

# Spring Term 2021 – Newsletter Number 18



Tanners Wood JMI School

Website: [www.tannerswood.herts.sch.uk](http://www.tannerswood.herts.sch.uk)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TannersWoodSchool>

Be the Best You Can!



## Term Dates 2020-21

### Spring Term 2021

Half term: Monday 15th – Friday 19th February

Term Ends: Friday 26th March 1.30pm

### Summer Term 2021

Children in: Monday 12th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May

Inset day: Friday 28th May

Half term: Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June

Term Ends: Friday 16th July 1.30pm

Date	Event
14 <sup>th</sup> January – 5pm	Year 4 and 5 online secondary transition meeting
9 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
9 <sup>th</sup> February 3.30pm - 6pm	Parent Consultation meetings
11 <sup>th</sup> February 8.20am – 1pm	Parent Consultation meetings
12 <sup>th</sup> February	Wellbeing Day
12 <sup>th</sup> February 11.00am – 12pm	Online Coffee Morning

Dates for the 2021-22 academic year are available on the school website.

### Communication

A reminder that all school communication is sent via ParentMail. If you have disabled email notifications at any point, please ensure that these are turned back on. This is especially important at the moment, as any school updates will be communicated this way.

### Absence

If your child is due to attend school, please ensure that you leave a message on the absence line before 9am giving a **specific** reason for absence. Thank you.

### Year 6 Hoodies

Leaver's hoodies for Year 6 children have been ordered and are expected to arrive w/c 22<sup>nd</sup> February. More information will follow regarding collection.

### Roofing Works

Over the coming weeks, work will begin on replacing the school roof. Contractors will be onsite from the end of March for approximately 20 weeks. Health and safety will be the first consideration at all times.

## Message from Mrs Qureshi

Firstly, I hope this message finds all families safe and healthy.

I wanted to thank you all for your support over the last few weeks. It has undoubtedly been a tricky period for parents, children and staff alike. It has been made easier owing to the community support from all parents. The lengths that parents are going to to help their children with home learning has been quite remarkable. All the staff at Tanners appreciate your on-going efforts; I know from talking to some of you that you are trying to manage your own work commitments whilst juggling home-schooling.

Each day I remind parents that they must do what they can at home with their children without adding any additional pressure. If you or your children have days where limited learning goes on, that is ok. My best advice would be to keep routines and structures in place and try to complete some daily reading.

Many parents are asking if their children can return to school and at the moment we are up to capacity supporting those families whose parents are critical workers. You will all be aware of the Government announcement stating that the "earliest date for re-opening may be the 8th March". We will of course keep you updated on this.

The children continue to impress and amaze us with what they are achieving at home with your support. Children who are attending school are also working hard. We really do miss our whole school community being at school.

Once again, a sincere thank you to the parents who send in kind messages, emails and even treats. The words and messages are invaluable to keeping staff positive and feeling appreciated- a heartfelt thank you.

Finally, on **Friday 12th February** I have decided to organise a Wellbeing Day where children will be completing activities that take them away from their screens/devices. It will hopefully be a fun and rewarding day. Further details will be shared next week.

### **Children's Mental Health Week**

This week is Children's Mental Health Week. The theme this year is "Express Yourself", where children are encouraged to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas through creativity. On Monday, a video was put on each classes' Google Classroom Stream for children to watch. The aim of this was to remind children to never give up, be grateful for everything they have and to keep them motivated. The video also provided children with several strategies to support their well-being and to encourage them to stay positive.

### **Wellbeing Videos**

From Monday morning, our Head Boys / Girls and school ambassadors will be putting well-being videos onto your children's class streams. They will be discussing the 5 Ways To Wellbeing and giving advice about how to look after mental health whilst at home in lockdown. Please encourage your children to watch the videos and follow their advice.

### **Safer Internet Day**

Safer internet day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the positive use of digital technology for children and young people. This year it is being celebrated on Tuesday 9th February focusing on the theme "An internet we trust", which explores the reliability of the online world and the existence of fake news.

During the day, children will be taking part in a number of activities to raise their awareness and question the information which they see online. They will learn how to recognise fake news and how to distinguish a credible source, with the opportunity to share their findings with staff. All activities will be set on Google Classroom and we hope you will support us in our mission to join together to create a better and safer internet for our children.

If you would like to know more about safer internet day and explore resources that are available at home, there are some useful links attached below:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/safer-internet-day>

### **Holly Class Tribute**

A huge well done to the children in Holly Class who have run 100 laps of the daily mile track since Wednesday in memory of Sir Captain Tom Moore.

### **Stories**

Every Friday, a story will be recorded for EYFS and KS1 and posted onto your child's Google Classroom stream. The story will be read by either our Head Girl or Boy, Deputy Head Girl or Boy or one of our School Ambassadors. The Year 6 children are very excited and are looking forward to reading to you all each week. Our stories this week are:

**EYFS:** We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen - read by Lilly H (Head Girl)

**KS1:** The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson - Read by Cody B (School Ambassador)

Please feel free to comment on your child's stream to let us know what part of the story they enjoyed the most or if you have a request for a story that your child would like to hear in our weekly story time session.

We hope you enjoy the story!

Mrs Johnson and Mr Harris

### **Something Fun!**

Every week our Head Girl or Boy, Deputy Head Girl or Boy, or one of our School Ambassadors will share an interesting fact and trivial question to get us all thinking, as well as providing a bit of fun for the weekend. These will also be shared in your child's Google Classroom stream.

### **Interesting Fact:**

In the course of an average lifetime, while sleeping, you might eat around 70 assorted insects and 10 spiders, or more!

### **Riddle:**

Who is bigger? Mr Bigger, Mrs Bigger or their baby?

### **Brainteaser:**

There are three houses. One is red, one is blue, and one is white. If the red house is to the left of the house in the middle, and the blue house is to the right to the house in the middle, where is the white house?

Can you solve these?

Please comment on your child's stream if you think you can solve our Year 6 puzzle! We will reveal the answer in next week's newsletter and on your child's class stream.

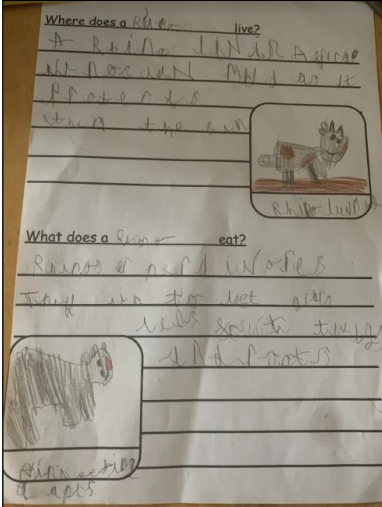
**Penguin by Finley P – Apple**



**Dinosaur Skeleton by Clara C- Beech**



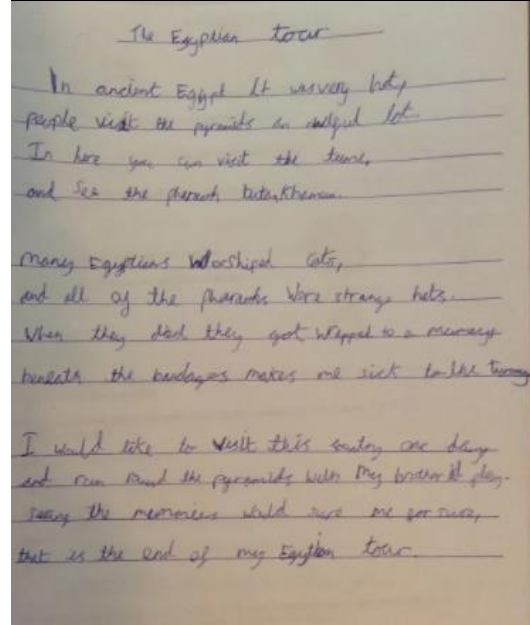
**Animal Report by Alfie W - Elm**



**Calligram Poem by Millie N - Holly**



**Ancient Egyptian Poem by Travis S - Larch**



**Non-chronological report by Joshua A-B - Oak**

Tiger's are carnivores, which means that they only consume meat. In addition, these mammals are predators so they hunt and kill large bodied animals such as deer and wild pigs. However, if these types of animal are not available then tigers will devour cattle, carrion, smaller animals and sometimes even humans, although this is rare! These felines are taught to hunt by their Mother's because they are not natural predators. As a result, Tigers born in captivity are unable to hunt as they are provided with food, so they cannot survive in the wild. They would also struggle to survive in the wild because they are not used to the habitat and environment.

In conclusion, this fierce animal has many unique appearance features, which enable it to be a successful predator in the wild. Tigers live in a diverse range of environments such as jungles, grasslands and areas with low temperatures. Nevertheless, they have been classified as an endangered species due to being hunted for trophies, Asian medicine and because their habitat is being destroyed due to agriculture. When the tiger's habitat is destroyed they have less room to hunt and catch prey and if wild animals are not available for them to eat they may attack livestock or even humans! As a result, the tiger population has decreased from 10,000 to only 4000. Tiger charities are breeding tigers in captivity to try to increase the population and to stop this fascinating species from becoming extinct.

**Persuasive Letter by Jazmin B - Pine**

Dear Mum and Dad,

I strongly believe that after reading my letter to you today, you will definitely agree and allow me to play video games as much as I want. I am perfectly confident that my letter will persuade you to give me permission to play video games without restrictions when you become aware of the cognitive benefits of playing video games.

It is taken for granted that the Mental Health of children is of vital importance, because being allowed to play video games provides children with a release from the stresses of a hard working day of home-learning and not being allowed to play with our friends.

I comprehend that you may find this arduous to process as you don't attend school during a pandemic and therefore do not understand the sort of stress it causes. However, were you not once at school yourselves? Consequently, you should be able to empathise with me on this matter.

As you will be aware, we need video games to socialise and interact with our friends, which we cannot see or meet at school in the meantime.

I understand your concerns around lack of other hobbies and poor academic performance and also gaming addiction negative effects. Bear in mind, that without video games, I would be reliant on you with everything whilst working from home. Is this what you really wish for?

Considering the fact that video games improve social skills and coordination especially during a pandemic, and more importantly, video games improve attention and concentration, enhance memory and multi-tasking skills, and it's a great source of learning, which definitely helps to cope with all the changes and the stress we are living today. Certainly, you must understand this! I wait with anticipation to hear of your decision.

Yours sincerely,  
Jazmin

**Positive Thinking**

Thank you to Isla-Mai in Holly Class for this piece or art inspired by Banksy.





## **English by Drew B – Spruce**

It had been three months since it happened. I had to be brave if I wanted to make it out alive. Reaching out to grab some water, I remembered everything.

Trees huddled together whispering in the breeze, rusty items lay strewn across the damp, overgrown grass. Animals lay sleeping on logs. The sky was engulfed by thick grey clouds which rained water down on me. Branches lay like scattered bones and the only sound that could be heard was the rustle of bushes as the wind howled.

Still in a daze from being knocked out, I sat up wondering where I was. Questions swarmed in my head, suddenly making me so dizzy that I had to sit back down. Why had they captured me? What were they going to do once they woke up? Why here?

Cautiously, I crawled through the grass, stopping every time I made a noise to see if anyone had heard. Glancing wearily around, I caught a glimpse of a woman not much older than twenty, dressed in orange staring at me. Scared out of my skin, I ran back to the shed I had woken up in. Who was that?

Suddenly, a hand grabbed my shoulder and I was met with darkness as I slumped to the floor. Roughly, I was dragged across the ground grazing my skin but I barely felt it. Soon we came to an abrupt halt and a mysterious man wrenched the bag of my head. I looked around and took in my surroundings. There was a rusty barn covered in ivy and splintered glass that was dispersed on the gravelly floor.

Cold, joyless eyes stared back at me as I peered up. The masked man was looming over me but soon turned his attention to a wooden table with a dusty, ancient map spread out across it. Heart racing and shoulders aching, I made a run for it and bolted out of the barn door. Without looking back, I carried on sprinting, my legs ached and pain pierced my stomach but I didn't stop; this was my only chance to escape. It all felt like a dream, as I made my way to a gap in the barbed wire which had previously been blocking the path between me and my escape.

## **Tanners Wood Run to the North Pole 2020!!**

A huge thank you to all of you who donated money for the run to the North Pole. The children really enjoyed it and loved to tell Mrs Qureshi and Mrs Mudd how many laps they had completed that week. It was definitely what we needed in the build-up to a very different Christmas. Thank you so very much. We managed to raise more than our target - £1535. 75% will go towards the Young Minds charity and 25% to FoTW which helped cover the cost of the heart stress balls given as a gift to every child and staff member as a well done for completing the run. Everyone loved these!

Some comments from children in Y6 and Y2:

"I really enjoyed the run to the North Pole as it made me fit and it was raising money for a good cause." Otto and Lily

"It put me in a good mood for the rest of the day and proud that we were raising money for a good cause." Scarlett

"I enjoyed the school run to the North Pole because it gave people who didn't like running or didn't run that often something to run for and the whole school worked together." Cody and Adam

"I felt excited because it was the first time I'd run that far in my entire life!" Sebastian

"I felt really happy and excited to be running lots of laps, I love running laps, it makes me feel good." Mollie

"I felt good to be raising money for charity because it's a nice thing to do." Jackson

"It felt good to raise money and get fit." Stanley W

## **PE Challenge**

A tremendous start to our whole school PE challenge! 103 children took part and sent in their results via the stream. The challenge was part of the weekly PE lesson and we asked children to complete mountain climbers and bounce & catch - how many can you complete in 1 minute?

The results have been attached with this newsletter. There are 3 children in bronze position in KS1 and 2 in gold in KS2 due to Mrs Coe missing a couple of results on the stream. Well done to everyone who took part and those who practised every day to get the best result.

Join in with your children to help the family keep fit and increase core strength! Have fun and keeeeee active!

Remember to put your results on the PE stream by 3pm every Friday and check every Tuesday to see which challenges we are doing that week!

## **Merit Certificates**

Merits are awarded for learning, effort and behaviour. Bronze = 10 merits. Silver = 20 merits. Gold = 30 merits. Well done to the following children for achieving theirs this week:

### **Bronze:**

**Ash** – George, Olivia, Layla, Jax, Jude, Zeno, Arthur, Alina, Albie, India-Rose

**Fir** – George

**Holly** – Sophia, Sebastian, William

**Juniper** – Rockwell, Ellison, Isabel, Diyan, Annabel, Ella-Rose, Beau, Sam, Amelie

**Larch** – Freddie, Jodie, Massi, Matilda, Stevie, Travis, Zachary, Millie

**Spruce** – Sasha

**Willow** – Jack, Connor, Lily, Lois, Lucy, Mia