



# Purley CE Primary School

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Mrs K Fakes



## Friday Newsletter

Learn to love, love to learn

8<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### Headteacher's Update



Most children at the top of the school have their own mobile phones. Many are Smart phones. This gives them access to so much! Attached is a bulletin on how you can try to keep your children safe. All the Social media apps here have an age limit of 13. How many of these does your child have? What protections are in place?

I'm sure that many of you will be considering giving your child some sort of device this Christmas. What do you need to know before giving them free access to the web? Before Christmas we hope to run an e safety workshop on Teams. There will be the opportunity to ask questions. Watch this space for a date.

### House Captains

Congratulations to our newly elected house capitains -

Frankie - Fox

Ben - Otter

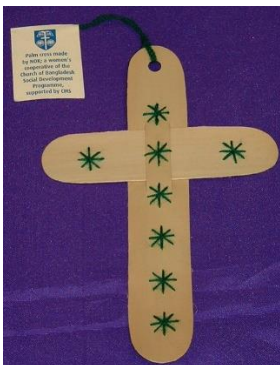
Samuel - Heron

Alfie - Bear

As you are aware, we have changed our house point system slightly. There is a main competition every half term. This half term, it is the Library Reading Challenge. Has your child completed it? Have they won house points?

*Mrs Fakes*

### Collective Worship



This week we considered Bangladesh. It is a country steeped in history but in its current state is younger than me! When it formed as republic in 1971, the Bangladeshi people set out in law the

importance for equality and they daily strive to value everyone irrespective of their faith, gender and ability. The Bible reminds us in Romans 2:11 'God doesn't have favourites' and we took time to think about how our words and actions make others feel. We also reflected on how the Church of Bangladesh embraced the gifts of all in their community when developing their unique cross in 1974 and even more so, when they embraced their new cross and logo. What can you do today to make someone feel valued?

*Pam Slingsby, Foundation Governor*

## Census



A big thank you to all who ordered a school lunch on Census day. This will really help us with our funding next year.

## Eco Warriors!

Congratulations to Harry, Jaiden, Ella, Harry, Rory and Caleb who have been elected as our Eco Warriors! We will be meeting shortly to discuss ways in which we can all become more eco aware, and we will be working closely with the Purley Sustainability Group (PSG) to support local activities. The first event we would like to promote is the PSG's first Repair Cafe on Saturday 9th October 3-5pm at the Mad Duck. Please see the poster for more details and watch out for more information on how you can support us in going green!

## Year 7 Applications

All parents can apply on their home Local Authorities on-line application system. The West Berkshire Council online application for West Berkshire residents is found at:

[www.westberks.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions](http://www.westberks.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions)

Please note the closing date for applications is **31st October 2021**

## Running Club

I am very keen to restart the legendary Purley School running club after half term. It will be open children in year 3 and above, Friday's 3:15-4:00pm. However, as this is held offsite, I will be needing a group of volunteers to support it. You don't need to be a runner or commit to every week. I am looking for people to marshal the route and help with crossing the children across roads, a couple of walkers to walk the route to support our new runners and if you are a runner and could help with coaching and running along with the children that would also be a great help. Unfortunately, the club cannot be held without your support. If you can offer some help, please do let me know before half

term, either via email at [jpickering@purley.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:jpickering@purley.w-berks.sch.uk) or let the school office know.

Many thanks for all your support

*Mrs Pickering*

## Greenham Trust Music Bursary

I am writing to inform you that we are delighted that the Greenham Trust Music Bursary will be continuing until July 2023. This bursary supports the cost of Berkshire Maestros music lessons for young people attending West Berkshire primary schools. To be eligible for this bursary, the child/family must fit the following criteria:

- Attend a West Berkshire Primary school
- Not be in receipt of Pupil Premium
- Have an annual gross household income of no more than £46,800 pa or £3,900 per month

Please find attached a leaflet explaining what the bursary is, how much it is worth and the criteria for eligibility.

## Mobile Library

This week we had a visiting librarian come to talk to the children about the library service. Remember that if you cannot get to the library in Pangbourne or Theale the mobile library stops in Purley on a Wednesday at St Mary's Church from 3:20-4:00pm.

The library service also offers some fun sessions for the children to attend after school and some rhymetimes for our pre-school siblings. ***Happy reading everyone!***



## Oxford Brookes Science Bazaar Saturdays

To celebrate Slow Loris Outreach Week Oxford Brookes Science Bazaar Saturdays will be hosting a one hour interactive virtual session on Saturday 9 October at 11am - 12pm.

This session is FREE, fun for all the family and most suitable for 5-12 years. In the session you will meet the researchers who study these elusive creatures,

get to know some slow loris families, and become a slow loris researcher, identifying their behaviours and seeing if you can tell them apart! Hosted by Oxford Brookes researcher Professor Anna Nekaris!

If this is of interest, registration for the event is required and attached a virtual poster with the details.

## Year 1 Woodland School

Before leaving school we listened to a favourite story, The Gruffalo and talked about the animals' habitats.



Despite a wash out on Saturday the woods were surprisingly dry and the sun came out! We began our session with an extra guest - a caterpillar was sitting next to Leyla so we thought about minibeasts and their habitats and how we could care for them. Amber chose a suitable branch shaped like a spade to do some digging whilst Cecily, Ava and Eva used the small spades to dig for more minibeasts - they discovered a lot of slugs and thought that it is because they like the dampness of the fallen leaves. We created a shelter using tarpaulins and Alice then used large branches and logs to create a log cabin with an entrance. Others helped out including Charlotte, Dinesh and Sofia who showed great resilience helping to move a large branch using their feet to roll it up a slope. Meanwhile, Theo went on a nature investigation and observed a holly tree in great detail. He discovered that it had different leaves, and some were spikier than others. He decided that the spiky leaves offer protection because animals would not want to eat them. He is going to observe the berries over the next few weeks and watch them turn from green to red. Whilst some of us used logs to search for minibeasts, Alfie, George, Isaac and Bay had a slippery time playing a dinosaur game on a pile of log. We used our newly made log circle to have our snacks, sitting quietly listening to the birds and also to some loud noises which we think the farmer was using to scare the birds away from the seeds. We had a reflection time and Alice led us in a prayer thanking God for harvest time.

*Mrs Hodsdon*



## Hedgehog class

What a fabulous time we all had on our trip to Ella's Kitchen! After a short coach trip, we began our activities at the Englefield kitchen garden. We planted broad beans, dug for worms (well done to the white team for finding so many!), created rainbow pictures using the colours of nature found in the garden, and we found out about lots of fruit and vegetables growing there. We ate our lunch in the barn at Rushall Farm, and then went on a very bumpy tractor trailer ride to feed the chickens. The birds were a bit nervous of us to begin with, but we talked quietly and moved slowly to let them get used to us. The staff at Ella's Kitchen were very impressed with the children's good behaviour, brilliant listening skills, and knowledge of growing things - we felt very proud! Many thanks to our lovely parent helpers for your support.



Next week in maths we will be exploring repeating patterns, and we will be thinking about harvest time.

*Mrs Burton*

## Badger class



Badger class have had a fun and engaging week that started with a letter from Captain Plank! Blackbeard had stolen his ship and he needed help to make waterproof boats that could be used to rescue his hidden treasure. First, we investigated which materials are waterproof and then we set up an experiment to test which objects floated or sank and tried to consider why. We designed our boats and then had a busy day making them. We showed much resilience and problem solving and Captain Plank sent us a thank you letter because he was so impressed with our work and how we supported each other and shared ideas. In maths Y1 have been comparing numbers using the greater than, less than and equal signs. Y2 have been adding up two 2-digit numbers by adding the tens and the units. They have learnt how to use base 10 or draw base 10 in order to help them with this. We finished the week with music and using the percussion instruments to maintain a steady beat.

*Mrs Lyn-Jones*

## Owl class

Birds of a feather flock together, this has certainly been the feeling in Owl Class this week. Teamwork has



certainly been the focus for our parliament of owls. This week the children have collaborated to collect a wealth of facts on owls and are currently busy drafting non-chronological reports full of all those wonderful and amazing facts! We will be finalising and presenting them next week. I am sure they will astound you with all their knowledge if you dare to ask! It has been wonderful to watch them all support each other with their sewing projects and we have a lovely collection of owls in the making.

In maths the cubes have been ordering and comparing numbers to 1000 and finding 1, 10 and 100 more and less of these numbers. The spheres are exploring negative numbers and thinking about where we might use them. Working together showing love, and for many courage, was key for our computing lesson this week exploring coding and the technical language used in programming. Most children were able to make an object move across the screen and some even added speech bubbles and sounds. Who know we may have some budding computer programmers amongst us!

As previously mentioned, I am proposing to hold an Owl hunt next Friday, 16th October. This will start at approx. 6:45 and all children will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult. We should be finished by 8:00, full details via parent-mail.

*Mrs Pickering*

### **Falcon class**

It's been a busy week for Falcons as our 'Extreme Earth' topic has moved to Tsunamis. We have learnt about what causes them; how they move; how to evacuate and be safe; what scientists are doing to predict/provide early warning systems. The children have been developing their 'Research' skills and using a variety of sources to create a handwritten information leaflet about Tsunamis. We wanted to focus on presentational aspects and promote the importance of a lovely handwriting style. Our science has linked into the water theme as we have explored water resistance and considered why it is important. 'If you jump from a big height and land, the water can feel like a solid,' said Elsie and this prompted a discussion about the pros and cons of bellyflopping in the pool! We have begun our own 'Great Wave' art and it has been lovely to see children taking a risk with the design of their waves and 'crinkly' edges.



Thank you for continuing to hear your children share their reading at home, please remember to sign in their reading journals and I enjoy seeing the

comments that you write. We were inspired by the visit from the library service. Why not choose a different style/genre of book over the weekend? Choose a poem and enjoy it together!

*Mrs Hicks*

### **FOPS news**



Need to have a big clear out? FOPS have booked another **bag2school collection** for **Friday 26 November**. Collection bags will be available after half term, however they also accept bin liners and carrier

bags of clothes too, if you wished to start your clear out sooner.

### **Bag2School collects the following in good condition for reuse:**

- Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

### **They don't accept:**

- Duvets and blankets
- Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)
- Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- School uniforms with and without logo
- Corporate clothing and workwear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

Your unwanted clothes = school PTA funding.

Thank you for your support.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Without the help and support of parents, grandparents, carers and local volunteers, we cannot continue to raise the much-needed funds to enrich the education of our children at Purley School. With parents stepping down from the FOPS (Friends of Purley School) Committee, we are looking for new Committee members. As a small committee we really do need support from all parents to help raise vital funds for the school that directly benefits our children. There are various Committee roles on offer or even if you'd just like to help at events throughout the year, we'd gladly welcome you with open arms!

Our AGM will be taking place on Tuesday 12th October at 8pm at the Purley Sports and Social Club, Goosecroft Lane. This is when we'll be electing the Committee for the forthcoming academic year. If you are interested in joining the FOPS Committee or are able to give some time to help with events or just want to know a little bit more about it, please contact Danni Tovey, Sarah Clarke or Natalie Taylor. You can also contact the committee via email: [askfops@gmail.com](mailto:askfops@gmail.com). We are always keen for new ideas, committee members or feedback.

### THAMESIDE FIREWORKS FIESTA

The Thameside Fireworks Fiesta will be going off with a bang again this year, on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November! It promises to be another fantastic not-to-be-missed event for all the family and once again proceeds are in aid of the school. Tickets will be on sale soon. In the meantime please have a look at the website: [www.thamesidefireworkfiesta.co.uk](http://www.thamesidefireworkfiesta.co.uk)

Purley Primary School PTA are looking for wonderful volunteers to help bring the Thameside Fireworks Fiesta together. If you can help in the run up, or on the day, we would love to hear from you.

Please complete the volunteer form and we will be in touch:

<https://forms.gle/3ydGYEHQSe13kxss7>

### Dates for the diary

**12/10/21** – FOPS AGM

**21/10/21** – Harvest Festival

**21/10/21** – End of Autumn Term 1

**22 - 29/10/21** – Half Term

**01/11/21** – Start of Autumn Term 2

**07/11/21** - Fireworks

**10/11/21** – Individual School Photos

**21 - 27/11/21** – Year 6 Residential

**26/11/21** – bag2school Collection

**17/12/21** – End of Autumn Term 2 at 1:15pm

**26/05/22** – **Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday**

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.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@purley.w-berks.sch.uk)

**Karen Fakes (Head teacher)**

***Learn to Love, love to Learn***

# VILLAGE



SINCE 2015

## CONCERTS

**St Mary's, Purley on Thames RG8 8BJ**  
**7pm Doors & Bar, 8pm Music**

### **Luke Jackson** **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

Luke Jackson, a young Roots singer/songwriter who has been performing since he was 13, was winner of Fatea's 'Male Artist of the Year' in 2014 & 2016 and his last studio release 'Journals' was voted 2019 Album of the Year by Fatea Magazine. Luke has toured Europe & the USA and we can't wait to welcome him to Village Concerts!



"One of the most distinctive voices on the contemporary folk scene"  
- Folk Radio U

"Reminds me of Jeff Buckley" – Mark Radcliffe

"One in a million..."  
- Maverick Music Magazine

### **Danni Nicholls** **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December**



Growing up on the American roots music of her Anglo-Indian grandmother's record collection, singer/songwriter Danni Nicholls' style has been described as "smoky soul, folk-pop & heart-wrenching alt-country, all in a rich voice." Danni has played shows with Shakin' Stevens, The Secret Sitters & notable & has been invited to perform at festivals around the world.

**Tickets: Earlybird Adult £12, Youth £8; Full-price Adult £15, Youth £10**  
[www.villageconcerts.co.uk](http://www.villageconcerts.co.uk)

## **Corn Exchange Activities October half term**

Corn Exchange Newbury have got some great activities lined up for the kids this October half term! We'd love to see you there.

### **Make and Do**

Join us for our Make and Do Holiday Club for a world of creative fun that will keep boredom at bay all day long!

Our popular Make and Do sessions have been super-sized and now young people aged 4 to 8 can come and join us for day-long creative fun in the school holidays.

Taking place in our dedicated workshop space, the Learning Centre, participants will get the chance to take part in all sort of creative activities led by our expert team - from arts and craft to drama, dance and movement as well as the chance to relax and watch a film.

Dates: **Mon 25 Oct - Fri 29 Oct, 9am - 5pm**

Age Guide: **4 - 8 yrs**

Drop off from 8:30am, pick up until 5:30pm

Dress for mess, bring a packed lunch and plenty of water!

Click the link to book:

<https://cornexchangenew.com/event/make-and-do-october-half-term>

### **Arts and Culture Passport Morning**

Achieve your Discover Arts Award in a morning. The theme is, 'Out of this World' so be prepared for the weird and the wonderful!

Start your journey at Newbury Library, take a tour of the Museum, and complete your Passport with some drama at the Corn Exchange.

Dates: **Tues 26 Oct**

Times: **10am-12:30pm**

Age guide: **5-12 yrs**

Children must be supervised by their parent/carer at all times.

Click the link to book:

<https://cornexchangenew.com/event/arts-and-culture-passport-morning>

### **Makaton Social**

Play, socialise and craft with Makaton!

Join us for a relaxed session in the Balcony Bar that you can enjoy as a whole family.

These sessions are for families of children who use Makaton to communicate.

Dates: **Wed 27 Oct**

Times: **2pm - 3.30pm**

Age guide: **4-11 yrs**

Click the link to book:

<https://cornexchangenew.com/event/makaton-social>

### **Pumpkin Carving**

Join us at 101 Outdoor Arts as we get creative with pumpkins, and best of all we'll clean up all of the mess!

Pumpkin, tools and decorative materials provided.

Times: **10.30am - 12pm & 1pm - 2.30pm**

Age guide: **For the whole family!**

Click the link to book:

<https://cornexchangenew.com/event/pumpkin-carving>