



The Hayfield Herald

Mental Health Awareness Week



This week has been mental health awareness week and we have been thinking about well-being in lots of different ways. One way we have been looking after ourselves has been some lovely well-being walks for every class. Each day different classes have been timetabled to go out in the fresh air, over to Barton Seagrave and enjoy a walk across the fields and through the trees. It was a bit far for Reception so they had a shorter walk today around the local area instead. The children were all fantastic ambassadors for our school while they were out and all the teachers have said what a joy it was to take them. Being outside and exercising is not only good for our health but also for our mental well-being and thankfully the weather has been good too. From now we are going to have a well-being walk once a term for all classes. In class the children have also been learning about mental health and how to look after their well-being. Huge thanks to Miss Mulroy, our mental health lead for organising all of the walks and to our parent volunteers who have helped out and given up their time.

We also had an online safety day this week. With children growing up in the digital age it's essential that they are able to make good choices online and there have been lots of different aspects the children have been looking at. A really important part of being safe online is knowing about keeping your information private, not just passwords but also not sharing things that give away your identity or personal details. In Key Stage 2 they have also been looking at making good choices with internet content. With so many apps and games being targeted at children, even though they are not appropriate for their age groups, this can be a minefield for children and parents. We have loads of useful information on our website to help you:

<https://hayfieldcross.org.uk/index.php/safeguarding/online-safety>

Yesterday Miss Mulroy took a group of Year 2 sports stars to KSA to take part in a range of sports with other local schools. They took part in a range of activities including curling which is in the news with the Winter Olympics taking place (although the equipment the children used had rollers and didn't need an ice rink). The children really enjoyed this new sport and Miss Mulroy is investigating whether we can get some of the same curling equipment to use in school.

This week Year 6 have been showing their determination as they did their Mock-SATs tests. They will be the first ever children at Hayfield Cross to actually complete the SATs because of the pandemic over the last 2 years. The children are not letting the pandemic stop them and I have been super proud of the way they have tackled the tests and done so well.

Today we have had the honour of presenting our second Hayfield Legends of the year. It is so great to hear about the qualities all of the children have and even nicer to hear the teachers choosing. They all say it is an impossible task as there are so many deserving children who behave and act with integrity at all times. Hopefully, next term we will be able to start having Legend meetings again too. We also presented out Bishops Awards today which are linked to our school vision (see the bottom of the newsletter) and presented to those being strong and brave in their learning and actions. Being strong does not mean physical strength but determination and resilience. It has been great over the last two weeks to have celebration in the hall again with our red carpets and music. We are still in Key Stages but we are really hoping to return to a whole school celebration by Easter and maybe even have parents join us by the end of the year.

As we come to the end of another term we are feeling positive but still feeling the impact of Covid. We have not had one week since September without a member of staff or children off in isolation. This has been really tough since Christmas but we have soldiered on and kept everything as normal as possible for the children. Thank you all for your patience, support and understanding through these difficult times and a very special thank you to all of our staff who have managed magnificently through staff shortages and keeping the good ship orange afloat. We wish you all a fun and relaxing holiday and look forward to seeing you back after half term.

Craig Charteris Head Teacher

*Remember that I commanded you to be strong and brave. So don't be afraid.
The Lord your God will be with you everywhere you go³ (Joshua 1:9)*

Joy - Integrity - Fellowship