

## Deeping St James Community Primary School

Hereward Way  
Deeping St James  
Peterborough  
PE6 8PZ  
Tel: 01778 342314  
Email: [enquiries@deeping-st-james.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@deeping-st-james.lincs.sch.uk)  
<http://www.deeping-st-james.lincs.sch.uk>



Headteacher: Mr Richard Westley

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Dear parent/carer

I am delighted to tell you about the launch of a mental health and wellbeing project for our school community.

### **What is Mental Wellbeing?**

It is how we are feeling and coping with the things we face in everyday life. Just like our physical health, mostly it is good and sometimes not so good and that this is completely normal. You could think of it as your mental fitness.

I am sure you will agree as we all continue to recover from the impact of the COVID pandemic, that there has never been a more important time to speak openly about mental health and wellbeing with children and young people and to encourage them to talk about their feelings with family, friends, and trusted adults.

Research tells us that building the following proven five simple things into our everyday lives can make a really positive difference to the mental health and wellbeing of both children and adults alike and help to build resilience and confidence.

- 1. Talk and listen – CONNECT**
- 2. Be ACTIVE**
- 3. Remember to TAKE NOTICE**
- 4. Keep LEARNING Every Day**
- 5. Acts of Kindness – GIVE to others**

As part of our commitment to the wellbeing of our children, staff, and wider school community, I am proud to advise you that we will be launching the 5 ways to wellbeing project in our school with immediate effect.

We will be sharing information with the children about the 5 ways to wellbeing through assembly and then exploring how we can put them into practice every day, both in school and at home. The focus of the project will be to highlight to the children how the 5 ways to wellbeing can easily form part of their daily lives and link to their everyday experiences and to know that by doing these 5 things every day, they are taking good care of their mental health.

You may already have heard of the 5 ways to wellbeing as this freely available NHS guidance has become more widely used since the start of the pandemic. One of our key aims will be to provide an opportunity for our parents and carers to find out more about the project and to become more involved. In the meantime, the 5 ways to wellbeing guidance is available for parents on the NHS website at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk). You can also find further information about how to apply the guidance at home at [www.youngminds.org.uk/amillionandme](http://www.youngminds.org.uk/amillionandme).

As previously shared, the link below is to an NHS site, set up for Lincolnshire, detailing support services available for children and families who may need help on emotional wellbeing, from self-help information to local emotional wellbeing services and specialist mental health services.

<https://www.lpft.nhs.uk/young-people/lincolnshire/home>

We are feeling incredibly positive about promoting the 5 ways to wellbeing guidance in our school community and we welcome the opportunity to encourage our children and staff to reflect on the 5 ways each day in school and the positive steps they can take to look after their own mental health. We know that this whole school work will build positively on the work already begun by Mrs Day and Mrs Magness in the role of school ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant). Mrs Magness' vital work in this role continues.

We will keep you informed about the project over the coming weeks through parent mail, our website and termly newsletter.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at all.

Yours sincerely



Richard Westley  
Headteacher

*Inspire to Learn*

*Achieve Together*