



OPJS Newsletter

Friday 29th January 2021
Academic Year 2020-2021



Dear Parent/Carer,

Following Wednesday's news from the Prime Minister and now that the dust has settled I thought it best to write to you again with an update regarding learning, home or in school, as well as everything OPJS! Here goes!

OPJS Update

- 📌 We have commenced our COVID Lateral Testing for our staff which take place twice a week. All is going well and it is rather an interesting experience to say the least! Needless to say, we continue to monitor and we will of course be in touch if anything 'crops up'!
- 📌 It has been super once again this week to catch up, albeit virtually, with everybody on our Zoom assemblies. Indeed, I have seen an eclectic mix of hobbies that make us happy, ranging from drumming to gymnastics and Lego through to paper plane making! Fantastic! Please note that is expected that children do attend the assembly as it is part of the school day. Furthermore, please do use it as an opportunity for a cheeky cuppa and break as it's fair to say that you will have definitely earned it!
- 📌 Linked to the above, we also have discussed the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch which starts today. Please do head to <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/> to find out more as well as look at the email that I sent earlier this week. I have included the instructions for making a bird feeder as well as the bird spotter sheet at the end of the newsletter.
- 📌 Don't forget that we have the last OPJS Bookswap next Thursday!
- 📌 Below is a reminder regarding the survey that I sent out earlier this week and many thanks to those of you have completed it already. On that, we have decided to go 'off-piste' with our curriculum over the next couple of weeks in that we will be holding 'Do something different day' on Friday 5th February and celebrating Chinese New Year on Friday 12th February. As always details will be on the Children section of our school's website: <https://www.oldfieldparkjuniorschool.com/918/curriculum-overview>



Remote Learning Survey

I am hoping that you will have seen my email regarding our Remote Learning Survey. Indeed, it has been difficult for us all over the past few weeks as we have all settled into a new routine, whether it be remote learning or in 'school provision'. We have been conscious to ensure a balance and make it as straightforward as possible for everybody involved. I think we have just about got there and a huge well done must go to our children and amazing staff. However, this doesn't mean that we don't want to

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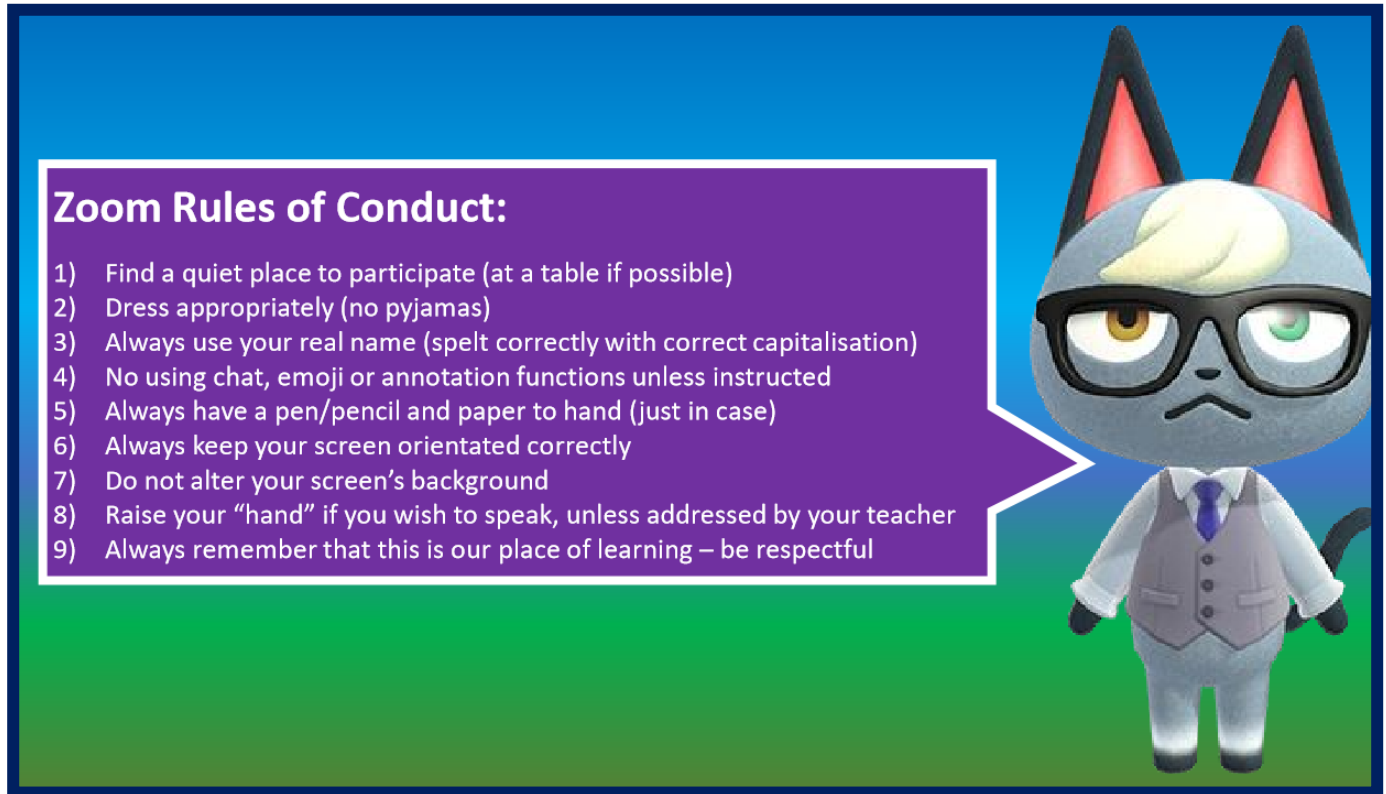
improve our provision, listen to feedback and support you as much as possible. To that end I would be most grateful if you could spend a few minutes completing the survey below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=OvL4GRifPECm359Xzu9nRdSe1udI2ORFt3a2CuoseeVUNTVSMEJFM1pYRkhTMDdSSzhMSk9MUDIQNC4u>

Your views are welcomed and appreciated and be assured that we will act swiftly on any feedback received. The form will remain open until Monday 1st February and many thanks to you in taking time to complete the survey.

Zoom reminder

Find below a reminder of our Zoom expectations that we sent out last week.



Zoom Rules of Conduct:

- 1) Find a quiet place to participate (at a table if possible)
- 2) Dress appropriately (no pyjamas)
- 3) Always use your real name (spelt correctly with correct capitalisation)
- 4) No using chat, emoji or annotation functions unless instructed
- 5) Always have a pen/pencil and paper to hand (just in case)
- 6) Always keep your screen orientated correctly
- 7) Do not alter your screen's background
- 8) Raise your "hand" if you wish to speak, unless addressed by your teacher
- 9) Always remember that this is our place of learning – be respectful

Dates for the diary

Just a few reminders:

- 📅 **Friday 29th January – Sunday 31st January: RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch**
- 📅 **Thursday 4th February: OPJS Bookswap – usual timings 😊**
- 📅 **Friday 5th February: OPJS 'Do something different day'**
- 📅 **Friday 12th February: Chinese New Year Day and End of Term 3**
- 📅 **Monday 22nd February: Start of Term 4**
- 📅 **Friday 5th March: INSET Day**

And finally,

Once again thank you so much for your support as we enter a new phase through to the 8th March at least. Please do try and have a peaceful and restful weekend, take care and stay safe.

With every good wish,

Mr Dave Goucher

Headteacher.

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Orange Bird Feeders

What I need

1 Large Orange
4 wooden skewers
Garden Twine or wool
Bird seed
Raisins or other dried fruit
A slice of bread
Cheese
Grater
A bowl to mix
Sharp knife
Chopping board
Dessert spoon
Apron or overall



What I need to do

1. Put on an apron or overall.
2. Using a sharp knife and chopping board cut your orange in half.
3. Now very carefully scrape the middle of the orange out of the skin using a dessert spoon. We found using an orange squeezer split the skin. You now have 2 small orange bowls!
4. Save the orange flesh and juice in a small bowl. You can eat this later.
5. Next pierce the skin of the orange with one of the wooden skewers and then out the other side.
6. Repeat this with a second skewer at right angles to the first so you form a cross in the middle of your orange bowl.
7. Get 4 pieces of wool or garden twine, all cut to the same length and tie a piece to each of the skewers. See the diagram above.
8. Repeat steps 5 – 7 with the second orange half of the orange.
9. Wash your hands.
10. Pour your birdseed into a mixing bowl.
11. If you wish add some extras to the mix, cut bread into little squares, add some dried fruit, maybe grate cheese, slice an apple or add some suet.
12. Use your hands or a large spoon to mix everything together.
13. Fill the orange bowl with the mix. Leftover mix can be saved in order to refill the feeders at a later date or spread onto the ground or a bird table.
14. Finally gather the 4 pieces of wool above the centre of the orange and tie so all pieces are the same length.
15. You are now ready to hang the feeders in your garden.

Don't forget to tidy everything away and wash your hands.

Chaffinch



Female

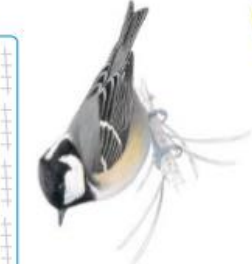
Male



Long-tailed tit



Coal tit



Collared dove



Goldfinch



Blue tit



Great tit



Starling



Greenfinch



Duncock



Female



Magpie



House sparrow

Male



Blackbird



Female

Woodpigeon



Robin



Big Garden Birdwatch

29-31 January 2021

These are some of the birds that you might see. You can use the tally to help you count. You'll find lots of tips on identifying birds as well as their calls at [rspb.org.uk/birdwatch](https://www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch)

The RSPB is a registered charity in England and Wales 207076, in Scotland SC037654. Illustrations by Mike Langman (rspb-images.com)