



# St Dunstan's, Cheam, C of E Primary School

## Message from the Headteacher

As we come to the end of this extraordinary Half Term, I would like to say a huge thank you to you all for your amazing support during these weeks of 'Lockdown 3'; for those of you working so hard to support your children at home and also to all of the children both in school and at home for your resilience and positivity around your learning.

Thank you so much to all parents/carers of our keyworker/vulnerable children for your understanding and support regarding the building closure due to the exceptionally cold temperatures in the school this week. I am delighted to tell you that we have had engineers working hard in school over the past couple of days and we hope that the heating system will now have improved the temperatures around the school in order that we will not have to close the school in the future should temperatures be as low. Huge thanks to Mr Swain, Mr Carley and Mrs Major for their time with this.

Schools have, once again, been asked to assist with contact tracing following the end of half term. Please note, in the event of a positive case of Covid-19 in your child's Bubble, you will be sent a TEXT MESSAGE. If you receive a text, please then check your ParentMail as a matter of urgency, as you will receive a letter outlining full details of any isolation period. Many thanks for your co-operation in keeping our School community safe.

We all look forward to hearing when we might be able to have everyone back to school but, in the meantime, please all ensure that you take a very well earned break over the half term holiday. The school will open on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February for key worker/vulnerable children with remote learning for everyone else.

Ms J Corby

## How to Grow a Strong Mind

Year 4 have been working hard on their instructional writing over the last two weeks. Using The Write Stuff Unit 'My Strong Mind', the children have been writing a set of instructions on how to grow and develop a strong mind. They have been using the features of an instruction text which include a hook (rhetorical questions), a list of what they need, numbered steps as well as top tips. Here are some examples of the children's guided writing:

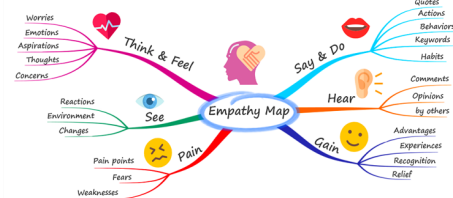
*How do you feel when you get set a hard task? Do people ever make you feel irritated, embarrassed or upset? Are you scared of failing in front of all of your friends?* by Thomas D

*If this sounds like you follow these easy to do steps so you feel like you can do it when you're out of control.* by James H

### What you need:

- Somewhere deep down, an incredible 'can do' you
- Patience (a ton of patience)
- The key to a closed mind (If not find it)
- Imagination (a dream you need to achieve). by Olivia J

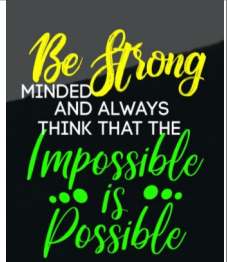
**Don't forget how important deep breaths are and how they help to grow your mind. Never be scared to go and ask an adult if things don't go your way. If you still need a couple more techniques go to [www.mentaltoughness.online](http://www.mentaltoughness.online).** by Phoebe K



## How to make your brain bold, braver and determined:

### Control - Staying Peaceful

1. If friends start being nasty, don't be forced to turn into a mad and outraged lion.
2. Stop.
3. Take a moment and count to 10.
4. Calmly, in a clear voice, tell your friends 'treat others how you would want to be treated' and that you don't like how they are treating you, then walk away (if at first you are angry, don't worry-smile, stay focused and go again).
5. If it goes wrong, don't give up, be brave and try again. by Bella R



**Half Term Heroes Challenge:** We hope you have received the parent mail regarding the PTFA fundraising initiative over the half term. We hope you enjoy doing some challenges whilst raising some much needed funds for the school. We look forward to hearing all about what you have achieved. Have fun!

**Amazon smile and Easyfundraising:** Thank you to those of you who have already registered with these sites and as a result of your purchases, have raised funds for the school. [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) is the UK's biggest charity shopping site where thousands of retailers will donate for free when you shop online. Amazon smile donates each time you spend on their site if you identify the charitable organisation of your choice. For more information visit [www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk)

This is a really easy way of fundraising for the school and so we welcome your ongoing support. We hope you have a safe and fun half term.

## Express Yourself!

As part of Mental Health Awareness week, the children were asked to design an item of clothing, an accessory or a whole outfit in order to 'Express yourself'. These are some of the fabulous Y6 designs:



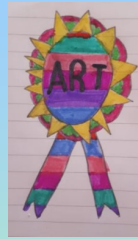
Mah-Rukh



Harry



Misty



Cicely



Olivia



Amelia



Charlie



Noah



## Safer Internet Day 9th February 2021

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February we celebrated Safer Internet Day across the school. This



annual, global celebration aims to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. During the day the children took part in special worships, live BBC lessons and entered a school competition to creatively promote the safe use of technology.

Please see [here](#) for the competition submission.

'Congratulations' to all our winners, we chose two from each class as the standard was so high. Ms T Caswell

## 'Stars' of the last two weeks.....

Nursery	Rose	James P
Venus	Henry	Bella
Pluto	Mimi	Samya K
Neptune	Melissa	Whole Class
Mercury	Teddy	Whole Class
Jupiter	Bonnie	Noah M
Saturn	Noah D	Alexandra
Delphinus	Eva	Elaine
Phoenix	Benji	Angelo
Orion	Esther	Rethish
Pegasus	Luna	Ellie F
Unicorn	Alfi	Reeyaz
Hercules	Miranda	Zac
Aquila	Jovana	Manahil
Cygnus	Megan	Dylan



## Ambitious for SEND

Please click [here](#) for a copy of the Ambitious for SEND newsletter. You may find this useful in keeping up to date with the work of the Sutton Education Partnership - in particular on their Ambitious for SEND programme - but also some Covid related updates.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Dates may be subject to change)

### February

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> — Fri 19<sup>th</sup>

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup>

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup>

### March

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup>

Half Term

Children return to school (Key Worker/ vulnerable in school, everyone else Remote Learning)

PTFA AGM—7.00pm

World Book Day

