

Checkendon CE Primary School

Email: office.3801@checkendon.oxon.sch.uk

T: 01491 680693

This week saw the introduction of two new initiatives; **Talk At Ten** and **Purple Mash**. From feedback so far, both seem to have been a great success!

We've had lots of positive comments about the introduction of **Purple Mash** which we hope will improve home-school communication by allowing pupils and parents to message teachers directly. Teachers are already reporting that lots of families are making good use of this opportunity and we have really enjoyed finding out about what you have all been up to! On a personal note, I was delighted to receive letters from three pupils this week; it was a lovely surprise. Do feel free to suggest this to children as an option for a writing task sometime.

Parents, pupils and staff members are enjoying the chance to **Talk At Ten**; we've been able to answer queries, provide additional resources and find out more about how learning at home is going for families in our school community.

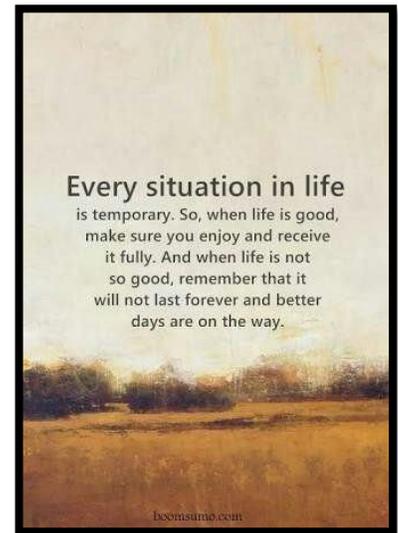
Bea Butler is doing us proud with her **Twitter** updates, and many of you will have seen the photographs of my journey home on one of the beautifully sunny days we've had recently. Even though it's been more showery in the last few days, I've managed to dodge the downpours and continue to really enjoy my daily walks – definitely a silver lining for me!

Although we don't yet know how or when this will happen, our thoughts are starting to turn to making arrangements for the re-opening of schools. I can't wait!

Warm regards,
Gillian Seymour



Thought for the Day



Picture of the Week

Hattie and her amazing bumble bee



More Information

PurpleMash

Further to last week's request, please could we ask for those children who have not already done so, to log onto Purple Mash (login details sent last Friday from the office), go to **2Email** and send their class teacher an email. **Rather than sending emails to the class teachers via the office, this can now be done directly using PurpleMash.** Every class has access to email their class teacher and TA. If you need advice, please email the school office in the usual way.

How do the new homelearning resources fit in?

As a reminder, our expectations remain the same: pupils in **Rhino Class** and **Panda Class** should work on key tasks for 3 hours daily, those in **Owl Class** 2 hours daily and those in **Owlet Class** 1 hour daily. In addition, **children of all ages** should take part in **1 hour of physical activity**.

- Resources for **mathematics** include Conquermaths, Busy Ant workbooks, Times Tables Rock Stars and Numbots
- Resources for **reading** include e-books on Oxford Owl, Curriculum Visions
- Resources for **writing** include Letter join, emailing on Purple Mash
- Resources for **spelling** and **phonics** include Phonics Play, Spellzone

Unicef Rights Respecting Schools – Article of the Week

This week the 'Article of the Week' looks at Article 7 - Birth registration, name, nationality and care. This article secures the building blocks that, along with other articles, contribute towards identity. Please see attached for more details.

The 'Four Minute Rule'

The Wellbeing Wednesday short videos by children's author Andy Cope has had lots of positive feedback. You can now see three videos in a series of four via YouTube. If you haven't yet had a chance, do set aside 20 minutes to down and watch one of the videos with your children.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7KKBLc5hYI>

VE Day – 8th May 2020

The Queen will commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day with a televised address to the nation. This will form part of a series of events marking the end of WW2 on the continent. On the day, there will be a two-minute silence at 11am followed in the evening by a national sing-along to wartime favourite *We'll Meet Again* after the Queen's address at 9pm - the exact moment her father, King George VI, gave a radio address 75 years ago. Due to the coronavirus restriction most VE Day 75 events and street parties have been cancelled, but you can still mark the occasion, by joining in with the BBC Local Radio station initiative in making your own VE Day Great British Bunting. Download everything you need at bbc.co.uk/makeadifference

Songs to help you smile

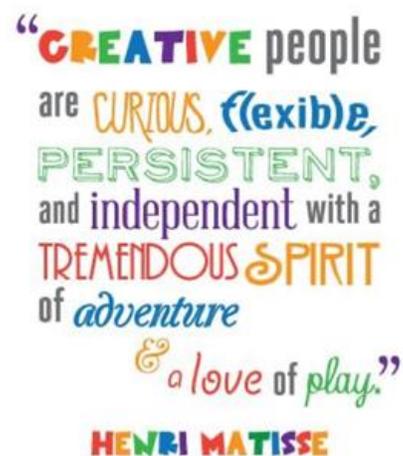
Shake my sillies out A warm up song referred to by Gareth Malone in the *Great British Home Chorus* <https://www.singup.org/singupathome/shake-my-sillies-out>

Down by the bay An old favourite with music club members which comes complete with ideas for baking a watermelon cake and creating a watermelon pizza!

<https://www.singup.org/singupathome/down-by-bay>

Give me oil in my lamp A popular assembly song, good with percussion!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/primary-school-songs-give-me-oil-in-my-lamp/zk9awty>



When she was in school earlier this week, Mrs Griffin grabbed the opportunity to take home the Owl Class dressing up clothes to wash. Here they are on her washing line this morning!



Reminder Request for Yr 6 Families

Please complete the attached Student Information Year 7 Transition form with your child and return to the school office **by Monday 4th May**.

And Finally....

Q. Why did 6 hate 7?

A. 7 8 9

