



Purley CE Primary School

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Mrs K Fakes



Friday Newsletter

Learn to love, love to learn

15th December 2021

Headteacher's Update



We are limping our way towards the end of term. One uplifting experience of working in a primary school is seeing the excitement of Christmas among the children. It helps to keep us all going.

We have had a handful of children with Covid towards the end of term. Unfortunately, this has coincided with a sickness bug, mainly in Hedgehog and Badger classes. We usually have an outbreak every few years and this year, children's immunity has not been as high due to the Covid isolation period last year. Nearly all have recovered quickly.

COVID UPDATE.

Please keep the school informed of any **Covid** and **sickness** cases as we need to report them whether the child is in school or not. If there are any new covid cases on the first weekend of the holidays we need to be informed via the Covid e mail address. We may need to track and trace any possible close contacts. The Covid e mail is monitored during the holidays.

covid@purley.w-berks.sch.uk

We are monitoring closely the symptoms, or lack of. We have seen a few nose bleeds and when looking on the NHS website it is mentioned that this could be a symptom.

I have a meeting with the Local Authority on January 4th with hopefully more guidance from the Government and the Authority regarding next term. We are setting up Google classrooms for all classes, just in case they will be needed. We all hope that all the children and staff will be back to school in full health in January.



SICKNESS BUG

The school is undertaking additional cleaning, even more that we already do with Covid! I was surprised to read yesterday that hand sanitiser is ineffective, you need soap and water.

Whilst symptoms are usually short-lived and not serious, the winter vomiting bug is very contagious. More information can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/norovirus/>

We can all help slow the spread by:

- Ensuring good hand and bathroom hygiene
- Hand sanitiser is ineffective against Norovirus. You must use soap and water to wash hands
- Clean high contact surfaces regularly
- If your child feels sick or unwell, please **do not** send them into school



Christmas Activities

With only two days to go, we are doing our best to keep the Christmas spirit going. It will be Christmas jumper day on Thursday, with donations to Daisy's Dream. The children will watch the recorded Nativity in their classes followed by an additional Purley Paragon Playtime in the afternoon.

On Friday, we will start our day with our recording of the Carol service. There will be fun and games in the classes before an early finish for the children at 1:15.

This will be the last newsletter this term, all that is left is for me to wish you a merry and healthy Christmas.

Mrs Fakes

Governor's Update

This has been a very busy term with the arrival of both SIAMs and OfSTED inspectors and governors were interviewed about their work at the school. We met with both teams and spent time answering their questions about our work and what we think about the school. On both occasions we proudly explained how well we thought the school was performing. You will have had an opportunity to have read the good SIAMs report and in the New Year, the OfSTED report will be published.

One important aspect of our work is to have regard to the health and safety of pupils and staff. This term we have not only successfully completed a comprehensive questionnaire for West Berkshire but also been scrutinised by the inspectors. One issue that remains on our agenda is the safety of pupils at the front of the school and how we can improve it. One way is to ask parents to think "child" and think "safety" and to remember not to park on the double yellow lines across the front of the school. Our thanks to all the parents who have heeded this request.

An enjoyable task for governors is our visits to school during the day, and recently Carole Print and I spent a morning in classes watching a variety of lessons. We were not only very impressed with pupil's behaviour, but also for their infectious enthusiasm for their learning; they were keen to tell us what they were studying and to show us their work. During these visits and at other times we are keen to learn what the pupils think about their school and to that end a governor has joined school council meetings to hear first-hand about their views.

We would like to thank all the staff and the pupils for their hard work over the year. It is also an opportunity to thank parents and carers for their efforts in facilitating and joining in with the on-line learning.

Finally, the governors wish all our families a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Lin Bartlett, Vice Chair of Governors

Junk Orchestra

Please can we ask children in Years 1 and 2 to collect clean cardboard rolls.....these can be toilet rolls, cellophane or kitchen towel rolls. These are to be used for maraca making on 6th January as part of our junk orchestra workshops

Woodland School

With some welcome mild weather including some sunshine, we were not surprised to find a ladybird walking up a



tree this week. Sofia and Izaak tried to give it some leaves to nibble on but it was too busy to eat. Cecily enjoyed digging and was pleased to find a worm.

Today's challenge was to visit four different types of tree to make a bark rubbing. Alice found a yew, holly, beech and wild cherry



tree. Elsewhere there was great teamwork to be seen as Ava found a log and began removing the bark to make a tasty treat for the deers. Leyla, Amber and Charlotte worked together to help. George and Dinesh used the binoculars to search for birds and George found a comfortable place to watch, relaxing against the den. We loved our last session of the year.

Mrs Hodsdon

GUESS THE NAME OF THE SLOTH COMPETITION

Congratulations to Poppy Allum in Owl class who won the competition and is lucky enough to be taking the cuddly sloth home today. Mr Sloth is no longer homeless or nameless and will now always be known as Nico!

Dates for the diary

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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