

Friday 18th September 2020

Dear all,

The children have had a lovely week back in school. The whole school topic of 'Marvellous Minds' is in full swing and it is great to have the buzz of children's learning heard around school. Some of the things that have been happening in school are:

Maple Class have been doing some exciting science experiments looking at vibrations using tuning forks and water and rice on a drum.

Cedar Class have been writing poetry about places that make them feel safe and special. They have really enjoyed sharing their thinking. This was alongside lighting fairy fires in forest school – creating a spark in a shell!

Sycamore Class have been looking at how amazing they all are and what makes them amazing. They have then used this to write poems about themselves and draw self-portraits.

Rowan Class have been in the forest school looking for signs of autumn. They then made hedgehogs and hedgehog houses.

Crest Award

Last year some of our current year 6 had a weekly Brain STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) lesson in school, run by Mrs Williamson. The sessions were designed to encourage students to think like scientists and engineers, developing their scientific knowledge and understanding well beyond KS2, as well as their higher order problem solving skills. Their work carried on through lockdown. Their work met the criteria and they were awarded the Discovery Crest Award. This is usually aimed at children aged 11-14 years so a very big well done to:

Orla, Emmie, Liam and Nicole.

The course is running in school again this year so good luck to the next group of children!

Thank you to all those parents who continue to stand on the yellow spots and have been following the one way system. It makes it much easier and safe for everybody.

We are aware there is a national issue with people being able to access Covid-19 tests. We continue to follow the guidance that if any member of your household has any of the following symptoms you must all isolate. The person with symptoms must isolate for ten days the rest of the household must isolate for fourteen days or until the person with symptoms has been tested. If the result is negative then the household can stop isolating.

Symptoms:

- **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

If there was a positive test result in school we would inform Public Health England and parents asap.

You may find the following website useful, it is a link to the East Devon Covid-19 data

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/coronavirus-data/>

PTA

The Bags 2 School collection is 9am on 7th October. Please drop any bags to school no earlier than 6th October. If you need to arrange an alternative drop off please speak to the PTA Team; Hannah, Sarah or Katy or email pta@stjo.uk.

I hope you all have a good weekend
Mrs Taylor-Bashford

Stars of the Week: Oak – Ralph, Rowan – Poppy J, Sycamore – Sukie, Cedar – Amelie, Maple – Annie, Beech – Isabella

Headteacher's Award: Rowan – Emily, Sycamore – Finley and Noah