



Diocese of Salisbury
Academy Trust
'Beyond expectations for all of God's children'

Hi All, Welcome to a weekly 'how are we all doing?' collage board.

Thank you to the many people who contributed to this week's bulletin...you are all just amazing.

This week saw 'thank a teacher...thank all our school staff' day.

In tribute to you all, and all that you are doing to make a difference in the lives of our children and their families, please sit back, and take a moment to breathe in the wonderful acts of kindness and care from across all our schools – we certainly are, each and every day, going beyond expectations.

Thank you.

From Mark:

'Thank you' is definitely the phrase of the week. Jane has collated so many 'thank you' messages in putting this bulletin together, it is almost overwhelming – in an emotional and positive way! I have heard almost all of these stories, and so many more, in recent weeks but seeing them all in one place just brings it all home. Hopefully our slightly crazy video earlier in the week conveyed some of our genuine gratitude. We hear some disappointing things in the media sometimes; we hear a lot of political rhetoric; sometimes our profession is presented, or even portrays itself, in a negative light. If we can all live in the good of the stories that follow here, we can block out the other 'noise' and be thankful for all the good that there is.

In the New Testament, Jesus healed ten people who were stricken with leprosy, a gruesome disease (Luke 17:11).

It tells us when they came to Jesus that 'they stood at a distance'! We know something about that. Sadly, only one of those people came back and said, 'thank you'. That is just 10%. We often take so many things for granted.

I hope you can find time over this bank holiday weekend to say 'thank you' to God for all the good that he has provided for us: love, life, hope, Jesus. I also hope that by the time you have finished reading these few pages here (it won't take long, I promise!), that you will be clear that you have been thanked. We are all nervous about what the next few weeks might bring; there is not as much certainty as we would all like to have; but we can continue to be thankful for one another and for the privilege that is ours to serve our nation's children.

Thank you.

**"BETTER THAN A THOUSAND
DAYS OF DILIGENT STUDY
IS ONE DAY WITH A GREAT
TEACHER."**

JAPANESE PROVERB

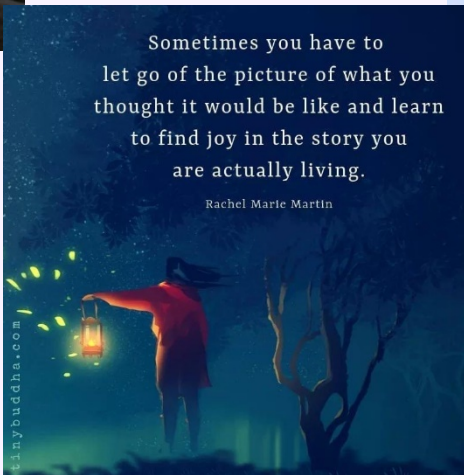
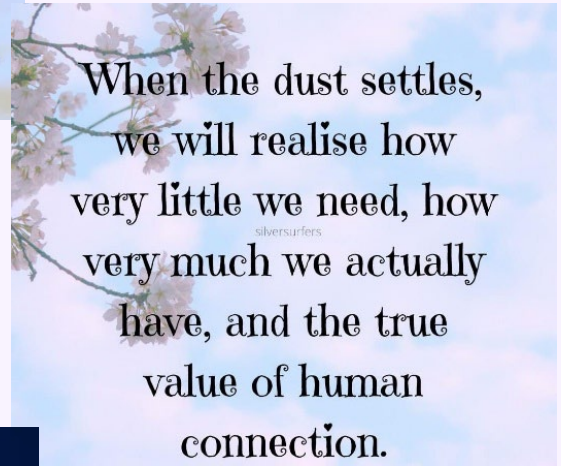
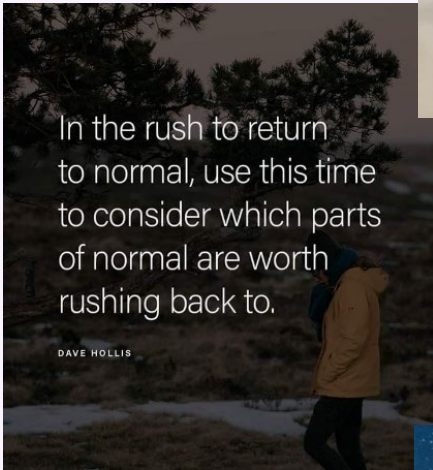
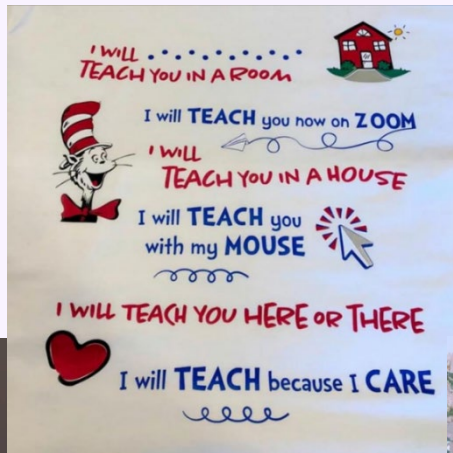


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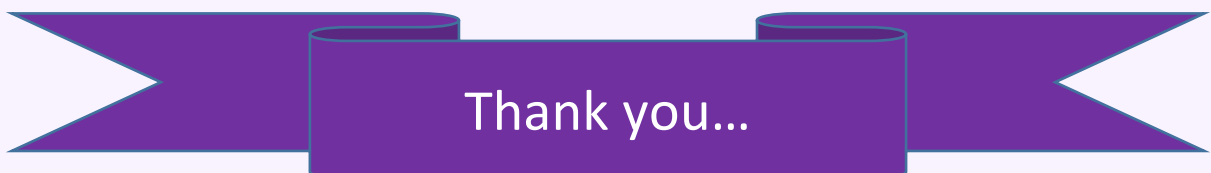
**I WASN'T BORN TO
"JUST TEACH"**

**I WAS BORN TO INSPIRE OTHERS,
TO CHANGE PEOPLE,
AND TO NEVER GIVE UP;
EVEN WHEN FACED WITH
CHALLENGES THAT
SEEM IMPOSSIBLE.**

**WE ARE
TEACHERS**



Time to reflect...



For the difference you are all making, each and every day.

I would like to thank all my staff; they have all been amazing - every single one.
Headteacher

I have been overwhelmed by the way in which staff have stepped up in this time of need. We have had such support from all quarters, and it is difficult to single out individuals.
Headteacher

Thank you to our wonderful administration staff...

- ❖ HR administrator - she joined us two weeks before the lockdown and is teaching weekly French lessons on Zoom to our children.
- ❖ Our admin officer woke up at 5am to personally register free school meal voucher accounts on behalf of parents that did not have the capacity.
- ❖ A member of office staff organised food rescue parcels when the food bank referral system got stuck, then came in to make sure they were delivered to families.
- ❖ Our office administrator has worked throughout the closure - navigating and organising FSM vouchers and keeping on top of correspondence as well as the daily communication with the DfE to upload the register.
- ❖ Office staff working all hours to sort vouchers out for certain parents who were struggling.

Just a few, of the many examples of going above and beyond...thank you.

Thank you to our steadfast teaching assistants & support staff:

- ♥ One of our TAs speaks to a child with emotional needs every day on Zoom, including Saturdays and Sundays.
- ♥ TAs volunteering to be available any day, any time once we open.
- ♥ A TA who has supported a vulnerable family by walking to her back garden and reading with her every day, continuing with her SaLT intervention and providing adult chat with the parent.
- ♥ My two pastoral workers – have worked throughout the time - they began the closure by delivering food to FSM families. Since then they have called vulnerable families weekly and maintained contact with some of the most anxious of children.
- ♥ I would like to say a special thank you to two of our support staff for their endeavours with the voucher schemes - they have spent hours ensuring our families are looked after. Their foresight and planning has ensured our families have always been looked after. They have written social stories for the children, made video messages from our school dog and created a Trust bereavement policy.
- ♥ ELSA supporting vulnerable families, phoning, dropping equipment (safely!)
- ♥ TA who works weekends and evenings to maintain social media and keep communication with parents.
- ♥ TA who has produced, in her own time, social stories for every 'bubble' who are returning after half term.
- ♥ ELSA who takes a dog walking route deliberately past specific houses so children can see her and wave.
- ♥ Our after-school care staff, stepping in to do whatever is needed during the daytime.
- ♥ Senior midday supervisor delivering lunches to families who couldn't pick them up.

We thank you all. You make a difference in the lives of others.

Our dedicated cleaning & site management teams:

- Our cleaner was prepared to clean every day once provision moved to a central school - and still tried to say she owed hours!
- Our site manager who has stoically been opening the school, as well as ensuring appropriate cleaning standards are maintained.
- Our cleaner - she is a trooper anyway, but she has been working hard at the central provision. She deserves a massive 'thank you'.
- Our site manager who has continued to work at the school site ensuring all is ready for our return, even looking after our chickens.

Thank you, for your diligence and support.

Our devoted teachers:

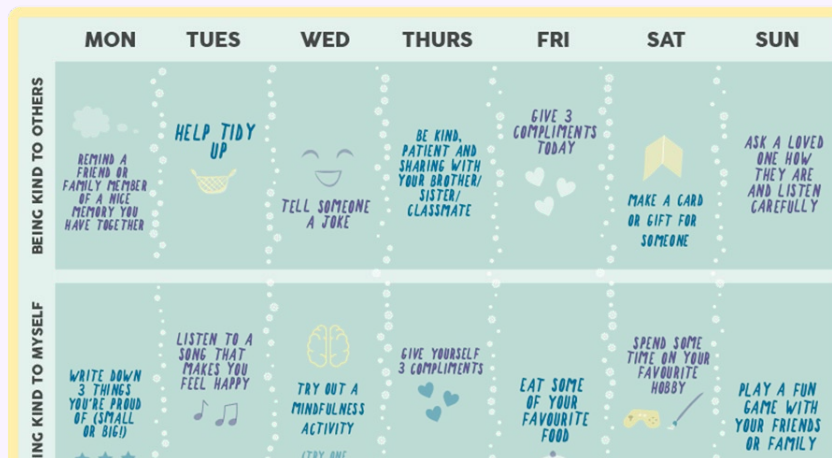
- Teachers needing to be reined in so that they didn't give too much and overwhelm parents (they just want to teach!)
- I'd like to mention one of my teachers who has phoned a child whose dad has sadly passed away. She has phoned him every couple of days to check in and have a chat, even at the weekend.
- A teacher who dropped into childcare to check on a vulnerable child who was having a hard time. Thank you.
- A teacher who went to buy a child a pair of shoes and a jumper for childcare, because he didn't come in a pair of shoes that matched or fitted and didn't have a jumper on a breezy day - and mum and dad aren't coping....
- NQT emailing HT to say she was worried about her having too many parents to contact regarding YR coming back in and could she do some of this to lighten the load. Thank you.

Our caring staff:

- Our school leaders, ensuring that the school always has a senior leader on site - they have been instrumental in organising the rota of provision throughout. And to be honest - I could not have stayed sane without any of them.
- SLT stepping in to manage childcare while HT is not able to be in close contact with others.
- Part time staff working additional hours voluntarily to help out – thank you.
- New temporary staff volunteering for additional cover on childcare rota.
- Teachers and TAs volunteering to cover childcare at Easter and Bank Holidays – thank you.
- Teachers and TAs volunteering to cover childcare when colleagues' children are unwell, or a family bereavement occurred. Thank you.
- Staff checking in on each other (and their HT!)

♥ Thank you

In celebration of Mental Health Awareness Week 2020 and the theme of kindness, we are encouraging primary schools to get mentally healthy by spreading a little kindness.



<https://mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/media/2036/seven-days-of-kindness-calendar.pdf>



<https://10daysofhappiness.org/>

Take care everyone.

Friends are like stars; you don't have to see them to know they are there.