

# The Orchards Primary Academy

## Newsletter

8<sup>th</sup> January 2021 / Spring Term



Dear Parents/Carers,

It is almost impossible to believe that we once again find ourselves in the midst of a national lockdown.

The very late announcement of school closures was very difficult for school staff to deal with and we appreciate your patience and understanding whilst we put appropriate plans in place.

School is currently open for the children of key workers and those who are vulnerable. We very much miss having all of the children in school with us, but it is the right time to prioritise the health and safety of everyone.

Home learning timetables will continue to be sent out on a weekly basis by class teachers. You can keep in touch with teachers via DB Primary between 10am – 2pm every school day. Staff will also be making welfare calls to you regularly so that we can keep in touch and continue to support you in whatever way we can.

All of the laptops that we had allocated to our school have now been given to families who requested them. The DfE have said that they will be releasing more in the near future. We will let you know when we have received our allocation.

Stay safe,

Mrs Carrier

### Social Media

Follow us on...

[www.theorchardsprimary.com](http://www.theorchardsprimary.com)

The Orchards Primary Academy on Facebook

### Communication during lockdown

We will continue to keep in touch with all of our families during this time, but particularly those who are currently unable to attend school. This will be done in a number of ways:

- ❖ Via email from the enquiry email address
- ❖ Via DB Primary
- ❖ Staff making welfare calls on a weekly basis
- ❖ Our school office continues to be staffed every school day
- ❖ Updates on our Facebook page
- ❖ Updates on our school website

### Coping during lockdown

This is an incredibly challenging time for all of us and often in different ways. The pressure of home-schooling children whilst also managing your own responsibilities can take its toll. You may also be understandably concerned about your child's mental health during lockdown. To this end, we have produced a child-friendly leaflet on how to cope during lockdown. Please find attached to this newsletter.



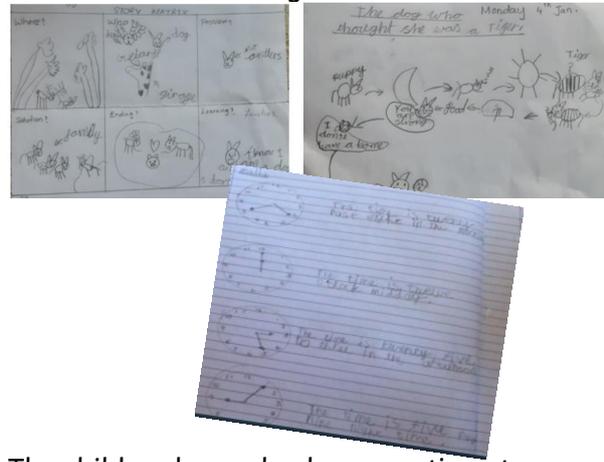
## News from Early Years

All of the children in our Early Years bubble have settled in really well and are very happy. They have been busy focusing on their numbers and their fine motor skills:



## News from KS1

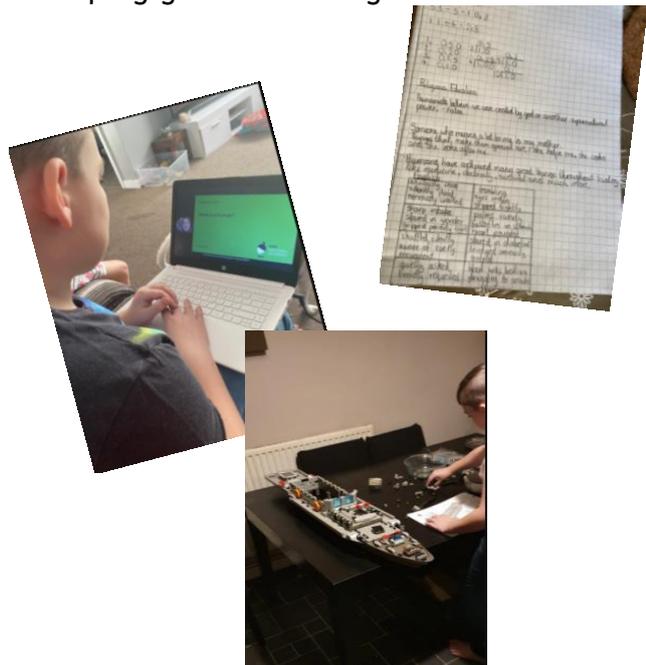
**Year 2** have been learning about telling the time in Maths. We know how tricky this can be and are really impressed with the work that Amelia has been doing at home on this....!



The children have also been creating story maps. As you can see, Kinuri is making sure she is on top of her home learning!

## News from KS2

The children at home have been working really hard and we are so impressed! You can see the children here working hard on their Oak Academy learning as well as building Lego battleships! Well done for keeping yourselves busy.



'I have enjoyed learning about my numbers.'

Blake

'I have enjoyed making puppets!'

Perii

Keep sharing the work you are doing at home so that we can show everyone on this newsletter!