



Purley CE Primary School

Purley Village, Purley on Thames, RG8 8AF

Tel: 0118 984 2384, Email: office@purley.w-berks.sch.uk

website: www.purleyprimaryschool.co.uk Headteacher:

Mrs K Fakes



Friday Newsletter

Learn to love, love to learn

3rd December 2021

Headteacher's Update



Donating to the causes you care about not only benefits the charities themselves, it can be deeply rewarding for you too. While OFSTED were in recently, one child's response to what it was like to be a child at Purley School was that "everyone is so loving".

This term we have asked for donations for a few charities, the Food Bank, Poppy Appeal, Anti Bullying Alliance and Children in Need. We had no intention of asking for more, as you have already been generous, but we have had a plea from the charity "Daisy's Dream" to consider using our Christmas jumper day to support them. Daisy's Dream is a charity which supports children and their families who have been affected by the life threatening illness or bereavement of someone close. Bearing their request in mind, Christmas jumper day will be on Thursday 16th December. Children will need to wear their school uniform and a Christmassy jumper. Should you wish to donate to this wonderful charity we would be very pleased to accept your donation. To make things easier we have set up a Just Giving page. The children can wear their jumpers without a donation if you feel that you have already given enough this year.

Mrs Fakes

Collective Worship

This week we lit the first of our Advent candles. The candle of hope. We talked about Christmas traditions in our homes as we wait and prepare for Christmas.



Light the Advent candle one

Now the waiting has begun

We have started on our way

Time to think of Christmas day.

Advent comes from the word *adventus* meaning coming or arrival. We reflected what it was like waiting and how in the Bible it talks about waiting for the coming of the Messiah, Jesus. Jesus would come as a light into our world.

Mrs Fakes

Safety online

We are very grateful to Sergeant Sarah McGowan who delivered three sessions on - keeping safe, the illegality of some online messaging, and age limits. She delivered two sessions to KS2 children at school and one to parents. From Sarah's role in the police force and my intelligence at school, we know that sexting is starting to become an issue at primary schools. We did the session to parents online in the hope that more parents would be able to join us. Thank you to those who attended and apologies for our presenting challenges. Sixteen parents had registered and six turned up; this is out of seventy-seven families. Do you really know what your child is doing on Roblox? They say it takes a village to raise a child, so I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those parents who alert us to any concerns, so that we can support the children involved.



Covid plea

Covid cases in schools continue to rise and this is most definitely the case in West Berkshire primary schools. Please keep your child at home if they have symptoms, no matter how mild. They need to either isolate for 10 days or have a negative PCR test. Just like last year, the message is, "let's protect Christmas."

Should 5 children in a class contract Covid, we could well be back to online learning! Thank you to all of you that are so supportive and making decisions that protect others. You will have seen and heard plenty on the news this week about returning to slightly more restrictions. Please wear a facemask on the school site, follow the one way system and socially distance as much as possible. It is also highly recommended to do LFD tests twice a week.

Covid impact on events

Each and every event leading to Christmas needs to be sanctioned by the LA. Currently the school disco can proceed as we will continue to be in bubbles. Please be mindful when dropping off and picking up, that you maintain distance. If we have an outbreak, the disco will unfortunately need to be cancelled.

KS1 and FS nativity will be filmed, more details will be circulated to relevant parents.

School Christmas dinner will be in bubbles.

Carol service will be filmed and watched on the last day of term at school.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas Dinner will be served for the children on Wednesday 8th December.

The menu is available to order for your child online via The Pantry. If you would like your child to have Christmas Dinner, please ensure you complete your order online by Tuesday.



Woodland School



Brrrrrrrr with a dusting of snow on the ground Monday, it was a bit too cold to take our little Badgers out to Basildon Park! Instead they stayed in the classroom and did some crafty activities with Mrs Hodsdon.

Hedgehog class

The story of Stickman inspired our creativity this week and our Stickman now has many family members and friends sticks to keep him company in class. We explored ways of attaching the googly eyes and pipe-cleaner arms as the glue stick wasn't very effective on damp twigs.



On Wednesday, when the rest of the school were on their theatre trip, we had a problem to solve - we found out that Joe the Hedgehog was expecting a visit from his friend, but he was worried he wouldn't be able to find his way into school. The children quickly decided that a map was needed of the whole school, as we couldn't be sure which door Joe's friend would come through. Armed with clipboards and pencils we explored the whole school, drawing our maps as we went. We added the initial sounds of all of the areas too to help him read our maps more easily. The following day, Joe's hedgehog friend had appeared on top of our whiteboard - he sent us a thank-you note as our maps had indeed been very helpful.

Mrs Burton

Badger class



Badger class have been working so hard this week on their Christmas play. They are enjoying the songs and acting and have loved putting on the costumes. The trip to the

Watermill theatre really helped them to perfect their own performances, whether it be with their singing, dancing or acting. It seemed to give them the confidence to be more expressive and theatrical. In science we had great fun investigating the strength of different papers. We wanted to find out which paper was the best for wrapping a parcel and we were amazed at the strength of some of the papers in our test. In maths we have practised our KIRFS and used our understanding of addition and subtraction to solve Christmas problems. We have set up our class Advent Calendar and discussed what Advent really means. Our classroom door has been decorated with a beautiful Advent wreath that we made by cutting out and decorating our hands. We are making a collection of Christmas stories and if the children would like to bring in books from home for us to share in class, they are welcome to do so. Please name any books that do come in. Many thanks

Mrs Lyn-Jones

Owl class

Wow! What a busy week in Owl Class. This week we have been working hard to get everything done so we can enjoy some biscuit baking and Christmas fun in the forthcoming weeks. In English we have been looking at imperative verbs and their use in instruction writing. The children have all enjoyed writing a set of instructions explaining 'How to Grow a Dragon.' If you see any new/strange plants appearing in your garden you may want to investigate their origin, they may be Dragon Trees! In Maths the Spheres have been working on 6 and 9 times tables and they really are becoming timetables champs! The Cubes have consolidated their understanding of adding 2 and 3 digit number crossing boundaries into 10's and 100's. We all enjoyed the theatre trip on Wednesday afternoon and this was made even more enjoyable following all our work on the Jungle Book the previous week. In History the children are starting to collate all their knowledge on Huntley and Palmers and are creating a google slide presentation with a friend. Next week we will be launching the Owl Class Biscuit Factory and making a range of biscuits and boxes for our new customers.

Mrs Pickering



write our own stories based on his adventures. We were also lucky enough to have a visit from a police officer to talk more about online safety, a very important subject for our children in this technological age. In Maths, we have been busily securing skills: Crystals - aspects of multiplication; Pentagons - multiplying and dividing by 10,100,1000; Hexagons - short division.

Mrs Hicks

FOPS news

GUESS THE NAME OF THE SLOTH COMPETITION

Would you like to win a giant cuddly sloth? This very cute sloth needs a home in time for Christmas. For your chance to win, can you think of a suitable name for them? Entry forms will have gone home this afternoon. Guess as many times as you'd like, £1 per name guess and bring your entry form and money (or pay by BACS) in an envelope back to school. The sweepstake style competition will run until 14th December, when a winner will be drawn at random and announced at school.

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DISCO

Please remember to return your ticket forms to the school by **Monday 6th December** for the School Christmas Disco, which is taking place on **Friday 10th December** at **Goosecroft Barn - 4.45pm – 6.15pm for KS1 kids** and **6.30pm – 8.00pm for KS2**. Tickets are £4.50 per child and include the disco, a hot dog, juice, a biscuit & a gift from Santa.

Thank you to all the parents who have kindly agreed to assist at the disco – we are very grateful for your help. In order that we can keep everyone safe, please take a Lateral Flow Test within 24 hours before the disco and wear a facemask at the event.

“ELFRIDGES” CHRISTMAS SHOP

Elfridges Christmas Shop is coming to school on Monday 6th – Friday 10th December. The shop will run during the school day. Each class will visit the shop on a set day as follows:

Monday – Hedgehog

Tuesday – Owl



Falcon class

Busy, Busy, Busy!! Up here in Falcon class, we have been exploring the abstract sculptural work of Henry Moore, in readiness for making our own Modroc abstract works of art. This has involved studying shapes and form - using volunteers covered in a body stocking! This caused great amusement, as you can imagine, but gave children the chance to sketch ideas for their work and focus on outlines and 3D shapes. We have used wire to create a 3D frame and will add more of a 3D look with paper. The Modroc application will happen next week.....so watch this space! Our Medical Marvel topic has led us to studying 'Putting Into You' and researching aspects such as blood transfusions, insulin production, anaesthetics and vaccines. A class debate then followed, using our oracy skills, and the children were split between vaccines and anaesthetics being the most important. The final task involved creating posters to promote vaccination - ironically on the day children received a flu vaccine! The theatre trip was AMAZING and we talked about the staging, costumes and characters (in readiness for our production in the summer term). Vetman continues and next week we will



Wednesday – Badger

Thursday – Falcon

Friday – All classes for any additional items

Please send your child with their spending money in a named purse and a named carrier bag for their purchases. Gifts range from £1 - £3 each.

The children will have the opportunity to buy Christmas gifts for their family and friends. A list of names helps the younger ones, so you may want to include this also. The children will then bring the gifts home already wrapped and labelled.

Dates for the diary

06/12/21 – Deadline for school disco tickets

06-10/12/12 – Elfridges Christmas Shop

08/12/21 – Christmas Dinner

10/12/21 – School Disco

16/12/21 – Christmas Jumper Day

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

05/01/22 – Start of Spring Term 1

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

Karen Fakes (Head teacher)

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