

# Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

First of all, I would like to say a big thank you to those children who have been making 'hearts for homes'. You may remember from last week's newsletter that we were doing a whole school community project to spread some cheer to elderly people in local care homes who may be lonely and can't see their families. We were going to be sending some hearts to them for Valentine's Day. We've received some beautiful creations with some lovely messages – if your child has made a heart, please do upload it to Frog or email it to [admin@finhamprimary.co.uk](mailto:admin@finhamprimary.co.uk).

Across the country, people have been marking Mental Health Awareness week – something that is particularly relevant at this time for both adults and children alike. Please remember that if you need any support from school about your child, please call or email us to have a chat about how we can work together to help.

Every day, just as we take a register to record the attendance of children in school, the government has asked teachers to keep a register for those children who are submitting their home-learning through Frog. I am impressed to see that there is a whole group of children across school who have 100% attendance and have submitted work every day since the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2021. This is an amazing achievement! If your child is unwell and is not able to complete their work, then please do let your child's class teacher know. I do need to mention that if there are days where a child has not submitted any work and the class teacher is not aware of the reason why, then we do have to record this as an unauthorised absence. On this note, a trend that we are noticing in some year groups is that the submission of work drops off on a Friday. Although it may be incredibly tempting to start the weekend a day early, please do continue to persevere with home learning on a Friday. Our teachers are doing their best to ensure that Fridays lessons are of high value but not too onerous either. I wonder if there can be a day next week when we have 100% attendance for home-learning across school? If we manage it, I'll definitely let you know!

We have had a number of parents emailing teachers over the past few weeks, expressing their disappointment and feeling disheartened if their child has not been chosen as 'Star of the Week' on Friday. I would like to say first of all, that every single child is really valued by their class teachers at Finham. You as parents, are doing a stellar job trying to balance your own jobs alongside your child's home learning. We really appreciate this. If we could, we would give every single child some sort of recognition for their hard-work, perseverance and discipline each week. Unfortunately, this is not possible. However, there are still many weeks of school left. If your child has not received the 'Star of the Week' yet – that does not mean that they never will. We do our best to ensure that every child gets the star at some point in the school year and gets their moment to shine. In the meantime, if your child has completed some work throughout the week, where you know that they have gone the extra mile, by all means bring this to our attention as we would love to celebrate their achievement with you.

Next week is Internet Safety week – again a really pertinent week of awareness as our children are spending more time ‘online’ than ever before. Each year group has planned lessons or activities based on raising awareness about this, so please do have a look at the materials as they may be a great way to open interesting discussions at home.

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 marks the start of the Chinese New Year and this year is the year of the Ox. Happy New Year to all who are celebrating.

Have a safe weekend,

Mrs Bracken

### **PARENTS EVENING VIRTUAL**

Parents Evening will be taking place on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February. We will be using the same system we used in October last year (School Cloud). Booking information will be sent out w/c 8<sup>th</sup> February. The appointments last for 10 minutes from your start time. You must press start at the beginning, after ten minutes the appointment will end.

### **BOOKS THAT HELP CHILDREN STAY SAFE, CALM, CONNECTED AND HOPEFUL**

The Reading Agency have compiled a list of books to help with this [on the website](#)

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

We have downloaded a few of the titles that can be read online here: [Books that help children stay safe, calm, connected and hopeful | Discover more reads | Coventry City Council](#)

The wider collection can be viewed on our online catalogue [www.coventry.gov.uk/onlinecatalogue](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/onlinecatalogue) and books can be requested from Central Library by calling 02476 832314 or book an appointment via the online form: [www.coventry.gov.uk/requestlibrarybookbundle](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/requestlibrarybookbundle)

**Together, apart** by Marina Carbone is also available as an e-book. For information on e-books, e-audiobooks, e-newspapers and e-magazines for all ages and interests to borrow for free: [www.coventry.gov.uk/ebooks](http://www.coventry.gov.uk/ebooks)

To join the library complete the [online form](#)

### **CHILD ILLNESS/CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCES**

Please notify the school if your child is ill or there are any changes in your personal circumstances (ie bereavement) and they are unable to complete the Home Learning. We do not expect your child to do home learning if they are poorly. Many thanks.

### **FROG CHECK IN**

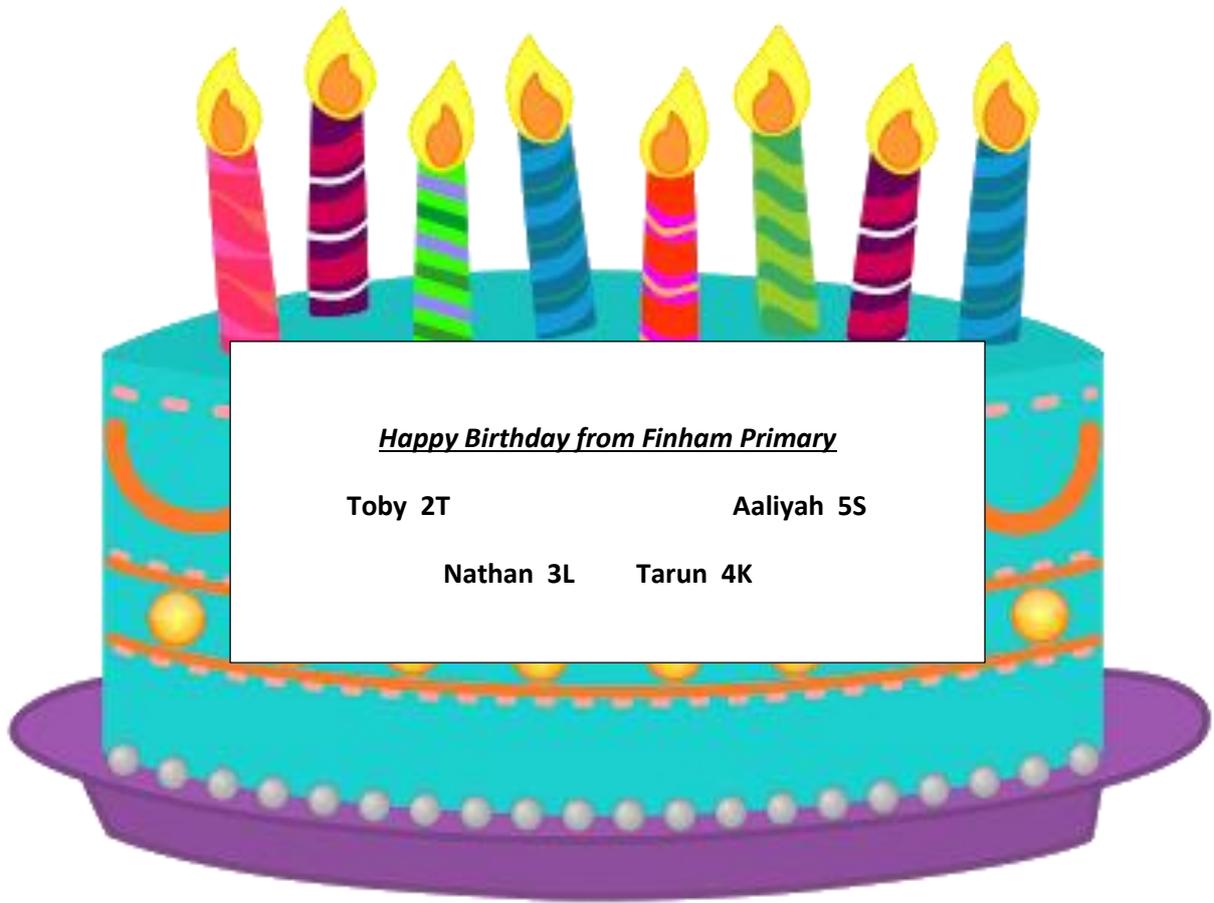
Please can we remind you to get your child to complete the ‘Check In’ forms on their Frog pages. Thank you.

### **COVID SYMPTOMS**

#### **What are the symptoms of coronavirus?**

One, or more, of the following:

- High temperature – this means feeling hot to touch on the chest or back
- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Loss of change to smell or taste – meaning not being able to smell or taste anything or things smell or taste different to normal.



**Happy Birthday from Finham Primary**

**Toby 2T**

**Aaliyah 5S**

**Nathan 3L**

**Tarun 4K**