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Reflection

Martin Luther King Day Monday 18th January

Martin Luther King was born on the 15th January 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia, in the United States. He became a Baptist minister and civil rights activist. In the United States at the time, there were large inequalities between people depending on the colour of their skin. An example of these inequalities is that only white people could sit at the front of buses, and if all the places for white people were occupied, it was the law that black people would have to stand and give up their seat for white people.

Martin Luther King was one of the Christian leaders who led the civil rights movement at this time, opposing the laws and the attitudes of discrimination. He advanced the civil rights movement through nonviolence and civil disobedience. Martin Luther King went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for his work on combating racial inequality.

He said: ***“Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.”***

Let us pray

Heavenly Father,
may our human family not become separated from you by building barriers of race or colour,
of religion or class.
Inspire us to recognise that we are all made in your image and likeness,
so that we may grow in appreciation of all people, and encourage each other to grow in pride in who we are and who we are called to be.
May we recognise your Son in our midst, and live truly as sisters and brothers.

Amen

THIS WEEK: I know that some parents are having difficulties working with the new technology. It is meant to make things easier but, as with all new things, it is difficult if we do not understand it. Guidance has been sent out and I know that many of you have spoken with the class teachers and they have been able to support you through some of the problems.

If you need any more support please contact your class teacher. They will offer you support where they can and suggest alternative solutions if you cannot overcome the technical difficulties.

Please also see the parent/carer guide to Google Classroom on the **school website in Parent Information/Learning Zone**

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE WORKSHOPS are available to all parents. These will give you tips and ideas about how to support children’s communication skills. Please find details and booking information on the school website:

Parent Information/Letters

Using visuals at home to support communication – Monday 1st February, 2-3pm

Understanding behaviours and managing emotions: How can I help my child? – Thursday 4th February, 1.30-2.30pm

STAYING SAFE ONLINE: With the increased use of online devices it is more important than ever that children are safeguarded against harmful materials that readily pop up when you put in a search or risk from meeting unknown people when playing online games.

Please see below the link to the ‘Think you Know’ website which gives advice on how to stay safe when using a phone, tablet or computer.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

This website includes tips on how to set parental controls on devices, how to talk to your child about keeping safe on-line and what to do if they see harmful material and also activities you can do together around keeping safe. There are also a range of child friendly activities for all age groups.

You can also find links to online safety activities on the **school website in: Parent Information/Learning Zone/School Closure Home Learning / Links to learning.**

READING: Please encourage your child to read every day. If you have read all your books additional reading materials are available online. You can access more books at <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/> Use the log in details sent to parents for year groups Reception to year 4. There is also Serial Mash on <https://www.purplemash.com> Use your login to Purple Mash to access a wide range of books which can be found on Serial Mash. This is available on your Purple Mash home screen. Once there, Year 5-6 books can be found in Sapphires, Year 3-4 in Emeralds and Year 1-2 in Diamonds. There are optional activities and quizzes for each book too. Explore and have fun!

CONTACTING THE CLASS TEACHER:

For staff workload and well-being it is essential that we also have guidance in place for them. Therefore we have agreed that the teacher will be contactable between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to Friday. Please be advised that if you message the teacher after 5pm you will most likely get a reply the following day. The teachers are working into the night preparing resources and do need personal space. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

IN SCHOOL PROVISION: A reminder that if your child is in school that you **MUST** notify the school office by 8.30am if your child will not be able to attend school that day.

Due to the volume of work required by teachers to manage the remote learning, teachers are unable to be in school teaching the children full time.

Although the learning taking place in school is the same as that at home it is being led by cover teachers and teaching assistants. It has not been possible to have the same member of staff in your child's class every day.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK took place on Monday 16th - Friday 20th November. Odd Socks Day marked the first day of Anti-Bullying Week and we formed part of the 75% of schools that took part, reaching well over 7 million young people across the country! Here at our school, the children were given a range of activities to promote Anti-Bullying and explore the 2020 theme of **'United Against Bullying'**.

The Year 5 & 6 children took part in a competition to design a badge that promoted Anti-Bullying and the 2020 theme 'United Against Bullying'. A huge congratulations to Julia in 6P for her brilliant badge design. In celebration of Julia's success, the Year 5 and 6 children will receive a badge which sports her winning design.



DATES

HALF TERM: Monday 15th to Friday 19th February

PLEASE NOTE – the school will be closed for half term. There will be no remote learning set for this period.

May God keep you safe from harm today and always!

Miss K. Coll / Headteacher