

IMPORTANT DATES:

Children's Mental Health Week 1st and 7th February 2021

Parent Consultations
Tuesday 2nd and Thursday 4th February. Details to follow

Safer Internet Day – 9th February 2021

INSET day Friday 12th February 2021

February half-term 15th to 19th February 2021

Term 4 begins Monday 22nd February 2021

Reading Matters Week 1st to 5th March 2021 including **World Book Day** 4th March 2021

INSET day Friday 5th March 2021

Comic Relief 19th March 2021

IMPORTANT REMINDER:
Please **wear face coverings while on our School grounds.**

INSET days for 2020/2021
School closed for all pupils
Friday 12th February 2021
Friday 5th March 2021
Friday 18th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Deja vu – Last Friday as I wrote the newsletter the sun was shining and I could see blue sky and then we had snow at the weekend. Mr Kinver has said that we could have a white weekend again, who knows? I did enjoy seeing some of the snowman pictures on Class DoJo this week so if it does snow please share them with us.

Thank you to all those parents who have completed the **Home User Agreement** to attend Zooms sessions like Sir Linkalot's this week and also to attend the **Celebration and Feedforward sessions** which start from **next Friday (5th February)**. If you have signed up will be sent a link email next week to join your child's class. We have **attached the agreement link again** to this email in case you have missed it.



Spelling is an important aspect of a writers craft and as a school we are always looking for ways we can support our children's knowledge and understanding. As a school we are using Sir Linkalot to support our spelling curriculum and he visited us last year. The children really enjoyed his workshops and this week he zoomed into homes to share the APP. **As a school we have purchased this for every child so please do not buy it.** We have reattached the Letter from February 2020 with the access code.

It was lovely to see the children and parents who joined his session. He is full of fun and has recorded over 60 grammar lessons on his Youtube channel and runs sessions in the week for children.



This weekend is the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) charities **Big Garden Birdwatch** weekend. The RSPB website is full of information about birds and how you can identify them if you are unsure. I have tried out their bird personality test today and I am a House Sparrow. I wonder which one you are? Make sure you keep your eyes peeled this weekend and I look forward to hearing from the children through Class DoJo on Monday about the birds they spotted.

Next week is **Children's Mental Health Week** and the theme is **Express yourself**. On Friday we will be thinking of different ways we can share our feelings, thoughts or ideas through creativity. This could be through dancing, creating music, writing, drawing or photography. **On Friday can you wear the brightest clothes you can find as staff who will be delivering the next packs of learning will be!** In the Summer as a school we will be taking part in the **Biggest Sing in an attempt to break the Guinness World Record for 'Largest Simultaneous Sing'**. Billy Ocean will be singing the Bill Withers song 'Lovely Day' to help raise funds for the charity **Place2Be**. We will send more information later in the year about this special event.

Mrs Parfitt message continued.....

After a few technical difficulties we have finally been able to set up our **Parent Consultations** for next week. **Please see the email sent today with details of SchoolCloud** so you can book an appointment (<https://stmartinsgarden.schoolcloud.co.uk/>.)

These consultations are on **Tuesday and Thursday** next week. They are an opportunity to catch up, discuss: achievements so far, progress and next steps for your child. The teachers are looking forward to meeting with you virtually next week. If for some reason you are in the waiting room and something goes wrong or there is a technical difficulty please do not worry. We will then rearrange your appointment.

I hope this weekend the sun keeps shining and that you are able to get out for a walk.

Take care, keep safe

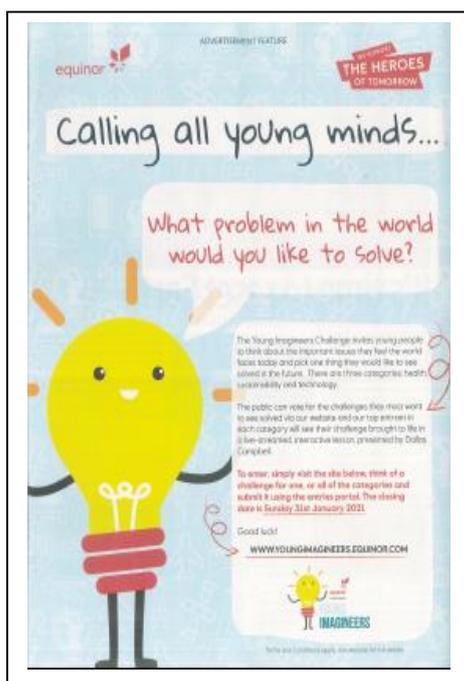
Claire Parfitt, Head teacher

Coronavirus advice from NHS England

If you or anyone in your household has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), **get a test as soon as possible**. You **MUST ALL** Stay at home until you get the result. Only leave your home to get a test. The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

PLEASE VISIT <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19> for more information on the current COVID-19 procedures.



The **Young Imagineers Challenge** invites young people to think about important issues they feel the world faces today and pick one thing they would like to see solved in the future. There are three categories: *health, sustainability and technology*.

The public can vote for the challenges they most want to see solved via the website and the top entrant in each category will see their challenge brought to life in live-streamed, interactive lesson, presented by Dallas Campbell.

To enter, simply visit the website www.youngimagineers.equinor.com, think of a challenge for one or all of the categories and submit it using the entries portal. The Closing date is **SUNDAY 31st JANUARY 2021**. Please see website for full details, terms and conditions.

Don't forget to let your Teacher and Mrs Parfitt know if you enter and share your ideas with your class via DoJo.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS (Eligible by Benefits). Are you claiming benefits? You maybe entitled to Free School Meals!

Your child is eligible for benefit-related free school meals if they are attending a state school in Bath and North East Somerset, and you are receiving one or more of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit (if your annual net earned income is £7,400 or less, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, **without any Working Tax Credit**, and an annual household income of £16,190 or less (as assessed by HMRC - Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs)
- **Four-week run-on** Working Tax Credit (paid for four weeks after you **STOP** qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

How to apply

Call Free School meals at B&NES on **01225 39 43 17** to make a telephone registration, email Freeschoolmeals@bathnes.gov.uk or complete the on-line registration form <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/form/apply-for-free-school-meals>

If you are entitled to Free School Meals (Eligible by Benefits) and not attending school the Government are issuing Vouchers, during this lockdown, via Edenred. Call the school office on 01225 832112 for more details. Please note: This is different to Universal Free school meals for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils.

SOCIAL MEDIA : As you know we already have a Twitter page [@HeadSMGP](https://twitter.com/HeadSMGP) and a school website www.stmartinsgarden.org.uk which we use to communicate exciting things happening here at St Martin's Garden Primary.

We have now set up a Facebook page for Parents/Carers and our wider community. <https://www.facebook.com/St-Martins-Garden-Primary-104477314372473/>.

The Page will be used to notify Parents and the local Community of upcoming events and maybe show photos/details of events that have happened.

We will not be using our Facebook page as a way of communicating with you individually, please continue to use the class email, school email, call the school office or see Mrs Parfitt, Mrs Horn or Mr Bogg. We would like our Facebook page to be a positive, exciting page showing all the amazing things happening here at our fabulous school. Thank you.