



25.02.21

## **SPECIAL THEME WEEK FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – Be Active, Be Well, Be Together**

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the start of next week, a letter will be distributed with the final details regarding the school's reopening plans for March 8<sup>th</sup>. This will be similar to the letters sent out for the September restart. It will be detailed and I urge all of you to read it thoroughly. In the meantime, I wanted to let you know of a special theme week we have planned for when the children return.

From our TEAMS wellbeing check-ins, we know that the children have missed school and their friends enormously. The children who have been in school have also struggled with the absence of their friends and are very much looking forward to them returning. We also realise that for the period of lockdown, the children who have been working from home have spent far too much time in front of a screen and may not have been as active as they usually are as they simply couldn't be! Therefore, when the school reopens fully we want it to be a celebration of the children's return and want them to be as active as possible.

Starting on March 8<sup>th</sup>, we will have a focus on **Being Active, Being Well and Being Together**. We want the first week with everyone back together to be a celebration; it's great to be back together at school! We will be fully launching our 'Thrive' approach to the children and will be sending out information and films to you as parents/carers regarding this also. Each day, the children will take part in a Thrive and mindfulness activities as well as completing the PSHE curriculum from Term 3. This enables us to have a focus on mental health and wellbeing.

We know that the children have missed their friends enormously, missed being part of a whole class and the school. Therefore, they will also be taking part team building exercises throughout the week. This will be in addition to their timetabled PE activities. Furthermore, we will be maximising the use of our outside spaces, especially the Orchard, and therefore we would request that all children are provided with Wellies which they can bring into school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and leave in school for the entire week.

In addition, before the children return we are having some new PE markings placed on the school playground. The staff will be using these markings during PE lessons and then children will be trained to develop their use of them during playtimes.

In class there will be a focus on the learning that could not be covered at home, for example the making part of last term's Design and Technology curriculum or a Science investigation which needed equipment only available in school.

Finally, all children will be assessed in their reading during the first week. This will NOT be a test! This will be done through the reading book bands so that we can ensure that all children are on their correct book colour to make the best progress upon their return as possible.

Therefore, as we shared on Wednesday, during the first week only, the children will NOT be required to be in school uniform. They need to be in comfortable clothing (not new clothing!) to be active during each and every day, with foot wear that enable them to be active – trainers are best. In addition, as stated above, they will need to bring in wellies on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

We hope that this will enable the children to settle back into the routines of school, build those relationships within the class once again and cover the curriculum that hasn't been able to be covered in home learning.

We look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Painter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light beige background behind the text.

Mrs E Painter  
Head teacher