

# THE LIZARD

West Moors Middle School

Summer Term 2020



## Message from the Headteacher, Dr D Craddock

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Thank you so much for all your hard work and dedication, supporting your children's learning during this very challenging time. We recognise that juggling work commitments, childcare and home learning is not easy and we appreciate that everyone is doing their very best, supporting each other. We hope that the 'live' online lessons, weekly home learning resources on the school's website, weekly phone calls, Twitter updates (@west\_moors), daily emails to children and responsive support from my staff team have helped you and your child to navigate through these unprecedented times.

As we begin our journey out of lockdown I would just like to thank you all again, our wonderful children, parents/ carers, Governors and my superhero team for everything you have all done to keep spirits up, enabling us to begin to all be back together. I am so proud of all our Year 6 and Keyworker children who have adapted and taken all the new yellow lines and arrows in their stride! Parents/ carers have been understanding and so encouraging of our new school look and the feedback has yet again been overwhelming. We are so pleased that children all feel safe and welcomed back to our lovely school without the worry of the new procedures we have had to put in place. Equally we are very proud of all the home learners who are still putting their efforts into their education- even when the sun is out we are still getting some wonderful learning completed! We miss you all and are very much looking forward to seeing you all soon when the time comes.

### FARESHARE FOOD BANK

Our wonderful team are still working behind the scenes to provide support and we are still working closely with Fareshare to provide help to those in need. Fareshare takes good quality surplus food from right across the food industry and get it to almost 11,000 frontline charities and community groups. It has been able to continue a full national operation to get food to vulnerable people during the COVID-19 crisis. As a result, we have been really grateful as this has helped to support some of our families.

We are all in this together and our school community has grown closer even though we cannot be with each other yet.

Thank you all. ...AND FINALLY

Stay Safe and take good care.

With love,

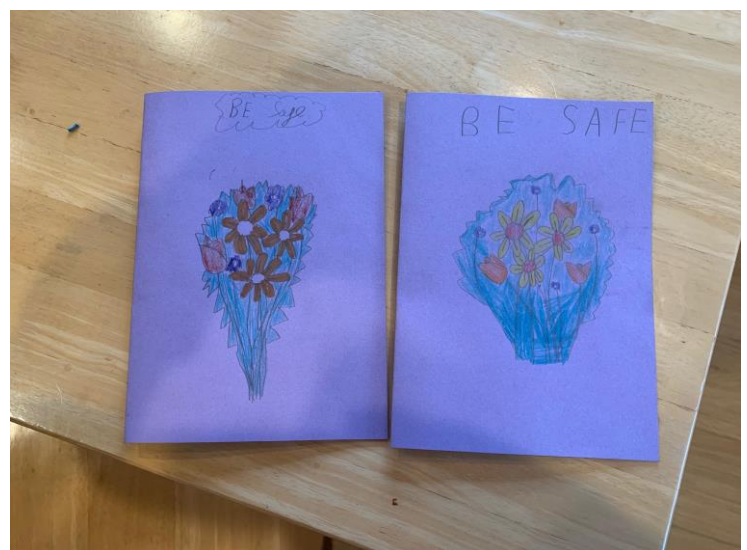
Dr Deborah Craddock and all the staff at West Moors Middle School

## Year 5 what we've been doing at home

It looks like Erin and Tyler from Year 5 have been getting busy in the kitchen with these fabulous creations! Well done you two- they look delicious! Thank you so much for sharing your pictures with us.



Edward drawing a bunch of flowers to send to his Nana and Grandma.



# LIFE WITHOUT DREAMS



Life without dreams  
Is an empty drawer



Life without dreams  
Is a closed door



Life without dreams  
Is an unfinished picture



Life without dreams  
Is an abandoned mixture



Life with dreams  
Is a musical show



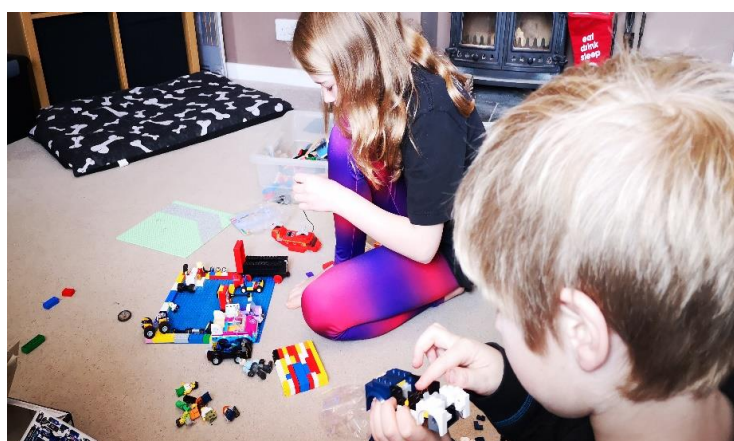
Life with dreams  
Is a colourful rainbow

Jenna (5SB)



## Year 6

Sarah Linford in year 6 has been very busy during lockdown. Here are some of the incredible activities she has been doing at home. Well done Sarah.



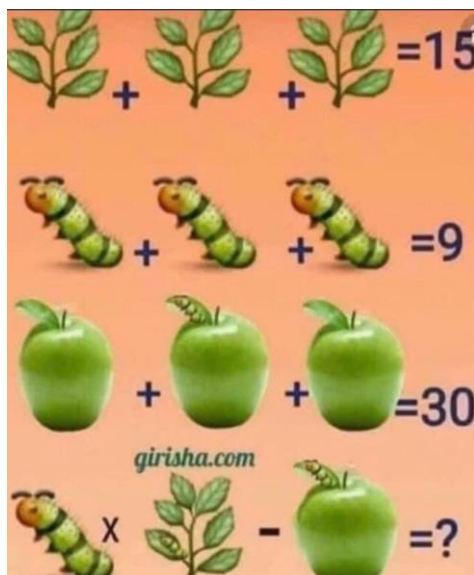
## Chameleon HQ

Our children in Years 5, 6 and 7 have been taking part in lots of fun educational activities, including biscuit decorating and food creations which allowed us to put our maths and creative skills to the test! We measured how much icing sugar was needed for the biscuits and created a delicious treat. We also used our Maths skills to complete fun equations and problems, working together to figure out the answers.

Collaborating as a team, we constructed a fantastic Lego community which consisted of cars, houses and even building a school. For Science, the skittle experiment was suggested by one of our year 5 students, and we were not going to say no! We placed our Skittles in a pattern on a plate and then poured warm water over them until they were covered. In a few seconds, the experiment revealed the colours of the Skittles merging into the centre, creating block colours on the plate. Once the experiment had finished, the students swirled the colours together and called this lava water. After an hour, we checked the Skittles to see if their shells had dissolved. We saw that not only had the shells dissolved, but the whole skittle was gone! We didn't expect that!

Skittles are coated in food colouring and sugar. We learnt that when you pour water over the Skittles the coloured coating dissolves spreading through the water. The colour and sugar dissolve into the water and then diffuse through the water, making it the colour of the skittle.

Excitedly, we all built our own den, enabling us to create our own safe space in Ferndown Upper School. We were allowed to bring items from West Moors Middle School to Ferndown Upper School which helped to make the transition slightly easier. Bringing things with us means we are keeping West Moors Middle School in mind and are looking forward to our return.





## Childcare Provision at Ferndown Upper School

At Ferndown Upper School, the children thoroughly enjoyed a two day Lego Marathon, building a lego city. They created different machines and gadgets (see, below) and great fun was had by all! -Mrs Cope



### Year 8

Caitlin really enjoyed this week's DT/cookery lesson. She used chicken instead of fish. They tasted delicious!

Mrs Izzard



## Stick Insects

I would like to introduce our resident stick insects who live in The Hive. We have 5 stick insects: 3 Indian (green) and 2 Vietnamese (red). Their names are Plank, Stick, Sticky, Twig and Twiggy. We have had the stick insects since January when they were only one inch long. They are now four inches long and grew too big for their net enclosure. Luckily, Miss Sibley had a fish tank that we could use and they are really enjoying the extra space.

The stick insects were being looked after by Thomas and Dylan in Year 7 who were doing an amazing job keeping them clean and handling them so they got used to us. Now we are back in WMMS we are making a larger, permanent enclosure for them to live in and hopefully produce more stick insects for our students to study and enjoy in the future. Watch this space!

Mrs James



## DT Lesson at home

Siobhan in Year 8 has built a cat tree house with just a little help from her dad and grandad.

Well done Siobhan- this looks amazing! Your cats are very lucky.





## Year 8

We are so incredibly proud of all our students throughout the school and with your support they have been producing some very impressive work!

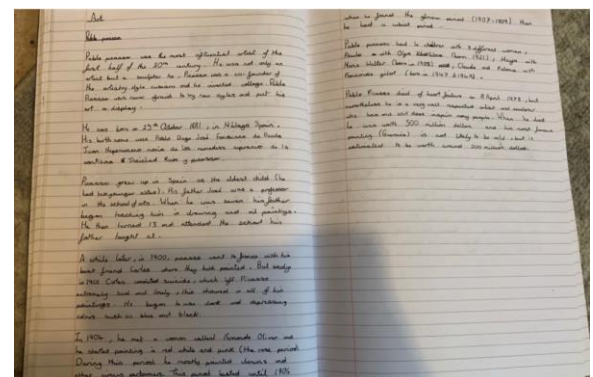
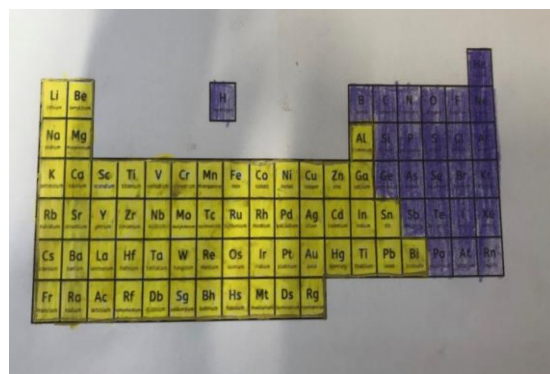
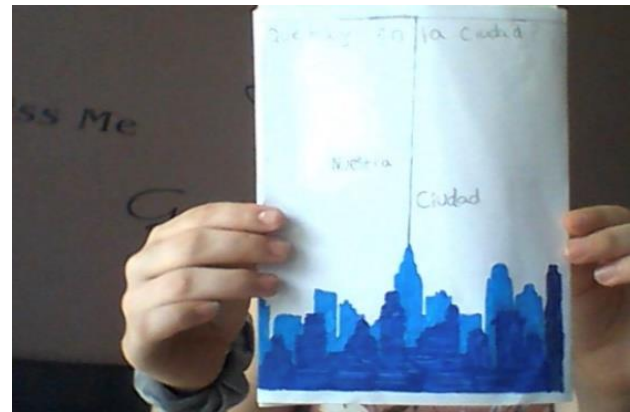
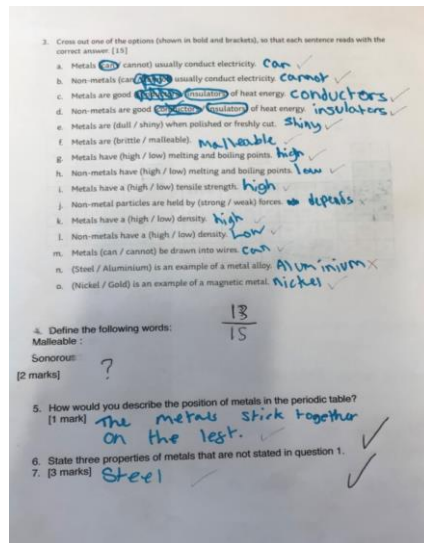
Our year 8s have been completing some incredible work during this extremely challenging time and they should be extremely proud of themselves.

This includes Art projects, Science, engineering projects for all year groups where we had some very impressive entries, story writing, exercise challenges where one student exercised (under strict social distancing) for 100 miles in the space of 3 days with walking, running and cycling! They have studied Maths and English, languages and so much more!

One of our students has had a litter of puppies during lockdown and has spent her time caring for them as she studied!

We are so proud of every single child, every effort and achievement they make and we want the very best for them.

We are looking forward to the day we can all be together again. Mrs Tomlinson



E-Mail

.sch.uk





### Online Education Provision

As a school, we were incredibly proud to share that we were the first school in the Ferndown cluster to provide children with a daily structured timetable with 'live' registration, virtual assemblies and 'live' lessons every day in core subjects. These 'live' lessons continue daily for all children in Years 5, 7 and 8 with my Year 6 team delivering face-to-face lessons in school. In addition, online 'live' tutorial support is provided daily in Maths by Mrs Ward to Year 6 children who are shielding or have chosen to continue their learning from home with all children encouraged to email their tutors/ teachers if they have any queries or need any additional support. We have also registered children on the 'Be Ready' virtual learning platform to access personal development and careers courses as well as additional curriculum resources. In the weeks ahead, teachers will be guiding our children to access important KS3 curriculum content via the Be Ready platform and we are in weekly contact with the website designers to support their continued progress and development.

As a team, we have been committed to building on our current online education provision to make it the best that it can be. We understand that there are children who have to share or have limited access to ICT resources and so we are continuing to provide curriculum packs for children in each Year group that can be collected from Reception. Presently, we are also trying to source funding for ICT equipment to loan and support families in need- we will notify parents/ carers if we have any positive news. In the meantime, we will continue to do all we can to support and facilitate our children's knowledge and development during these challenging times and are working on curriculum plans to support children's educational development between now and when school fully re-opens.

### LEARNING REVIEWS - SUMMER TERM

We are pleased to inform you that we are planning to hold telephone learning review appointments for ALL children week commencing 6th July from 3.00pm - 4.30pm. These will be an opportunity to celebrate children's achievements this year, to identify ongoing targets and share awards. Although we have been apart from one another for some time, there is still much to celebrate and to look forward to. Please be aware that the dates and times that we are proposing are based on the current staffing levels around the children that we currently have in attendance at school. Should the Government change their advice on which year groups should be attending school before 6th July, we would need to review our plan to ensure that your child's teacher will still be available to call you. Therefore the booking system will not open until Monday 22nd June when we hope that there will be more clarity from the Government. Appointments should be made via email ([office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk)) and more details will follow. We also appreciate that you have spent a lot of time working alongside your child on the Home Learning Platforms and therefore we understand entirely if you feel you do not need a learning review appointment. In the meantime, please make a note of the dates in your diary. As always, if you have anything more pertinent that you wish to discuss, then please don't hesitate to get in touch.



### NATIONAL BOOK TOKENS

We have a chance to win £5,000 worth of books for our lovely school library, please follow the link [here](#) to find out more. There is also a design a book token competition and a writing competition so good luck team and let us know how you get on!



## Covid-19 Home School Agreement

Don't forget to get your completed Covid- 19 Home School Agreement back in to school. You can post in the black post-box in Reception or send a photo of your completed leaflet via email to [office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk)

## E-Safety

**internetmatters.org** is a not-for-profit organisation that has a simple purpose – to empower parents and carers to keep children safe in the digital world. There are some excellent resources for our children and parents/ carers to access to keep all of our children safe. Here are the key links:

Year 5 and Year 6 See, <https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/primary/>

Year 7 and Year 8 See, <https://www.internetmatters.org/schools-esafety/secondary/>

## Pond Renovations

As an exciting development, we are in the process of renovating our pond area so it can be a vibrant, outdoor learning environment for children to benefit from- not just in Science but in all subjects! Over the past 10 years it has become full of brambles so looking ahead, we wanted that to change as it has the potential to be the most incredible learning resource! Here are a few photos of the area cleared of brambles with a new perimeter fencing. As more changes take place, I'll add photos to our school's Twitter feed (@west\_moors), so watch this space...!





## Healthy Lunches

We are a 'Healthy School' which means that food served in our canteen, when it opens, complies with Government requirements, ensuring that we provide nutritious and balanced meals for our students. We would like all parents/ carers to support us in maintaining this by ensuring that packed lunches contain fruit and healthy snacks e.g. baked crisps, cereal bars etc. Please support our healthy school ethos when packing your child's lunch as fizzy drinks, chocolate bars, sweets and nuts are not allowed in school.



## Parking

Many thanks to all our parents/ carers who when visiting the school, dropping children off in the morning or collecting children at the end of the school day, in line with the 'Covid-19 School Risk Assessment' have parked their cars on Heathfield Way or in the surrounding roads and encouraged their child to walk into school. Your support with this has been invaluable to help keep our children safe.

If your child has a disability or an additional need that requires him/ her to be dropped off each morning on site to facilitate transition, Mrs Wallis has prepared some parking permits for parents/ carers to collect from Reception. If you feel that you need a car parking permit to facilitate drop offs and collections from school please can you email [office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk)



Twitter

What have you missed recently...?

See, [TWITTER LINK](#)

## IMPORTANT DATES

LEARNING REVIEWS Week commencing 6th July 2020—15.00 - 16.30

Break up for school summer holidays Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

INSET DAY Monday 20th July 2020