

# Headteacher's Update

Thank you to everyone for your support during our OFSTED inspection this week. We do not have the final outcome yet, but it will be published as soon as we have it. The guidance suggests 30 working days.

# **Covid update**

I attended a West Berkshire briefing for schools this week. Cases in schools are rising and 70% of cases are now in primary schools with 80% of staff cases in primary schools.

As we have a planned visit to the Watermill Theatre next week, where bubbles will be sharing a coach, I am suggesting that children take an LFD test that morning or

the day before. The tests that are now available, no do not need to access the throat, just the nose.

Testing is the only measure we know of that has a significant impact of containing outbreaks in schools.

Please do not send your child into school with any Covid symptoms and organise a PCR test as soon as possible (high temperature, coughing, loss of taste /smell). With winter colds now being more common, we also encourage LFD testing. Headaches, sore throats are often symptoms in children.

Mrs Fakes

### **Collective Worship**

#### Give peace a chance...

Have you ever heard of the Mennonites? This week we considered their traditions, cross and beliefs. As with all Christian churches, they hold the hold cross dear as a symbol of life and love, of sacrifice. But for many, sacrifice means pain, loss, and war. The Mennonites strive to live their lives in peace. In our worship yesterday, we thought about peace. Have you read '*Five Minutes Peace'?* Do you ever feel like there is no peace to be found in this busy world? Is peace just about finding that moment to yourself? We learned how peace means living courageously loving and helping those around us, and making wise decisions to build and support others. The Bible reminds us in Romans 18 verse 12, to do our very best to live in peace with all people. How will you live in peace today?

Pam Slingsby, Foundation Governor

### Windmill Theatre Trip

Years 1 - 6 will be attending the Watermill Theatre on Wednesday 1st December to watch The Jungle Book. The children will be leaving school after lunch and will be retuning around 17:15. Should this be delayed, we will notify you by parent mail. Whilst most of you have already confirmed



attendance for your child and made payment for the trip, please can I ask you to respond to the form on Parent mail confirming your consent as soon as possible, it would be much appreciated.

## Whole School Flu Immunisations

Nasal Flu Vaccinations are being undertaken for all children in school on Thursday 2nd December. A link to the consent form has been sent out on Parentmail. If you haven't already done so, please complete a form for your child's Flu Immunisation online by 9am on Tuesday 30th November. Please can you ensure you complete the form even if you do not want your child to receive the immunisation.

# School Nativity – HELP!

We are busy preparing and rehearsing for our Nativity Performance and have found ourselves a bit low on Camel Costumes! So if anyone has a



spare camel costume, which is in need of a new home, we would be very grateful!

#### Safety- SMART phones!

When we did our aspirations week a couple of years ago, we discovered that many of our children who knew how to keep safe on their computers, were not so safe on their Smart phones!



Mrs McGowan, one of our parents, a governor and a police officer will be leading sessions for children in the afternoon during school and for parents at 6:30 on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>. It will be virtual to enable more people to attend. This is an excellent opportunity for you to learn more about keeping your children safe.

### **Children in Need**

It was lovely to see so many children dressed up in spotty clothing and Pudsey outfits for



Children in Need last Friday. Thank you to all of you who went to so much effort and made donations. We are still gathering in some donations and tallying up the final amount therefore we will let you know the total amount raised for Children in Need and the Anti-Bullying Alliance shortly.

### **Hedgehog class**

Our week began with the Nativity story and we thought about why Jesus was such a special baby. We drew pictures to make a timeline in class to show how



God first created the heavens and Earth, animals and flowers. We added the birth of baby Jesus to our timeline and we understood that Jesus was born a long time before us, and that even Mrs Burton was born after Jesus.

Whilst role-playing dragons outside, Harry E and Layne realised that they need a cave to hide in. Several locations were tried, but found to be unsuitable. Mrs Chohan came to the rescue with some black sugar paper to cover the windows and our Wendy house became a perfectly dark cave! This enabled us to explore using torches in the dark and spotting the glow-in-the-dark bugs hiding on the walls and ceiling.

We also had to overcome problems with crossing our blue 'river' in the garden. We built boats big enough for us to sit in using tubes for oars. We used our imagination to pretend we were using paddle boards, surfing, swimming and flying across the water.

Mrs Burton

#### **Badger class**

This week in Badger class, as part of our Geography learning we looked at different Physical and Human geographical features. We worked collaboratively to sort the features and give clear reasons for our choices. We looked at definitions of the geographical features and Y2 had a go at writing some of their own. Y1 thought about Purley and created posters to show some of the geographical features in our village. During Art we have started to look at weavings and how this craft is used across the world for different purposes. We have started to weave using different materials and embellishments and are delighted with the finished product. In maths Y1 have been working on addition and subtraction and exploring fact families for numbers up to 10. Y2 have been exploring how we can use number bonds to 10 to help us find related number bonds to 100. In science we investigated different materials and set up an experiment to find the stretchiness material to make a party outfit.

The children have been working hard on learning their lines in school for our Christmas play and we will start the recording soon. Please help them to say their lines at home loudly, clearly and with expression. Thank you

Mrs Lyn-Jones

#### Woodland School

had a sparkly lit up walk

through the woodland

path on the way to the

For woodland

adventures this week we

house. We spent time in a new area balancing on logs, playing in a den and having fun with the ball run. We then went into the house where we were

told the outside had been bought inside so we set off exploring all the trees that had been bought inside to decorate the house. We found it verv exciting and finished with hot chocolate in the old kitchen.



#### **Owl class plus Falcon Year 5!**

What a whirl wind of a week, but we have had a wonderful time with lots of amazing learning. This week we

joined with the year 5 children and had a week on The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling, in preparation for our visit to the theatre next Wednesday. We have explored an abridged version of the books and also dipped into the original text too. The children held a very informative debate on whether the wolves made the right choice to keep Mowgli, or should they have left him to survive on his own in the hope he may get back to the man village. We had lots of meaningful thoughts from both sides, but the final decision remained inconclusive. Inverted commas for dialogue was our focus for chapter 5, when Mowgli was captured by the Banderlog Monkeys! The children have also enjoyed the Disney Jungle book film that was released in 2016. Hopefully having a deeper understanding of the story will enhance their enjoyment of the stage performance.

Continuing with the Jungle book theme, art has been explored through the French Artist, Henri Rosseau and his work, 'The Suprise'.

It has been lovely working with the year 5 children this week and seeing how much they have matured and learnt. I hope they have enjoyed their week back in Owl Class too!

Mrs Pickering

#### **Falcon class**



Our Year 6 pupils have a fantastic but very tiring week away on



their residential trip to Rhos-ygwaliau. We look forward to welcoming them back to school on Monday and hearing all about their adventures.

Mrs Fakes

#### **FOPS** news

### SECOND-HAND CHRISTMAS CLOTHES SALE

The Second-hand Christmas Clothing Sale took place on Wednesday and has raised a wonderful £100 for the school, as well as giving lots of Christmas clothing a new lease of life. A big thank you to Miss Allsop & the school Eco-Warriors for organising this fab event to promote sustainability. Thank you also to everyone who donated and purchased items your support is much appreciated and made this event a real success.

#### Bag 2 School



Thank you to everyone who donated their unwanted clothes to Bag2School. It really was significant а donation we were able to

make, which you will see from the pictures! This has resulted in £174 being raised so a big thank you to everyone who donated.



#### SCHOOL CHRISTMAS DISCO

Please remember to return your ticket forms to school by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December for the School Christmas Disco, which is taking place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> 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.

# "ELFRIDGES" CHRISTMAS SHOP

Elfridges Christmas Shop is coming to school **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

### Wednesday: Badger



# Thursday: Falcon

Please send your child with their spending money in a <u>named</u> purse and a <u>named</u> carrier bag for their purchases.

Gifts range from £1-£3 each.

The children have the opportunity to buy Christmas gifts for family or friends. A list of names helps the younger ones.

### Dates for the diary

01/12/21 – Jungle Book Theatre Trip

**02/12/21** – School Flu Immunisations

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

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)

Learn to Love, love to Learn