



## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, we have all been engaging in **Children's Mental Health Week**. The theme **'Express Yourself'** has certainly been seen in the live sessions today, and I can only thank you once again for supporting your children in this. Please see the letter attached regarding this week from Pace2Be. We all know and understand that our pupils are facing very different times during this pandemic and we want to be able to do all we can to support them. Attached to the newsletter, is also a document with some tips to help you keep your children safe as they express themselves online. We hope that this is useful for you all. If you feel that your child is struggling, please do get in touch with us at school and we will do all we can to help. Our school counsellor can also offer us advice and support.

We are now hearing about more and more people who have received the vaccine, which is great news. We all want to look forward and think about a time when we have more freedom to do the things we have missed for so long. One idea is to create your Bottle Moment. This may be something you would like to do as a family.

<https://www.bottlemoments.com>

# Bottle Moments

DRAWING YOUR DREAMS.

## WHAT IS YOUR BOTTLE MOMENT?

Having hope helps us keep going when things are really hard. Your Bottle Moment is the one thing you'd most like to do again when everything is better and back to normal. It could be a friend you'd most like to see, a place you'd most like to go, a hobby you'd most like to get back to, or simply getting a hug from someone special.

Right now, the Covid-19 pandemic is particularly taking its toll on children. This is why we are calling all **KIDS** to draw their **Bottle Moments!**



I have attached the templates to the email. Have a go and share some of your ideas on Google Classroom. We would love to share some of them on Twitter.

## SHARE YOUR PHOTOS

Over the next week, as part of your daily walks, **please take photos and upload them onto Google Classroom.** We all know that walking and exercise is good for our mental health and if you see something interesting on your walk, it would be lovely to share this with others. Perhaps this is a sunset, a view from the park, an interesting building – it would be lovely to share some views with one another.

I am continuing to say a huge well done to all parents and older siblings who are supporting the learning at home. We understand how difficult it can be with balancing your work commitments and daily life. We understand that at times, you cannot do everything and that there will be days when life can take over. The teachers all know that you are trying your best and whatever your personal circumstances, we think that you are all doing a great job.

We are continuing to source further devices for our families while we wait for the support promised from the Department of Education. You will have seen from our fundraising pages that we managed to raise £302 as a result of Mr Fashugba wearing his school uniform and £1,710 for our laptop and electronic device fundraising page. Thank you so much to the following people for donating to our laptop fundraising page:

- Rincy Tharayil
- Karolina Wroblewska
- Agnieszka Dec
- Thi Pham
- Miles Richardson
- Tra-my Nguyen
- Ranso Tharayil
- Brenda Scales
- Grace Webster
- Jodie Silo
- Brian Bradley
- Michael McDaid
- Anton Marku
- Gareth Cunnew

Thank you to the anonymous donors too! All donations contributed to our overall amount and have made a huge difference. A special thank you to Michael McDaid who donated £1,000. We were overwhelmed with the generosity and this has enabled us to order 15 chrome books. Although there is a delay in these devices coming in due to demand, we will be able to distribute these as soon as they arrive.

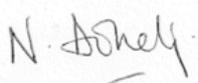
Finally, I would like to thank the wonderful staff we have working at St Joseph's. Teachers, Support Staff, our Cleaning team, our Cook – they are all working so hard to ensure things keep running as smoothly as they can and we would be lost without each and every one of them so thank you all very much for ALL that you are doing! We continue to have members of staff who are self-isolating and we thank staff for stepping in and supporting and covering different roles whilst we work though things together.

We are continuing to keep you all in our thoughts and our prayers at this difficult time. If you need any support, please do contact us and we will do all we can to support you.

Please remember that we will break up for half term on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February. Remote Learning will begin again on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Thank you for your continued support. Stay safe everyone.

Best Wishes



@StJosephsSE8



@StJosephsDeptford

Miss Nicola Doherty (Headteacher)



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