



The Grinling Gibbons and Lucas Vale Federation

Friday 15th January 2021

Dear Parents/Careers,

Follow us on twitter Lucas Vale Primary @lucasvaleps

Dear Parents,

I hope you all remain well through this troubled time. We can only push on; the end will come. In the last lockdown we had the beautiful sunny weather and long days to console us. Now with this new variant we are trapped in the cold dark and dreary days. The risk is such that we cannot open our schools, no matter how much we and the children would love to be back. Thank you so much for the messages of thanks and the support to our teachers and to our schools. It means a lot.

It is an honour to support our frontline and keyworkers at this time. You have been so understanding of our need to keep numbers to a safe limit and care for your children when you have been able. Thank you. Governors were quick to make sure that parents got vouchers long before the government got round to making up its mind. We will shortly be switching to Edenred vouchers which will give a much better choice of shops. If you are not in receipt of Free School Meals and your circumstances have changed or think you might be eligible, please do not stand on your pride. Fill in the form immediately at

[Lewisham Council - Free school meals and extra support for your child](#)

If you would like help with this- email Pastoral support @ admin@lucasvale.lewisham.sch.uk and we will help. We know there will be delays from bureaucracy, but Governors have instructed us to issue vouchers immediately to anyone who can show they have applied for FSM. Your children will not be kept waiting by dithering and delay.

A number of our parents have volunteered to donate, collate, and deliver food to any of our families who need a little help at present. Please bring any non-perishable food to the school. If you can help in any way, packing and delivering it- let us know. None of us are rich, I know, but if we help each other at this time we will all make it through. A warm heart and a giving hand are more precious than riches.

Our teachers have really stepped up to the mark tackling the new online platforms. This will never and can never replace face to face teaching, but it is the best the situation allows. Let us know if you are struggling because of the lack of a device. I promise we will get one to you – whatever it takes. In addition to the government laptops, we are stripping out and lending the school devices to any families who need one. The engagement across the schools has been high, this is down to your support and encouragement.



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Finally, I must mention our support staff. It is a time of heightened worry and anxiety and it would be natural to want to step away from work until the 'All Clear' sounds. But they are here, caring for, loving, and nurturing the children. Their kindness and dedication warm the school and wraps the children. If there are medals to be struck -it is for them.

We keep a candle in the window to guide the safe return of all our children.

Slán agus beannacht

Mickey Kelly
Executive Headteacher

[Contacting us](#)

Please get in touch with us if you have any concerns or questions via email, phone or on class dojo. You can always come and pick up and learning pack for your child and continue to encourage your child to engage with the learning and encourage them to read every day. We are here to help so please do get in touch if you have any issues.

A reminder that we will have our fortnightly [meeting with the Executive Headteacher on Monday 25th January at 10:00am.](#) We will send the link to you nearer the time.

[What some of our children have been up to](#)

Reception have been working hard with estimating in Maths. They have been learning about the Enormous Turnip and lots of them have put their own versions of the story on Class Dojo. Well done reception 😊!

Nursery



Ethan's interpretation of the Ning Nang Nong



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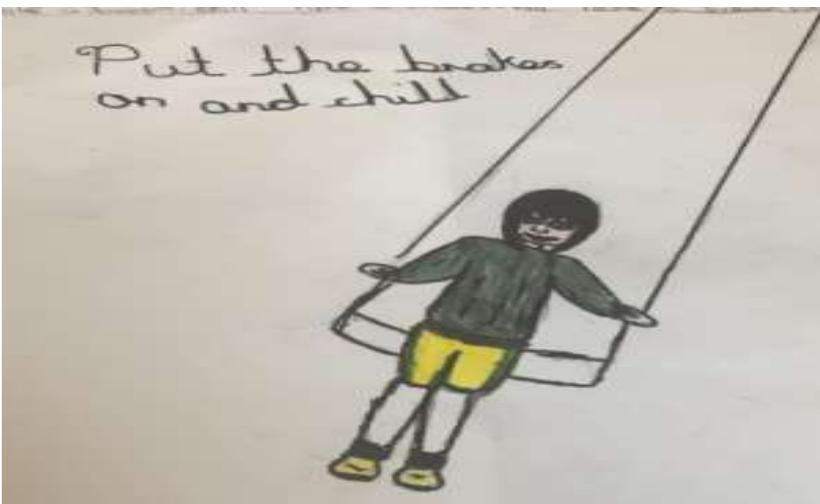
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Asher- on the Ning Nang Nong



Yasmin' picture



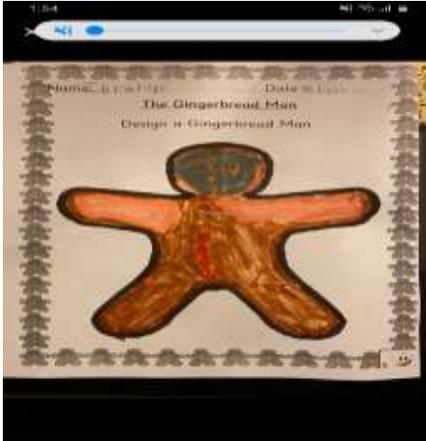
by Banksy

Amarachi's (5M) artwork inspired

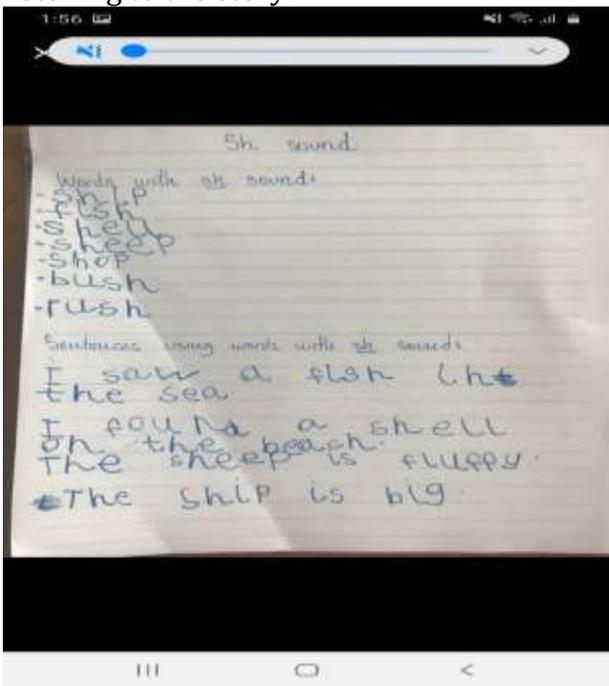


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Ibrahim (RW) designed an amazing Gingerbread Man after listening to the story.

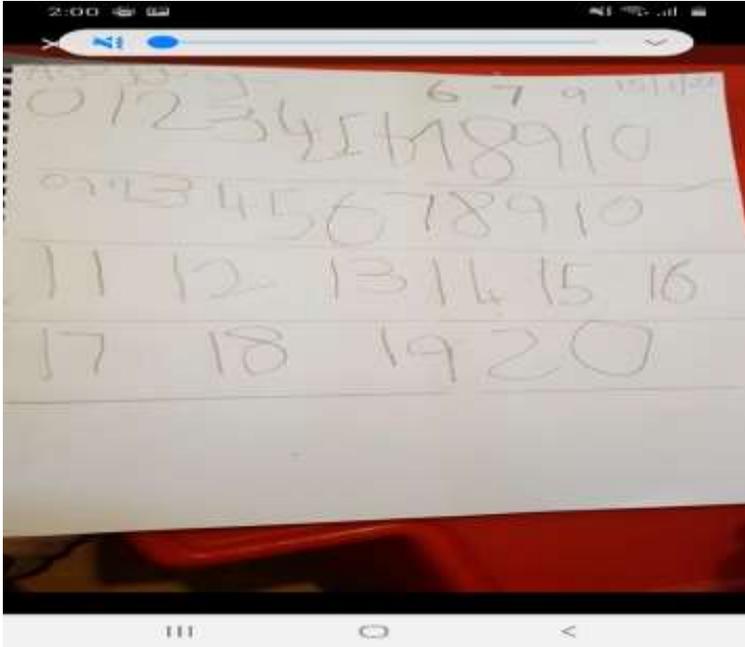


Una (RW) independently wrote sentences and words containing the 'sh' sound, after being taught phonics. She has beautiful handwriting.



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Ajay (RW) has written numbers from 0 to 20 after watching a maths video.

Once again, we want to thank you for your patience and continuous support.

Yours faithfully,

Lucas Vale Team