

Fordham All Saints (VC) Primary School

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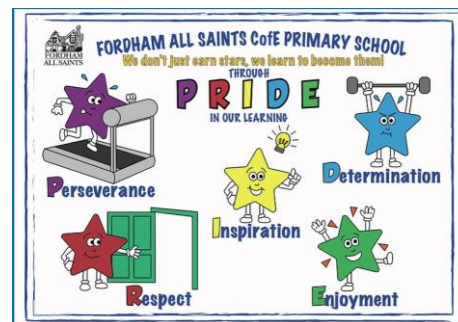
Good morning everyone,

I hope you are all safe and well. Finally, we had the predicted snow. I am sure that everyone enjoyed doing something a little bit different, we certainly did in school. As we come to the end of this half term I cannot help but reflect upon what a half term it has been. On top of the National Lockdown staff have had to contend with flooding and then the snow this week. I am extremely proud of all our staff and the efforts they have made over the past six weeks. We have kept school open for those families who have no other choice but to send their children in and so supported the efforts to control spread the Coronavirus. It is a privilege to work with such a dedicated team of staff who take every challenge in their stride and keep smiling.

You will have received a letter regarding Track and Trace during half term. This is predominantly for the children who have been in school, however, if your family does test positive please let us know and we can send a message of support.

Just a quick reminder that the nominations for Parent Governor close on the 24th February. So far no one has expressed any interest and we have not received any nomination slips. We have two vacancies and it would be a great opportunity to help shape the future of Fordham School. Please do consider standing for this interesting role in the strategic leadership of the school.

As we approach half term it is really important that everyone has a break from home learning. Whilst we cannot go on holiday a break or change in routine is as good as a holiday for refreshing us and making sure we are keen to restart learning after half term. We have been discussing what we plan to do over half term and the discussion always starts with "well we cannot do very much ..." and then we go on to list a variety of things which aren't very expensive and may not be very exciting! Here are some suggestions for things to do over half term.



Upcoming Events

15th – 19th February Half Term holiday

22nd February INSET day no children in school

22nd February review of National Lockdown in England

24th February Nominations for Fordham Parent Governor Vacancies close.



More Important News

Star Count, a lockdown-friendly event for the whole family. The best way to see how many stars we can all see in the sky is... to count them! So we're asking people from all across the country to become citizen scientists and look heavenwards from home for one night. Join in by choosing a clear night between 6-14 February 2021, looking up at the constellation of Orion and letting us know how many stars you can spot.

<https://www.cpre.org.uk/what-we-care-about/nature-and-landscapes/dark-skies/star-count-2021/>

Make a bird feeder, with this extremely cold weather the birds are finding it hard to get enough to eat. It is great fun to make your own bird feeder and there are lots of ideas if you Google "make a bird feeder". I particularly like the ones from the National Trust

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/make-a-bird-feeder-from-recycled-materials>

MasterChef/Bake off challenge, provide toppings for pizza and let the children make their own, then have a tasting session and see which flavour combinations are the best. Or give the children some fairy cakes to ice and see which ones look the most creative. Or (probably if they are a little older) let them make a cake and decorate it, with supervision for the cooking part!

Ice cream parlour, something I always enjoyed doing with my nephews was creating our own ice cream sundaes with a couple of flavours of ice cream, sprinkles, sauce and squirty cream. It was a little messy but great fun and delicious!

Look for signs of spring, get out and about in your local area and spot some snowdrops or daffodils or other signs of spring and take some photos or create a picture.

Send a card, everyone likes to receive a letter in the post, why not make a card for a friend or family member and send it to them in the post? You never know you might receive something in return, and at least you will be pleased you have made someone smile.

February is a month when we think about the ones we love, especially with St. Valentine's Day on Sunday. One of the best ways you can cheer yourself up is to cheer someone else up. This can be done in a number of ways but at this particular time it would be nice to send message of support to friends or family you have not been able to see or tell loved ones why they are special to you. This may sound a little cheesy and out of your comfort zone. We aren't always very good at sharing our feelings, but sometimes it is good to just push yourself slightly and the resulting surprise and happiness is well worth that effort.

Have a lovely half term,
Julie Ingram

In the Community

School website

I will be adding information and updating the website over the next few weeks. Please do visit the site to keep up to date with all that is going on in school.

www.allsaints-fordham.essex.sch.uk



Dear God,

If I can not be brilliant,
let me be kind. If I can
not change the world,
let me inspire just one
other to do so. If I can
not give away riches,
let me be loving. Let
me be known for
kindness, for it is the
greatest glory. ~amen