



Purley CE Primary School

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Mrs K Fakes



Friday Newsletter

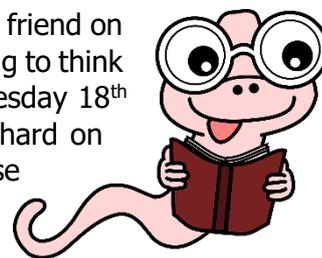
Learn to love, love to learn

14th January 2022

Headteacher's Update

Last night, I was trying to react to some beautiful family photographs posted by a friend on Whats App. Others had already written lovey, beautiful and delightful so I was trying to think of a different adjective. Where did I go to look? To the Thesaurus of course. Tuesday 18th January is National Thesaurus Day. This year at school we have been working hard on developing children's oracy skills and vocabulary. It is important that we expose children to ambitious words in their day to day lives. When you present your children with their tea tonight, ask them how many different words they could use to describe the meal. I hope they are kind!

Mrs Fakes



Collective Worship

As the new Curate at St Mary's it was a great pleasure and joy for me to be welcomed into the school this Thursday to lead Collective Worship. I already knew quite a number of faces from neighbours, birthday parties, and church, but it was great to see all the children together. Together we looked at an ancient song from the Bible—Psalm 8—which tells of the many wonderful works of God in creation. We learnt about the planets, the sun and moon, and solar eclipses, and how uncanny it is that the sun and moon appear exactly the same size, making a solar eclipse possible—a coincidence so unlikely, the odds are quite literally astronomical! Or perhaps it is another clue that our world actually might have a Grand Designer... We also saw how God has put us in charge of this beautiful world, the damage we've done to it, and how we can work better to protect, nurture and heal it.

Revd. Aidan Jones, Curate at St Mary's Church

Census

It is Census Day on Thursday 20th January. There are three censuses in each school year, which are used to gather information about individual pupils

and about the school itself. One of the most important aspects of the census for Purley is that the money we receive from the government to pay for the KS1/infant school meals is based on the number of meals taken on Thursday. It really helps us if the children have a school meal on this day. To encourage the children to choose a school meal The Pantry are devising a special menu and will be sending details to you directly. Please can you encourage your children, particularly those in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to book a school meal on Thursday. The meals are provided at no cost to you for those year groups, so even if your children were to bring a packed lunch, they could still order a meal to try in addition. We thank you for your support with this.

Proposed Term Dates for 2023/24

The proposed term dates for 2023/24 have been through West Berkshire's internal consultation process and are now available for public consultation. The consultation runs from 10 January until 25 February 2022. The deadline for feedback and comments is 25 February 2022. A link to the survey will be included in the covering Parentmail notification sent with this letter.

Parent Overviews

Please be advised that updated Parent Overviews for this term, for each class can be found on the school website under the relevant class page.

Hedgehog class

The traditional tale of The Three Little Pigs inspired our learning this week and we acted out the story as we read it. We chose instruments to represent the characters and we worked in groups to retell the story. We had a fun afternoon exploring building materials - we found that we couldn't join the sticks together with tape as they had been out in the rain and were too wet, and the straw just made a mess of the classroom! Reggie thought that bricks were best as they are strong, and we didn't even need cement with the Lego bricks. Gino managed to find a circular piece of Lego for his house as he noticed it would need a smoke alarm. We also thought about alternative endings for the story - Elliot thought that the wolf would run off to Little Red Riding Hood's Grandma's house, whilst Dakota wondered if the wolf would find some water to cool his bottom and then sit on the couch to watch tv!



Next week we will begin our Focus Child time when two children each week will have the opportunity to share some photos of themselves and their home life with the class. A letter with further details will go out each Friday afternoon to the children chosen for the following week. Next week our focus children will be Harry Eldred and Ariyah.

Mrs Burton

Badger class



Badger class have had a busy week starting their new topic "Up in the air." We started researching activities about the seasons and weather using the learning platform *Purple mash* and the children learnt how to do a search and add filters independently. We discussed Internet safety and how researching on *Purple mash* was safe as it was a site for children. To inspire our art work we looked at the amazing work of Dutch artist Berndnaut Smilde who is known as "The cloud maker." The children were fascinated to find out how he creates his indoor clouds and photographs them as a piece of art. We then had a

go at creating our own indoor clouds using shaving foam and glue. They are now hanging up in the classroom and look very effective. In English we have enjoyed watching an animation called, "The cloud maker." We wrote questions to ask the boy in the story about how he felt and have started to look at diary entries and how they are written. Next week we will be writing a diary entry as if we are the boy in the story. On Wednesday we went to the field and explored how things move in the wind. We lay down and observed the clouds and even saw the moon! We had fun with balloons and bubbles and watching them drift and float on the air. We even let a balloon go free with a message on. We are hoping that someone will find the balloon and email us to let us know how far it has travelled. Last time we did this activity it ended up in Norfolk! In maths the children have been looking at subtraction. They have all gone home with a new KIRF about doubling and halving. Please help them to learn these facts.

If anyone has any spare shoe boxes at home, please may we use them to make our space dioramas. Thank you

Mrs Lyn-Jones

Owl class



This week in English we have been thinking about characters thoughts and motivations within a silent animation. The children have started to create freeze frames for the 6 main parts of the film. Next week we will be drawing on this to write a newspaper report and design wanted posters! The children have really enjoyed the film, if you wanted to take a look and discuss it with them it can be found at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ji1KM1BbAyY>.

In maths both The Spheres and the Cubes have been exploring multiplication. The new KIRFS came home on Friday and we have already started our weekly assessment on these, please do encourage you children to practise thee at home too. Inside the Earth has been the topic for science and the children have looked at the different layers.

I do try and put some of the videos that we use for our learning onto google classroom. These can be accessed at home if you wish to discuss your child's learning with them further.

Last week, as you may have heard, we used one of our class Christmas gifts and made small fires and toasted marshmallows. The children had a lovely

time and we would like to send a BIG thank you to Father Christmas and his team for them!

Finally, this term we are learning about Romans in Britain. We are very lucky to have Silchester, one of the first Roman settlements in Britain, just down the road. However, to organise a class trip is very costly, so as in previous years, I would like to invite you to a family morning at Silchester on Saturday 12th February. More details to follow.

Mrs Pickering

Falcon class

Kaire!! The Ancient Greeks have arrived in Falcon class and we enjoyed meeting Hicksos (alias Mrs Hicks in costume...) who introduced us to the Ancient Greek world. The children considered where and when they were found and decided whether the Greek empire of Alexander the Great had a negative or positive effect on different groups. Did you know that the Egyptians were relieved to see them as the Persians weren't so nice? The Greek theme has continued in English as we have started exploring Greek Myths and Legends. We are focussing on Pandora's box at present - I wonder if we would have opened that box?! In RE, we considered the lives of slaves in Egypt at the time before Moses and created our 'found poem' of words and phrases to illustrate their lives. "We want freedom, a life, respect. Give us rights, a break from labour. Peace." As we learn about Moses and what happens next, we'll see if they get what they wished for! Maths lessons have seen a focus on fractions for Y6, multiplication for Pentagons and division for Crystals with the recognition that knowledge of times tables really helps them to spot patterns and solve calculations readily. So please keep practicing those times tables, use TTR. Many children have brought in their Greek homework and it's great to see the different approaches: slides, fact files and models. As we are learning about space in Science, have a look at the night sky and see what constellations you can see!

Mrs Hicks



FOPS news

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SALE

FOPS will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale in the Lister Close carpark after school on Tuesday 18th January. We have lots of good quality uniform

priced between 50p and £5. So, if your child has had a growth spurt over Christmas, please do come along and help up keep useable clothes out of landfill.

CHRISTMAS CLOTHES & GIFT AMNESTY

To help start the year off in a sustainable way, we are holding a Christmas clothing and unwanted gift amnesty. The second-hand Christmas jumper sale before Christmas was a great success, which we would like to repeat this year to allow any outgrown or unwanted Christmas clothing have a second lease of life. Also, if you've received any gifts such as smellies, gift sets, food or drink that you won't use, we would be very grateful if you could please donate them so we can use them for hampers or prizes throughout the year. Please hand in at the school office, who will pass them onto FOPS.

Dates for the diary

03/02/22 – Anvil Choir Rehearsal

16/02/22 & 17/02/22 – Parents Evening

21/02/22 – 25/02/22 – **Half Term Holiday**

03/03/22 – World Book Day

10/03/22 – Anvil Choir Rehearsal

21/03/22 – World Poetry Day

30/03/22 – Anvil Choir Concert

07/04/22 – **End of Spring 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

Karen Fakes (Head teacher)

Learn to Love, love to Learn

The West Berkshire Museum team would like to wish you a happy new year and are very much looking forward to working with you in 2022.

Why not bring a topic to life this Spring/Summer by borrowing one of our museum artefact loan boxes (one pictured below, right)? Details of this scheme can be found in the FAQ museum artefact loan box leaflet sent with this newsletter or download a copy at www.westberkshireheritage.org/schools

The above website also contains some information about the museum's learning and participation service, including the learning and participation brochure (also sent with this newsletter), newsletter and a museum trail to download.

A visit to the Museum to explore the galleries is free and available to book on Mondays and Tuesdays (subject to availability) when we are closed to the public. Details of the exhibitions are in this newsletter (top right) and it's usually possible for us to provide a trail (with advance notice). Trails are provided free-of-charge, and you can borrow clipboards and pencils.

For example, we have a museum trail available to accompany the Peace Camp exhibition in Gallery 5 (and figures scattered around the Museum, one pictured right). This exhibition by artist Jemima Brown commemorates the 40th anniversary of the arrival of the Greenham women peace camp at Greenham Common. The exhibition runs until 30 April 2022.

You can always combine a visit to the museum galleries with a led session – details of the available topics can be found in the museum learning and participation brochure sent with this newsletter.

Not able to visit the Museum? The museum team can bring most of the led sessions to your school. The sessions usually involve a mixture of real and replica objects for the children to handle and do activities around. For more information, please see the brochure or contact me (details, below and right).

With kind regards, **Clare Bromley (Ms)**,
Learning and Participation Officer.

Current exhibitions at the Museum

Special exhibition: Barrels and Bottles.

Looking at the story of brewing in West Berkshire. Opening soon (19/01/22).

Special exhibition: Together. Individuals describe their courtship and matrimonial rituals and traditions.

Special exhibition: Focus on Hungerford. An exploration of the history of this parish.

Special exhibition: Peace Camp. Greenham Common peace camp art installation.

Special exhibition: Hoards – New Treasure.

Special exhibition: The Stories We Tell. Folklore, myths and legends of West Berkshire.

Permanent exhibition: Lives and Landscapes. The story of West Berkshire told chronologically.



Top image: Part of the Peace Camp art installation at West Berkshire Museum. Image courtesy of Jemima Brown.
Image below: World War II evacuee museum artefact loan box.

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