



# Newsletter 1 – 1st February 2021

Together we live and learn  
in the light of God

## What is coming up ...

- Mon 2nd Feb – Local Governing Committee Meeting
- Mon 8th Feb – start of Internet Safety Week
- Fri 12th Feb – end of half term
- Mon 15th Feb – half term week

## Lent and Pancakes!

On Wednesday 17th Feb, the church season of Lent starts. If we were all together in school we would be marking this with an event as it is an important part of the build up to Easter. However, this year we will have to do things differently.

A popular event in this country to mark the start of Lent is to make pancakes. You can read more about this tradition here [Countdown To Easter](#). So we would like to have some pancake fun and set you all a challenge!

We would like you to get creative in the kitchen and make some tasty pancakes ... then take a photo of you cooking and flipping them! We will put all of the photos together into a school mini-movie for the school website to mark this special time of year. Please send photos to class teachers.

## Action For Happiness

Action for Happiness is a charity with a great website and app that you can use to access when you need a bit of a positive boost. Things are tricky for us all in lockdown, so we need to make sure we look after ourselves.

The charity has a calendar of actions that you can use if you need a bit of inspiration – this month is Friendly February. It gives lots of ideas on how to

stay connected with friends and family at this tricky time. You can see the calendar below, or download the Action For Happiness app or go to the website for more information: <https://www.actionforhappiness.org/calendars>



## ACTION CALENDAR: FRIENDLY FEBRUARY 2021



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>1</b> Send someone a message to say how much they mean to you	<b>2</b> Ask a friend how they have been feeling recently	<b>3</b> Do an act of kindness to make life easier for someone else	<b>4</b> Organise a virtual 'tea break' with colleagues or friends	<b>5</b> Show an active interest by asking questions when talking to others	<b>6</b> Get back in touch with an old friend you've not seen for a while	<b>7</b> Make an effort to have a friendly chat with a neighbour
<b>8</b> Share what you're feeling with someone you really trust	<b>9</b> Thank someone and tell them how they made a difference for you	<b>10</b> Look for the good in people, even when they frustrate you	<b>11</b> Send an encouraging note to someone who needs a boost	<b>12</b> Focus on being kind rather than being right	<b>13</b> Send a friendly message of support to a local business	<b>14</b> Tell your loved ones why they are special to you
<b>15</b> Smile at the people you see and brighten their day	<b>16</b> Check in on someone who may be struggling and offer to help	<b>17</b> Respond kindly to everyone you talk to today, including yourself	<b>18</b> Appreciate the good qualities of someone in your life	<b>19</b> Share a video or message you find inspiring or helpful	<b>20</b> Make a plan to connect with others and do something fun	<b>21</b> Actively listen to what people say, without judging them
<b>22</b> Give sincere compliments to people you talk to today	<b>23</b> Be gentle with someone who you feel inclined to criticise	<b>24</b> Tell a loved one about their strengths that you value most	<b>25</b> Thank three people you feel grateful to and tell them why	<b>26</b> Give positive comments to as many people as possible today	<b>27</b> Call a friend to catch up and really listen to them	<b>28</b> Make uninterrupted time for your loved ones



**"The best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer somebody else up" - Mark Twain**



**"The only way to have a friend is to be one" - Ralph Waldo Emerson**

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS







[www.actionforhappiness.org](http://www.actionforhappiness.org)

**Happier · Kinder · Together**

Learn more about this month's theme at [www.actionforhappiness.org/friendly-february](http://www.actionforhappiness.org/friendly-february)

## Chromebooks

If you are struggling to access learning at home through unsuitable devices e.g. phones or unreliable laptops – please get in touch as we may be able to help. We have some Chromebooks that we can loan to children so they can access work independently and keep on track with their learning.

## Harry Potter Night – TONIGHT!

Get your cloaks on and join Hull Libraries and some very special guests for an enchanting evening of storytelling, crafting, potion making and a whole host of magical mayhem celebrating Harry Potter Book Night!

All of their events are taking place online this year – and they're all free!

Most of the activities will be delivered via Zoom and are suitable for families with children aged 8+ yrs ... but they have some stuff to keep the little ones happy too.

You can find out more and book tickets here: [Harry Potter Night!](#)

# Harry Potter

## First News

First News is a newspaper written for children aged 7–14 and it is really popular across the country. To support families during this period of lockdown they have just announced that they will share their digital version of First News for free. To access this, click here:

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/free-downloadable-issue/>

They have also linked up with Sky TV to produce a news programme for older children which you can access here: [First News FYI Programme](#)

Their website also has lots of interesting things to read and watch including Positivity Page and Isolation Station: <https://live.firstnews.co.uk/>

**FirstNews**  
NEWS TO GET YOUNG PEOPLE TALKING

## School Assessment Update

The government has made some amendments to the testing that happens in primary schools for this academic year. All statutory tests such as the Y1 Phonics Screening, and KS1 and KS2 SATs have been cancelled.

However this does not affect the teaching and learning we do. We still need to make sure the children continue learning this year – during lockdown and when schools fully open again for all children.

Once the children all return to school we will be assessing children and then adapting plans for them to ensure we continue to meet their academic, social and emotional needs to help the children be the best learners they can be.

## Prayer



This week some parents have talked to me about how anxious they are about the impact of Covid-19 and how it might affect their family. It is a difficult time but if we keep working hard to look after each other, to keep looking after ourselves and keep putting our trust in God we will have the strength to carry on to a better time. Take care, from Mrs Devaney

Dear Lord, we ask you to strengthen us when we are struggling to see a way through and for your peace to surround us when we are worried. Thank you for the unconditional love you show to us all; it gives us hope for the better times that will come. Amen

# CORONAVIRUS

TAKE: CARE 

NOTICE 

ACTION 

# KEEP HULL COVID-19 SAFE

TAKE: CARE 

Follow the latest advice

- **Keep your distance** – follow the latest social distance guidance
- **Wash your hands** frequently, using soap, for at least 20 seconds
- **Wear a face covering** when necessary

TAKE: NOTICE 

Look out for symptoms

- **Know the Coronavirus symptoms** – so you know if you or one of your family or friends may have Coronavirus
- **Symptoms currently include:** high temperature; a new, continuous cough; a loss or change to your sense of taste and smell

TAKE: ACTION 

Got symptoms? Get tested

- **Get tested** – as soon as possible if you or someone in your household has any of the symptoms
- **Stay at home** – if you have symptoms or have been asked to self-isolate because someone you've had contact with has tested positive



[hull.gov.uk](http://hull.gov.uk)  
#HullTogether

supported by



ST JAMES'  
CE ACADEMY