



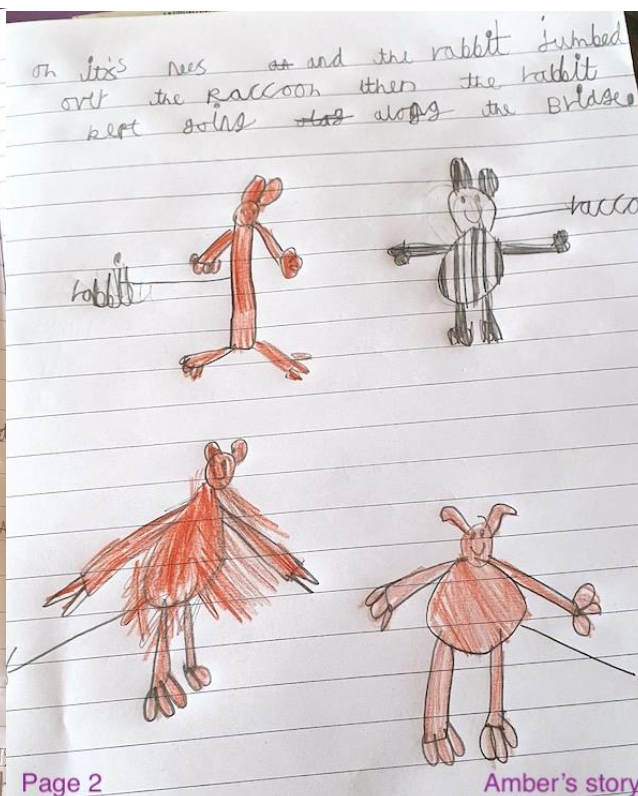
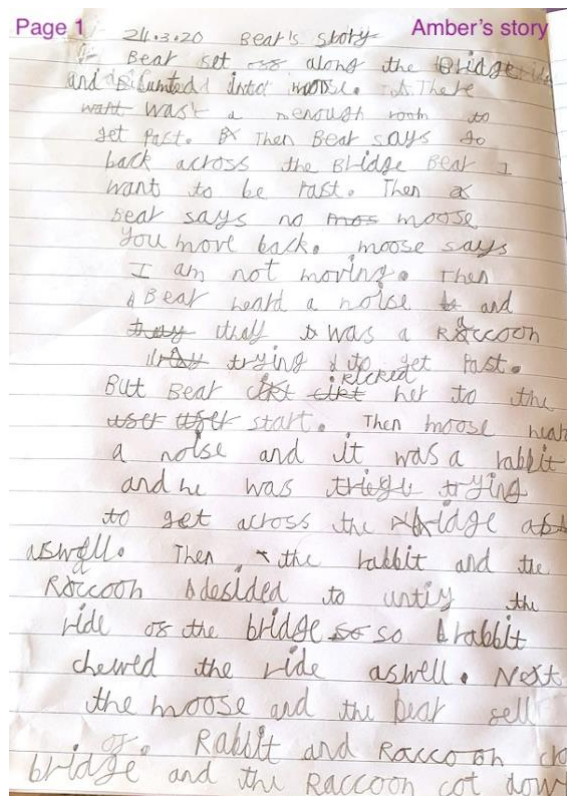
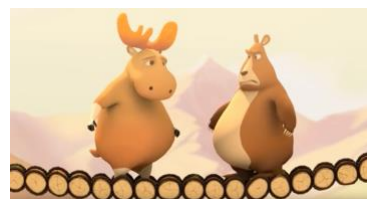
STAYING WELL and THANK YOU

First and foremost, I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family as well as possible, despite the challenging circumstances that we experience. As we all settle to a new routine, find our feet and try to make the best of the situation, I hope that you are all okay.

Secondly, thank you so much for your work at home to support and encourage your child or children as they complete tasks set by the teachers. We want to help as much as we can and hope that the ideas and suggested tasks have been as useful, progressive and engaging as possible. We've received lots of positive feedback on the home learning provision so far – thank you for this. We will continue to evaluate this aspect of our work to ensure that it is as effective and as helpful as possible. If you would like to contribute to this process, then please contact me by phone or email.

BRILLIANT BEAR STORIES

Pupils in Mrs Allison's class have been busy writing some super stories last week. They were invited to watch a short film of a bear meeting a moose on a bridge and were tasked with writing the bear's story. Several pupils have shared work with Mrs Allison who has been extremely impressed. We thought that you may like to read some of the stories and have made them available on our [school blog](#).



SHARING SUCCESS ON THE SCHOOL BLOG

If your child completes a home learning task that they are really proud of, please let me know by email, attaching pictures of the work if you can. I will include the work in regular blog updates to celebrate effort and maintain the sense of a learning community.

READING

Of all the things that pupils learn to do, reading is perhaps the most important. In the absence of books from school, I thought it may be useful to share some ways that you can keep reading during this time at home:

Oxford Owl, provided by Oxford University Press, has a super series of free e-books for children aged 3 – 11 years. There is a great range of material here, with the books organised clearly in sections according to age or book band. We highly recommend this site. If you need to know your child's book band, just let us know.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/books/free-ebooks/>



National Geographic Kids has loads of articles, fun facts and information on a range of topics from around the World.

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/>

BBC Newsround has lots of child-friendly news articles.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>



Teach Your Monster to Read offers a free gamed-based approach to learning phonics that continues through to reading full sentences. It's engaging and fun.

<https://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com>

Phonics Bloom provides online phonics games to help teach children the relationship between letters and sounds.

<https://www.phonicsbloom.com>



North Yorkshire County Council offers thousands of ebooks that you can borrow instantly and for free using their new app, Libby.

<https://northyorks.overdrive.com>

EASTER

Reverend Melanie has written an Easter message to pupils. It's available to read in full on our [school blog](#), along with some suggested activities to try at home. Here are some extracts from her message:

Hello Children

What strange times we are living in. I hope you are not too bored having to stay at home.

New life is exactly what Easter is all about. Perhaps this extra time at home gives us all the opportunity to notice the new life all around us.

In the Easter story, many feared that everything had ended and there was no hope, but then on Easter morning it was clear that everything had just begun, and life was full of hope and joy and expectation. So, we have much to look forward to.

I am thinking of you all and look forward to seeing you again soon. In the meantime, stay safe, be good, and keep on exploring.

Peace be with you.

FISCHY MUSIC

In our school assemblies we really like singing songs by [Fischy Music](#). They provide some brilliant messages for us all that can help with emotional wellbeing and personal development.



With schools closing, Fischy Music are allowing us to share our login details with parents so that you can access this resource and use Fischy songs to support your children's wellbeing and harness all the positivity singing brings, day to day, and in your homes. We will share the login details with you by email. Each song has a sing-along video, as well as supporting resources to help you learn the song, have discussions around it and even learn to play the music!

OUTDOOR LEARNING

East Barnby Outdoor Education centre has been sharing daily ideas for pupils to try at home. Suggestions include building a zip line, an improvised raft, a bug hotel and a message tree – all adapted to the current circumstances.

<https://www.facebook.com/eastbarnby/>

E-SAFETY

With increased use of online communication at the moment, e-safety is more important than ever. Thinkuknow, the national online safety education programme from CEOP, has produced a help sheet with advice and links to resources that parents can use at home to keep their children safe online while they are off school:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/globalassets/professional/thinkuknow_primary_parents_helpsheet.pdf

Thinkuknow is also releasing new home activity packs with simple 15 minute activities you can do with your child to support their online safety. The first pack is available to download now, and there will be new material available every fortnight.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/home-activity-worksheets/>

HOME LEARNING – COMPUTING

With almost all of our educational activities shared electronically at the moment, we realise that an effective computing solution is needed to access this work. If you are struggling to access the resources shared by teachers, please contact school so that we can explore a solution.

CAKE STALL

Thank you to everyone that offered to bake for the Friends of School cake stall that was scheduled for the Easter holidays. The Friends will try to reschedule the event later in the year.

CONTACTING SCHOOL

Although school is closed at the moment to the majority of pupils, you can still contact us by phone or email.

School office phone	01748 884308
School office email	admin@rg-schools.org.uk
Headteacher email	headteacher@rg-schools.org.uk

If there's anything that we can do to help, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With best wishes,



Gordon Stainsby
Headteacher