England. We have quite a high prevalence of cases in school at the moment and whilst PHE were happy with our response in school, they have given further guidance as outlined in their letter. The letter is advising that you test your children daily for the next 7 days as cases in school are so high and in order to reduce transmission and disruption to teaching. I thank you for your continued understanding in all things Covid!

Finally, I hope that you have a lovely weekend and hope that as in my garden you are beginning to spot the snowdrops as they begin to appear-as long as that's the only kind of snow there is!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'JK Tomlinson', written in a light grey or blue ink.

Miss JK Tomlinson
Headteacher