



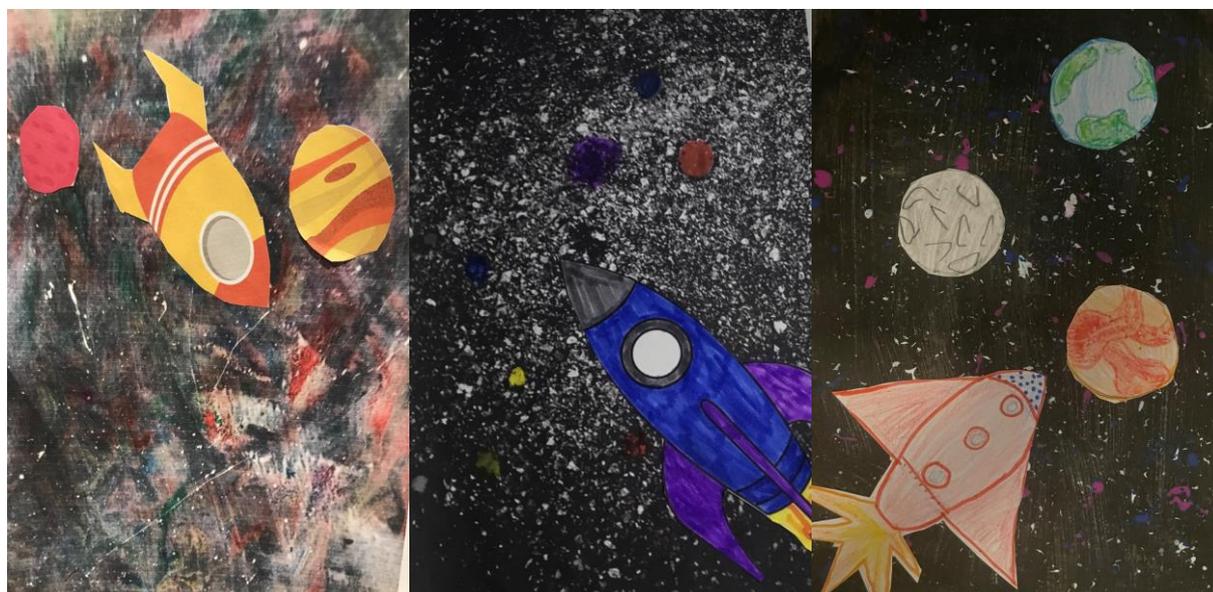
Rowde CofE Academy

Head Teacher's Letter 18

Friday 29th January 2021

Dear parents and carers,

As of this week, it looks as if we will be returning on March 8th to some sort of normality in school. We have had no details yet, but I will share them with you as soon as we do. This week, we have started lateral flow tests with every member of staff twice a week, to add to the Covid-avoidance strategies already in place. Whilst nothing is fool proof with this virus, we are as safe as we can be, and the prospect of all our children returning is one we as a staff relish.



Space-inspired art by Scarlett, Primrose and Kaiya in Year 5 this week

I am so grateful for your on-going support of Home Learning, and hope that March 8th affords you all a break from it! One of the areas I am concerned about (with my own three as well as our children at Rowde) is the amount of screen time that Home School relies upon. With that in mind, on Friday 5th February, we are going to do **Screen Free Friday**. All the work for the day will be set on the previous day, and will involve tasks that are not computer-based. Please note that this is NOT a proposed day off for the staff; they will still be working, and able to respond to email and SeeSaw to support your children.

If they (and you) like it, we will keep SFF going for the remainder of lockdown.

Another thing I want to share with you to try and remove some of the burden of Home Learning is the Primary Lockdown Library resource, which is linked on our website under the Curriculum tab (<https://www.rowde.wilts.sch.uk/337/primary-lockdown-library-1>). This is chock full of links to websites where children can read for pleasure. Similarly, Vocabulary Ninja (<https://games.vocabularyninja.co.uk/>) has lots of child-friendly games aimed at improving literacy and English skills. Either might just add some variety to Home Schooling.

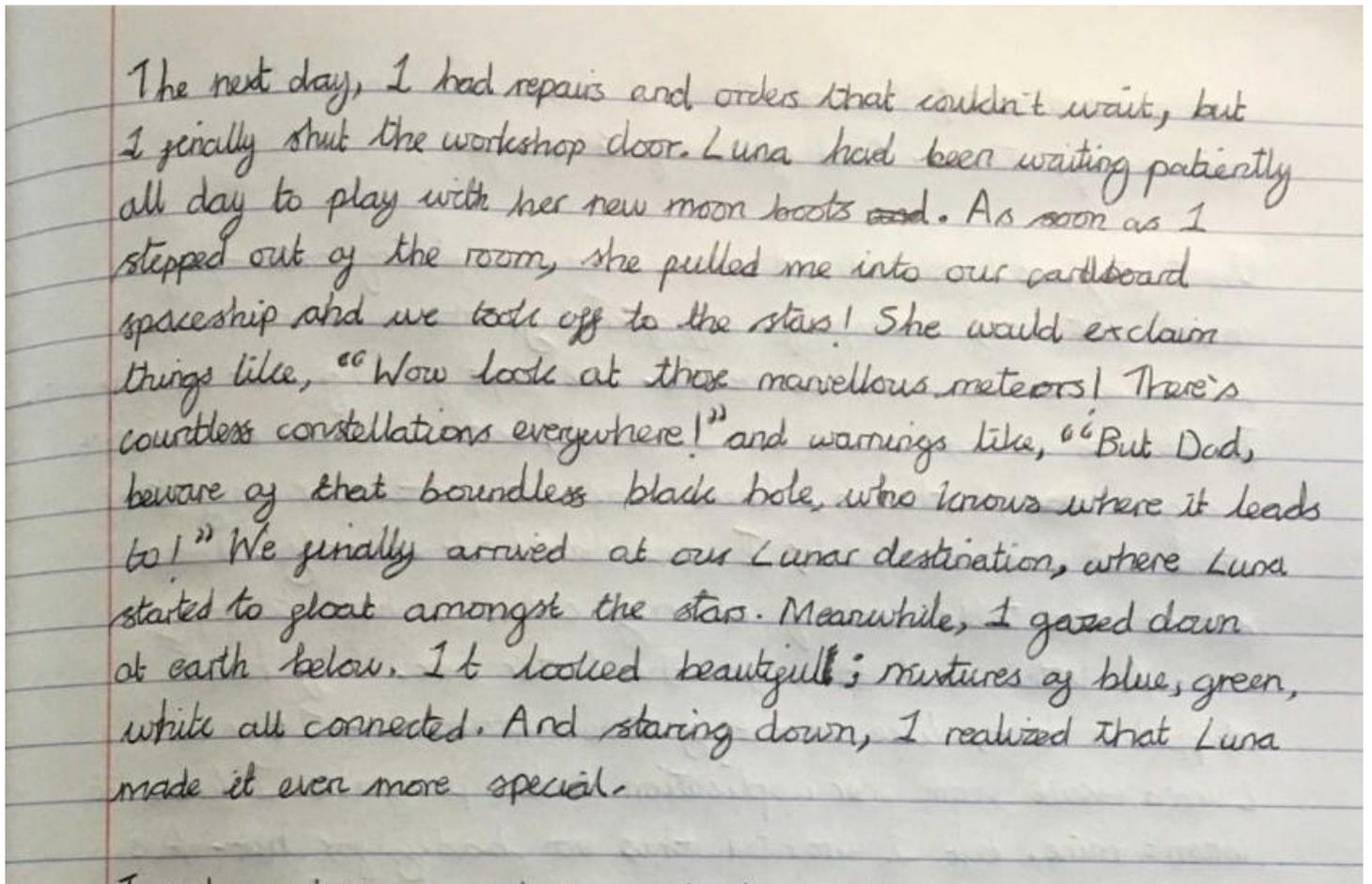
We Are Rowde

Half-term Free School Meals

We will continue to provide support for FSM Families over the half-term break, either as vouchers or as food parcels (Edenred are not providing vouchers over the break but another firm is). Please contact Laura in the office if you wish to take up this offer. lallum@rowde.wilts.sch.uk or (01380) 723991

Half Term Provision

In line with government directives, we will be completely closed during half-term. I believe that the local authority plan to offer 'holiday club' arrangements for children with key worker parents, but they have not yet published any details.



An extract from one of my favourite writers – our very own Luisa in Year 5, who produced another great piece this week

I hope you all have a safe and relaxing weekend.
Kindest regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jon Edy-Berry'.

Jon Edy-Berry
Head Teacher