

# ST. ALDHELM'S NEWS

February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

We are really pleased to have made it through February successfully. The challenges everyone has faced through lockdown have continued to test us. It is a credit to all families and staff that learning has been maintained. Thank you to parents and children who completed the Remote Education Survey online. Please see [page 4-7](#) for responses and more information. Also on [page 7](#) is a link to padlet, where we are hoping to capture all the positives of remote learning. Although it's been a time of frustration, struggle and isolation, there have been so many wonderful positives too.



Mental Health week and Fairtrade fortnight provided opportunities for children, parents and staff to think about ourselves, others around us and those further away. This learning and awareness contributes to a better awareness and understanding of personal emotional and social issues. See [page 2 and 3](#) for more details.

This week is our World Book Week, with World Book Day on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Please see [page 8](#) for more information, including the events happening this week and how to get your child's World Book Day voucher.



March sees the reopening of school for all children and we are delighted that everyone can return. Please help your child to return to school by reading the Letter to Parents this week. This letter provides all the details that you need to know for a safe and prepared start. We are looking forward to seeing you all again!

Kind regards  
*Pippa Cohen*  
Headteacher

## Term 4

22.02.21	School open for Critical Workers and Vulnerable children
01.03.21	World Book Week
04.03.21	World Book Day
05.03.21	Science Week (10 Days)
08.03.21	School open for all children
19.03.21	Red Nose Day
01.04.21	End of Term 4

## 2nd – 18th April ~ Easter Holiday

## Term 5

19.04.21	Back to school for children
28.05.21	End of Term 5

## 29<sup>th</sup> May – 6<sup>th</sup> June ~ Half Term Break

## Term 6

07.06.21	Back to school for children
24.06.21	Athlete Visit and Assembly
<b>25.06.21</b>	<b>INSET DAY</b>
23.07.21	End of Term 6

On March 8<sup>th</sup> return to school, children will need:

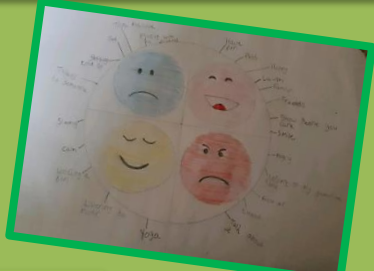
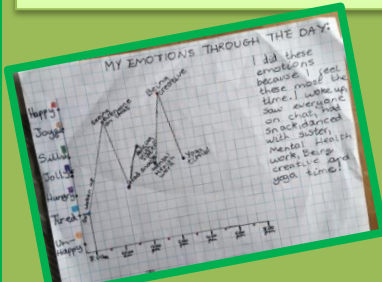
- to wear full school uniform and a warm, waterproof coat
- wellies for field
- a full PE kit
- lunch ordered on Wisepay (ready to book for all weeks between 8<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April) or a packed lunch
- water bottle
- healthy afternoon snack (EYFS & KS1)
- bag with reading record, book and pencil case (KS2)
- to arrive and be collected from school at their class bubble time

# Children's Mental Health Week

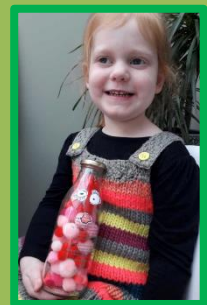
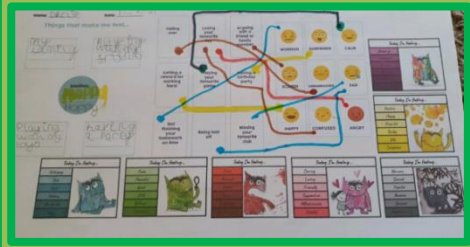
(1<sup>st</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021)



We have been proud as a school to take part in Children's Mental Health Week. Although we support children's mental health on a daily basis, the week of the 1<sup>st</sup> February was a special focus week. We had our online group sessions and afternoon activities focusing on understanding and improving our mental health. The theme was "Express Yourself," which the whole school did brilliantly!

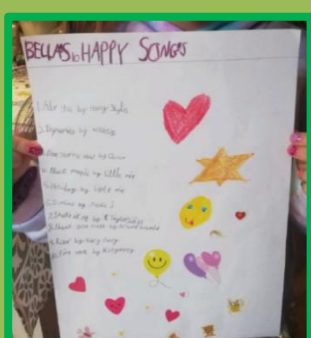


We focused on identifying our emotions and what can make us feel this way.

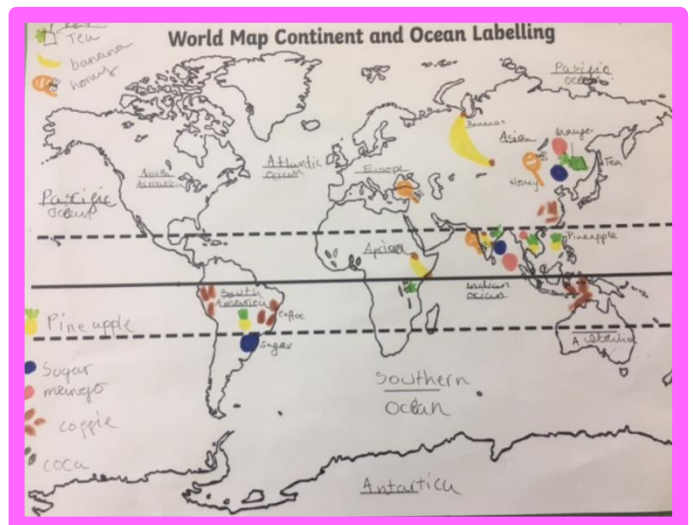
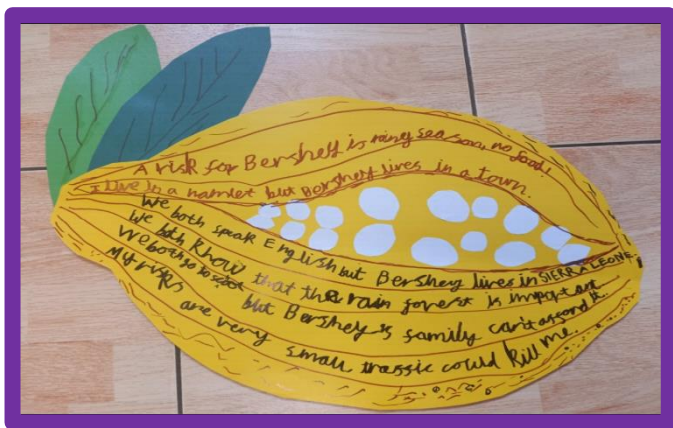
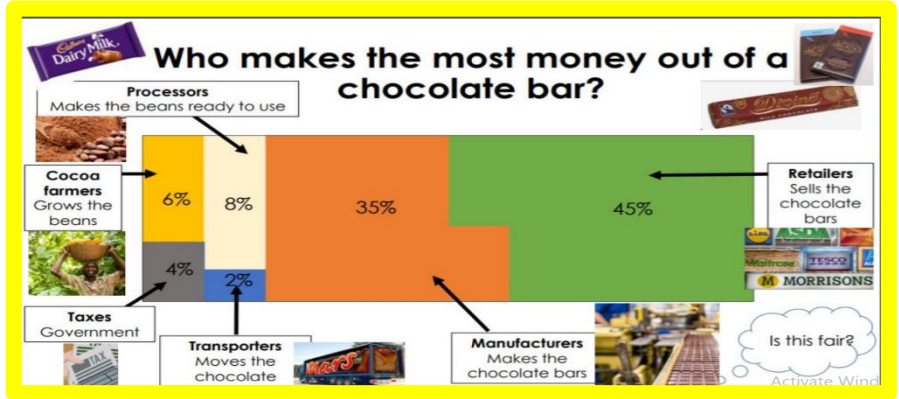


All classes worked on different strategies to support our mental health.

Before exercise	During exercise	Straight after exercise	Half an hour after exercise
Feelings:			







## Fairtrade Fortnight

Children across school have been celebrating Fairtrade Fortnight, thinking about the 'Choose the World You Want' initiative, whilst comparing their lives to that of others in Sierra Leone!



# Remote Education Surveys

Thank you to parents and children for taking the time to complete the Remote Education surveys. It was really helpful to hear your feedback. We felt very positive about the responses given and pleased that they reflect the brilliant efforts and work of both staff and parents. It is a real credit to everyone that our remote education has worked successfully this term. Thank you for your co-operation, support and hard work. Please see the key information for your information:

90% of parents say their child is coping with the current situation



97% of parents are happy with the support available from school

## How clear is the learning the school sets for your child?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

Very clear	44
Quite clear	18
Moderately clear	5
Sometimes unclear	2
Not clear at all	0



## On the whole, how well is your child completing the work set for them?

[More Details](#)

They complete all of the work ...	33
They complete most of the wo...	30
They complete some of the w...	3
They complete little of the work	0
Other	3



## How are you and your child finding the amount of work set?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

Just right	54
Too much	10
Too little	5

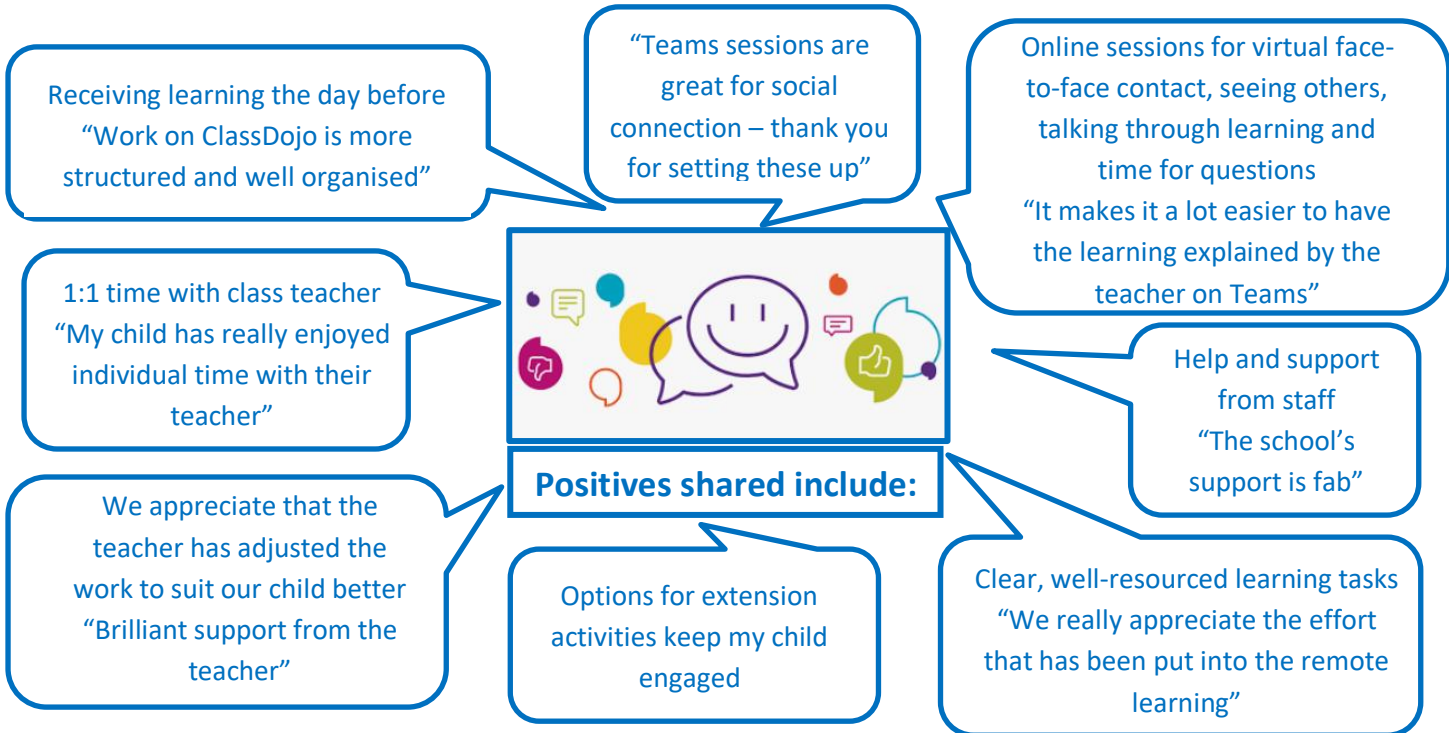


## How are you and your child finding the levels of communication and feedback about their learning?

[More Details](#)

My child receives a good level...	64
My child needs more feedbac...	2
Other	3





**Aspects not working so well, that we have taken on board and supported, include:**

- Too much or too little work
- Worksheets don't work on the ipad
- We've been overwhelmed at times
- It has been a struggle on some days
- Missing being at school

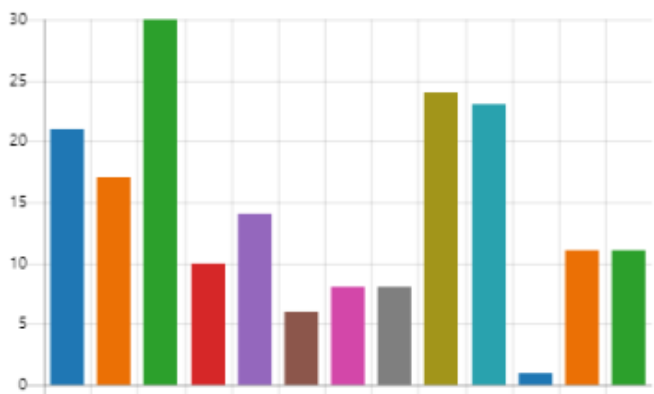
## Remote Education - Pupil Voice

97% of children say they are getting on ok with their learning at home

What are you enjoying the most?

[More Details](#)

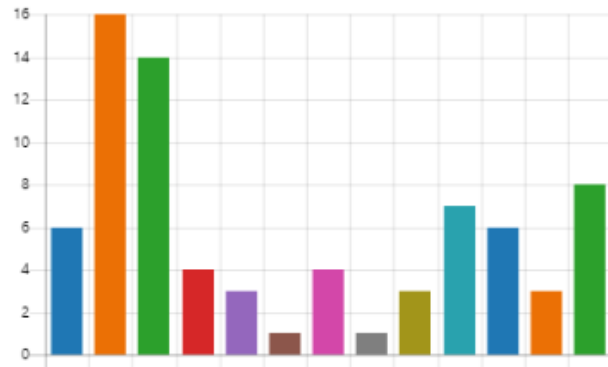
Reading	21
Writing	17
Maths	30
Science	10
PHSE	14
Geography	6
History	8
Music	8
Art	24
PE	23
RE	1
Computing	11
Other	11



## What are you finding most tricky?

[More Details](#)

Reading	6
Writing	16
Maths	14
Science	4
PHSE	3
Geography	1
History	4
Music	1
Art	3
PE	7
RE	6
Computing	3
Other	8

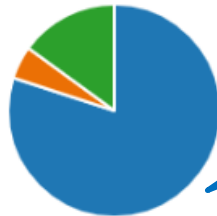


## Are you getting help from your teacher if you don't know what to do?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

Yes	48
No	3
Maybe	9



80% of children feel they are getting the help they need

## Are you getting helpful feedback about your learning?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

Yes	54
No	0
Maybe	6



90% of children feel they are getting helpful feedback

## Do you do all of your learning each day?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

I do all of the learning set	48
I do some of the learning set	12
I do a little bit of the learning ...	0



100% of children say they are doing all or some of their learning

## Is the amount of learning you have to do ok?

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

Just right	45
Too much	15
Too little	0



75% of children say they are getting the right amount of learning





**Things children are missing about school, include:**

- Being with friends
- Playing with friends
- Teachers and other adults in school
- My classroom and the home corner
- Forest school and the running track

With lockdown and remote learning drawing to a close (fingers crossed), we feel as a school that it is very important to consider the positives of our time of home learning. There is so much to celebrate and also to consider how we can build these positive aspects into the life of St Aldhelm's as we move forwards.

To gather your views, we have set up a padlet page where you can see other people's views and can add your own notes too. The padlet will be open from today for two weeks. Please click on the image to follow the link to the page.



# WORLD BOOK DAY 2021

Monday 1st March marked the start of our World Book Week. World Book Day is always one of the highlights of the children's school year and we wanted to use this time to continue to promote a love of books and to work together collaboratively across the school and community. This year, all classes will explore a wonderful book called Flotsam by David Weisner. This wordless book will be used to develop reading and writing skills as well as other foundation subjects such as music and art. We have also initiated the Shepton Mallet and World Book Day windows which all of the local schools are collaborating on. In addition, each day, we will also share a section of a story read by a Masked Reader! I wonder if you can guess their identity?

As always, book retailers will give each child a £1 book voucher which can be used to buy one of the special books, or to reduce the cost of any book or audiobook. This year the voucher is a digital one. Please follow the link to the PDF version by clicking on the World Book Day image below. Please note that some retailers require a printed version rather than showing the voucher on a mobile device.



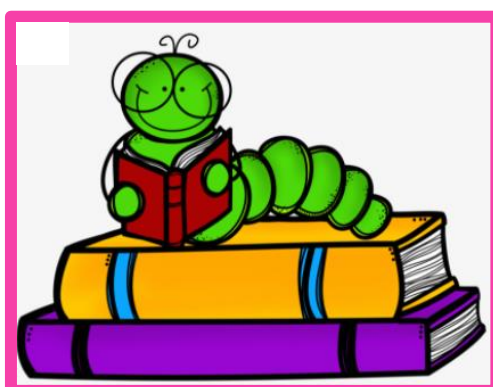
WORLD BOOK DAY  
4 MARCH 2021

## Shepton Mallet and surrounding villages World Book Day windows.

Decorate your windows for Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March.



**PLEASE REMEMBER THE  
SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES  
AND AVOID GATHERINGS**





# St. Aldhelm's Community News



Friends of  
St. Aldhelm's  
PTA



We are really lucky to have a very supportive and committed PTA. Even during these difficult times where they have been unable to organise and hold usual events, they continue to work hard for the benefit of the children at the school.



This month's 100 Club draw:

First Prize £20 Mrs Biju

Second Prize £10 Mrs Emery

Third Prize £5 Mrs Dadswell



If you haven't signed up and wish to take part in the next draw, it's not too late.  
Contact the school office.

If you want to become involved with the PTA, please contact a member of the committee. Please see the website for the PTA page which provides details of who's who.

<https://www.staldhelms.co.uk/page/?title=Friends+of+St+Aldhelms+PTA&pid=68>

