



Purley CE Primary School

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Mrs K Fakes



Friday Newsletter

Learn to love, love to learn

11th December 2020

Headteacher's Update

Pandemic or not, some things never change. The excitement levels are getting higher by the day and the school is a hive of activity. There are Christmas elves popping up everywhere and filming in the corridors, the hall and the playground.



This week, the Elfridges Christmas shop has been open, thank you to FOPS for organising this lovely opportunity for our children. We have the Science "Bubble" workshop today and once again, thank you to FOPS for financing this event.

Only a week to go, a last effort for us all to keep safe so that we can enjoy the holidays. Please ensure that you inform the school immediately of any positive results to Coronavirus testing even if it is at the weekend or during the holidays. Please use the designated e mail, **covid@purley.w-berks.sch.uk** which will be checked out of hours. We will then seek advice on the best course of action, whether bubbles need to close or not and messages will be sent to anyone that is impacted.



Mrs Fakes

Covid Update:

In case you hear anything in the news about an email schools have received from the Department for Education (DfE) on Tuesday afternoon I wanted to clarify a few points. The email is suggesting that schools choose to put an INSET day on Friday 18th December, primarily because they are also asking schools and school leaders to continue assisting with contact tracing for 6 days following the final day of teaching, meaning that some school staff must remain 'on call' until the 24th December. The DfE have also suggested that we balance the INSET day by "bringing forward the start of term in January" but we're not really sure how best to do that unless anyone would like school to start on New Year's Day!

We have no intention of changing the diaries at such late notice. We have things booked in for the children and we also know that a late change could be very difficult for our families in terms of childcare.

Collective Worship

This week I was only able to join Woodpecker Class for collective worship, so a shorter time for me in school. We looked at waiting, learning and looking forward to Christmas, but also to later in our lives. Sometimes the things or events we anticipate aren't quite what we expected and we have to learn how to make good use of the waiting time to prepare for what actually happens. But we can accurately anticipate that next week sees the end of term and its celebrations.

Reverend Bailey

Christmas Jumper Day

On Wednesday 16th December, which is the day of our Christmas lunch, we will have a special Christmas Jumper day. Children may exchange their school cardigan/jumper for a festive jumper. The rest of the clothes will remain the usual school uniform. You don't need to buy a new jumper, you can simply decorate one with tinsel etc. In return, we would ask for a donation to FOPS.



Class Christmas Party



The class Christmas parties take place on Thursday 17th December.

For Hedgehog and Badger Class the party will take place during the school afternoon. The children can wear their party clothes to school. Can we please ask that they are appropriate for school and they need to be warm as the children will be outside as normal during the day. Please can they wear sensible footwear as well.

The party for Owl and Woodpecker will take place at 4:30pm and will finish at 5:30.

Thank you to FOPS who will be providing refreshments for all the parties.

called "Reindeer ready." They discussed what reindeers would like to eat and made up some delicious reindeer food to scatter over their gardens on Christmas Eve. They even added a bit of sparkle to catch the moonlight and guide the reindeers safely to their homes! We have learnt a reindeer poem and using our best handwriting have written the poem out for our class handwriting competition. The winners for each year group will be announced next week. A computing task has been set for them on Purple mash, using technology to sort and classify shapes into a Venn diagram. In RE we looked at the work of art "Mystic Nativity" by Botticelli and discussed the parts of the painting that we all found particularly interesting. We then made picture frames to surround those parts. The children really enjoyed making links to their Christmas play. In maths Y1 have been consolidating their number bonds and Y2 have been consolidating their 2 times table.

Thank you for all the donations for our reverse advent. Badger class are extremely proud of the generosity that has been shown and are determined to continue with supporting those who are less fortunate than ourselves into the New Year. A little working party has been set up to consider our next steps.

Mrs Lyn-Jones

Hedgehog Class

This week we have been listening to lots of Christmas stories, and thinking about the real meaning behind giving presents and cards at Christmas. In maths we have been making paper chains with repeating patterns to hang around our classroom, and we have been practising our fine motor skills by wrapping 3D shapes for our Nativity scene, noticing the straight or curved edges, flat faces and sharp corners. On Monday we read the story of Stickman, and we were so surprised on Tuesday morning to find him hiding amongst the branches of our Christmas tree! We have been taking good care of him, showing him around our class and telling him how to play with our resources.

Mrs Burton

Owl Class

We are nearly there, only a week to go! We have had such an exciting week. The children have all been training as journalists and had to report on the 'Great Carrot Shortage'. They were very lucky to have had Santa and two of his rather naughty and mischievous elves drop in for interviewing. The elves were adamant that Santa had been eating them all! Thankfully, McDonalds saved the day with a large supply of carrots for the reindeers! Purley news covered the story on their front page. We are really enjoying reading, *The Christmasaurus* by Tom Fletcher and listening to the soundtrack from the musical as we go along. It is a rather amusing story but has lots of thought-provoking issues that have opened up a wealth of discussions.

In maths we have been revisiting common areas from our recent assessment and brushing up on those key mathematical skills.

I am amazed at the wonderful volcano and mountain models that have been coming in they are truly magnificent. The Christmas decorations

Badger Class

Badger class have been getting very festive this week. They enjoyed watching a short animation

are all hanging on our class Christmas tree and look stunning.

Next Thursday, 17th December, we will be holding our class Christmas party. Children should arrive back in school for 4.30 and be collected at the back gate at 5.30, there will be an adult to check they are all collected safely. Children may come in party wear and FOPS are very kindly supplying drinks and snacks, your children will still need a meal when they get home!

Finally, can I ask that pencil cases are replenished over the Christmas holidays ready for the start of a new term.

Christmas wishes



Mrs Pickering

Woodpecker Class

Here in Woodpecker class, we have been very busy all week, with our Science exploration and persuasive writing. The children have really enjoyed the hands-on experiments to explore how they could separate mixtures of materials (who knew Cup-a-soups could be a science resource!). "It was so exciting to be able to use the equipment to explore," enthused one child. We are also getting more excited about the upcoming Science Day on Friday, with the Professor Bubbleworks Workshop in school!

Video games came under scrutiny as we debated and then created persuasion arguments for and against them. It was really good to see the sensible way in which the children debated, quoting reasons and explanations for their views. Understandably, many came out in favour of them!

Following our school vision of 'love' and considering the needs of others, the class voted not to receive an individual gift from myself in this season but to use the money to support a charity. To this end, we have supported 'World Gifts', a Christian organization, and 'bought' a school pack and football for a child. I think this shows the

children's love and care for others in a mature and thoughtful way.

Mrs Hicks

FOPS News

Year 6 Rep

FOPs are in need of a Year 6 Rep. If you are interested please contact FOPS for more information via askfops@gmail.com

Elfridges Christmas Shop

A huge thank you to FOPS for organising another very successful Elfridges Christmas Shop – the children have loved choosing gifts to take home to their families. The shop raised a fantastic £271.00



Tour de Purley

FOPS are planning to run their successful Tour de Purley in 2021 and are after people to join their committee of helpers. Please contact FOPS if you are interested in helping to run this event.

End of term

Reminder – the children will finish school earlier on Friday 18th December. **Could we please ask Hedgehog Class to be collected at 1pm, Badger at 1:05pm and Owl and Woodpecker at 1:15pm.** This will help to prevent congestion at the school gates. They will have lunch as usual at school on that day. Nutkin Club will run from 1.15 until 4.15 on that day.

Reminders:

- School Christmas Lunch 16th December
- Class Christmas parties 17th December.
- End of term Friday 18th December.

As always, please remember our doors are open, should you wish to discuss any concerns, ask questions or celebrate successes regarding your children. You can contact me by phone on

01189842384 or email: headteacher@purley.wberks.sch.uk

Karen Fakes (Head teacher)

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Diary Dates

16/12/20	School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day.
17/12/20	Class Christmas Party
18/12/20	End of Autumn Term 2
21/12/20 04/01/21	CHRISTMAS BREAK
05/01/21	Start of Spring Term 1
12/02/21	End of Spring Term 1
15/02/21 19/02/21	HALF TERM
22/02/21	Start of Spring Term 2
31/03/21	End of Spring Term 2, 1.15pm
01/04/21 16/04/21	EASTER BREAK
19/04/21	Start of Summer 1
28/05/21	End of Summer 1
31/05/21 04/06/21	HALF TERM
07/06/21	Start of Summer 2
20/07/21	End of Academic Year, 1.15pm