



Purley CE Primary School

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Mrs K Fakes



Friday Newsletter

Learn to love, love to learn

17th June 2022

Headteacher's Update

Frozen Friday

I bet your children would have loved an ice lolly at the end of the day today. It was planned by FOPS to hold an ice lolly sale on Fridays at pick up time but unfortunately, no volunteers came forward to help to run it.



Money raised by FOPS supports the school tremendously and the hard work is borne by the few. Without money from FOPS we would need to reconsider providing swimming lessons for Year 2, going to Woodland school, year 6 residential, Y4/5 camping, replacing library books and the occasional workshop.

The other alternatives would be to charge parents more for each event or for parents to make a monthly contribution to the FOPS account. I appreciate that everyone has busy lives and maybe that would be the best solution.

Please would all of you support our Fete on July 9th. Come and spend, but also volunteer an hour of your time to man a stall. These community events are important; we missed them during lockdown.

Mrs Fakes

Collective Worship

This week, in Thursday's Collective Worship, we dug out a very famous Bible story all about how Moses led the people of



Israel out of slavery in Egypt. They were stuck between an angry Egyptian army on one side, and the expansive waters of the Red Sea on the other, when God intervened and split the sea in half, allowing the people to escape through the path between walls of water! (I recommend watching the film 'The Prince of Egypt' for the full story!) This marked the beginning of a long and winding journey of faith for the Israelites. We also walk through our own journeys in life, and the water of the Red Sea is supposed to remind us of the water of baptism, which marks the beginning of a new journey of faith. God steps

into our lives, rescues us from darkness and despair, and leads us on with new purpose and hope.

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

From the Governors

Sometimes people ask, "What do governors do? - do they run the school?" The answer is no. The head teacher runs the school but the governors are responsible for making sure that the school is managed to meet the needs of all stakeholders. They support the head but they may also challenge some decisions about how the school is run. As a body, the Governors need to ensure the school complies with legal requirements and that money is spent wisely, so that every child has the opportunity to achieve.

There are two specialist committees within the governing board which visit the school regularly

during the day and talk to children and staff. The Learning and Teaching committee monitor how the children are learning and how the curriculum is being followed. The Welfare committee is concerned with the wellbeing of children and staff as this is key to the success of the school community.

Several governors have specific areas of responsibility, I, for example, am the Health and Safety governor. At least once a term I walk around the inside and outside of the school with the School Business Manager to check the building is in good order and that there are no hazards or potential dangers that could cause injury to anybody in the school. I also review documentation to ensure that safety procedures, essential training and regular specialist inspections are up to date. The main safety issue the school has is in the morning, when some parents drive their children to school and park irresponsibly and illegally, putting other peoples' children in danger. It would be terrible if a child was injured so please do not do this.

Aside from being a governor, I also volunteer at the school, helping with Woodland school and testing children in Falcon class on their KIRFS. Volunteering is great way to get to see the school in action and to get to know the children and staff. If you have a little time to spare I would encourage you to volunteer. I know Mrs Fakes would be pleased to hear from you.

In September we will welcome the new Head teacher, and building on the successes achieved by Mrs Fakes, we look forward to the school continuing to flourish.

David Briscoe

Staffing

Mrs Hicks will sadly be leaving us in the summer. She is moving to a school closer to her home. We thank her for all she has done at Purley. We are delighted to have appointed Miss Eleana Turner Hurd, as a new teacher for Falcon, to start in September. She was on placement in Owl class in the Spring term and knows the Year 3 and 4 pupils very well.

Eco Warriors visit to the wind turbine

Last week the Eco Warriors - Harry B, Ella, Jaiden, Harry C, Rory and Caleb - spent an afternoon visiting the wind turbine at Green Park in Reading to find out more about sustainable energy. They found out that fossil fuels (gas, coal, wood) need to burn to produce energy, thus polluting the atmosphere with

carbon dioxide. This makes the atmosphere thicker and contributes to global warming, which is bad for the planet and us! The wind turbine, however, uses only the wind to produce energy in the form of electricity. It is 120m tall to catch the strongest winds and it is built in pieces like a steel toilet roll!

The wind turbine expert, Ian, has agreed to visit us to carry out an energy audit to help us find ways of saving both energy and money at school. The Eco Warriors will feed back any tips after this meeting - they may even have some ideas on how you can save energy at home too.



Woodland School

After walking around our boundary to remind us of where we can play, the children quickly went off to explore the woods. Darcie-Claire, Dakota and Ariyah soon found a large tree stump which they thought was a perfect place to build a nest. They hunted round for twigs and sticks, then chose leaves and moss to make a soft, comfortable middle bit for the baby birds to sit on.



The boys decided to build a camp fire. They discussed ways of starting a fire with sticks, and Elliot explained how a magnifying glass and the sun could be used too. We decided it wouldn't be safe to make a real fire in the woods as Sadie pointed out it could spread with all the dry, dead leaves on the forest floor. Instead Lottie and Layne found twigs with leaves attached to represent the flames and added them to the fire.



Mrs Burton

Camping

Last Thursday and Friday the year 4 and 5 children packed their bags and headed off to Thirtover Guide

Centre at Cold Ash for 2 days of fun and adventure. They had 2 action packed days with a wide range of activities including; caving, archery, climbing, tool skills, fire lighting and grass sledging. They even cooked their lunch, calzone and apple turnovers over open fires. At the end of the day, we enjoyed a sing song around the campfire with the obligatory Smores! The children all showed courage and perseverance when participating in the activities and the Purley love spread around the site as children worked together, supporting each other throughout the day. If your child came home totally 'pooped' the lovely dawn chorus was mostly to blame. The birds felt 4:00am was the perfect time to sing their hearts out and awaken the young campers, a little too early considering they were still nattering at midnight! But isn't staying awake all night part of the fun of going away with 29 friends!

I was incredibly proud of each and every one of them and it was an honour to share this wonderful experience with them all. I would also like to thank Mrs Browning and Mr Bell for accompanying us, without their help the event wouldn't have happened. Julia's mum joined us and took a vast number of photos over the 2 days, we are planning to put these on a USB stick for each one of you, I hope this will be done before the end of term. Thank you Ewa for all your hard work in creating this keepsake of the event for the children. In the meantime I have created a montage with some of my photos from the camp, which can be found at the back of this newsletter.

Finally, I have a blue sleeping bag if your child came home without one!

Mrs Pickering

Hedgehog class

Our maths this week was inspired by the story of Grandpa's Quilt and we explored moving 2d shapes together to make other shapes. We made a paper quilt by each folding a square into two triangles and decorating them with different patterns to highlight the shapes. This also inspired us to begin a sewing project using squares of binca-styled plastic and wool - sewing in a straight line was much trickier than we thought! We looked at some artwork painted by Wassily Kandinski and we had a go at creating our own circles and squares designs.



To support our independent writing, we had a 'What is in the treasure chest?' challenge - we had to write our guesses on post-it notes and the winner got to

choose a prize from the class treasure box. Well done to Dakota for guessing it was a bouncy ball!

Mrs Burton

Badger class



Badger class have continued to work on the story, "The Black Hat" this week and wrote some wonderful diary entries as if the little boy in the story. They included noun phrases to describe and time words to move their storytelling on. Some children proudly read out their writing to the class and their friends enjoyed listening to them. We have also been thinking about our world and how we need to look after it. After having watched a moving video about our wonderful world and how it is being damaged, the children wrote prayers for the school prayer wall. In art we have started to research the work of Scottish artist Andy Goldsworthy. We talked about what we liked in his work and have been inspired to create our own artwork in the garden using natural materials. As part of our geography learning we have looked at maps and the use of a key. We then made our own maps of Bucknells meadow, thinking carefully where things are positioned and how to include a simple key. In maths Y2 have been measuring in cm's and m's and Y1 have been exploring multiplication by adding equal groups.

Mrs Lyn-Jones

Owl class



Wow! That was a hot one! Despite the heat this week, the children have worked exceptionally hard and we have made a big splash into our new topic '*Commotion in the Ocean*'. We have started our new novel, '*This Morning I Met a Whale*' by Michael Morpurgo. This has inspired us to complete some descriptive writing. The year 3 children based theirs on the stunning image of Battersea Bridge from the book, whilst the year 4 children have been inspired by Morpurgo's description of a Heron to describe an alternative river bird. The children have been thinking about the impact humans have on our oceans, particularly with plastic waste. Plastic never fully biodegrades and can be found in many everyday foods. I am sure the children will fill you in on what! With this in mind, we have set up an experiment, burying a piece of fruit, cardboard and plastic. This will be left for 4 weeks and then we will dig them back up to see if any have started to decompose and if their

predictions were right. We are hoping to meet up again in the next week or two with our friends from India, so the children have been very busy creating a collaborative presentation on England to share with them. In maths the Cubes have worked on fractions exploring tenths and how these link to decimals. The Spheres have continued to investigate decimals. A huge well done to all the year 4 children for their hard work and practise for our multiplication test that we completed on Wednesday. New KIRFS were out in book bags this week, please can you support your child by practising these regularly. We do aim to test them each week.

As the weather is now warming up, please can all children come to school with a hat, sun cream and a water bottle.

Mrs Pickering

Falcon class

It's been an interesting week with a variety of different learning opportunities for us all amongst our usual lessons. Y5 had the pleasure of a visit from the Mental Health ambassadors from Denefield School, who helped them consider how to deal with worries. They made 'worry jars' to take home and have also created a class one to use in school. Y6 were accompanied in a Maths lesson by the Head of Maths from Denefield and a colleague as they observed how we teach Maths in Primary School, to better help them with transition to Y7 for new pupils. They enjoyed seeing children make use of displays to support their learning. We all went to Englefield on Thursday for the 'Schools' Day' and have an amazing time learning about a range of topics, including food and farming (we met sheep and lambs); trees and timber (watching a forester scale a vintage oak tree in 8 seconds); and how to design an ecovillage. I was proud of their engagement, manners and helpfulness to each other - well done Falcons!

Rehearsals continue of course, the singing sounds amazing, and we are now into the prop making phase. If your child's costume isn't in yet in its entirety, please can it be by Monday, as we need to check that nothing is missing and get some photographs taken.



Mrs Hicks

FOPS News

SUMMER FETE

Plans of the Fete on **Saturday 9th July** are coming together.

Thank you for all your kind donations for the Lucky Dip Bags today - these are much appreciated. Next **Friday 24th June**, we would be very grateful for any donations of **chocolates & sweets** for our chocolate tombola.

Hopefully you found the raffle tickets in your child's book bag. There are a fab range of prizes available from horse riding to summer game sets. Tickets are just 50p each. If you'd like to purchase please return the stubs and cash to the school office. There are only a limited number of advance raffle tickets and they are proving popular, so if you don't wish to buy, then please return the tickets to school so they can be resold. More tickets will be available to buy on the day itself.

We are also looking for **donations of good quality toys** for our very popular Toy Stall. If you have anything you would like to donate, please pass them to **Julie Anderson** who will be outside school next **Friday 24th June** waiting to collect them

SCHOOL LOTTERY

We had another lucky winner from our school lottery this week! There's still time to sign up for this week's draw and be in with a chance of winning the £25,000 jackpot. To sign up if you want to be in with a chance of winning, then follow this link:-

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/purley-ce-primary-school>

Tickets for the lottery cost just £1 per week.

Some people have registered with the lottery but not completed their ticket purchase - is that you? If so, don't miss out!

BAG2SCHOOL COLLECTION

Are you having a Spring Clear-out? We've managed to squeeze in a Bag2School collection for Friday 24th June. Bag2School collects the following in good condition for reuse:

- Men's, women's and children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags & bags
- Hats
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery & Belts
- Lingerie & Socks
- Soft toys
- Household linen, curtains, towels & bedding

They don't accept:

- Duvets, 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 offcuts, yarns or threaded material.

Your unwanted clothes = school PTA funding, so we would be very grateful for anything you can donate. Please bring your donations in any plastic bag to school at the start of the school day on Friday 24th June.

EASYFUNDRAISING

It's the time of the year when you might be looking to update your summer wardrobe or book a holiday. If you haven't signed up to Easyfundraising, then please consider this as it is a good way to raise funds for our school.

Easyfundraising is an entirely free service that allows people to shop directly at their favourite online store via the links on the website

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fopsreading/>

(or the app which is available on the app store or googleplay) and raise a donation for their school once a purchase is made. Donations can be up to 15% of the value of your purchase, depending on

the retailer and the item purchased! There are thousands of stores that are already participating with leading high street brands such as Amazon, John Lewis, M&S, Argos, eBay, Sainsburys, Tesco Direct, Toys R Us, holiday companies such as Expedia and Booking.com and more, making it one of the most effortless fundraising ideas for schools.

It's completely free and there really is no catch.

Sign up, select our school and start raising funds today! All you need to do is remember to go to the app or the website every time you shop

Dates for the diary

24/06/22 – Bag2School Collection

06-07/07/22 – Year 6 Production

09/07/22 – School fete

15/07/22 – Sports Day

21/07/22 – **End of Academic Year at 1:15pm**

05/09/22 – **Start of the new Academic Year**

06/11/22 – Fireworks

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



Year 4 & 5 Camping
Thirtover Guide Centre,
Cold Ash
June 2022



Children's Holiday Clubs

Our holiday club days are great fun and packed full of activities for any young person that enjoys outdoor learning with a difference.



Nature Detective Day

Activities can include:

- ✦ Identification
- ✦ Nature Watch
- ✦ Tracking Animals
- ✦ Leaf Printing

£35
per person
per day
9am - 4.30pm

Woodland Warrior's Day

Activities can include:

- ✦ Leaf Masks
- ✦ Den Building
- ✦ Mud & Bark Faces
- ✦ Creepy Crawly Cones



Young person's Bushcraft Day

Activities can include:

- ✦ Cooking on Open Fire
- ✦ Basic Tool Skills
- ✦ Shelter Building
- ✦ Basic Pioneering



Young Person's Survival Day

Activities can include:

- ✦ Tracking
- ✦ Green Wood Carving
- ✦ Basic Navigation
- ✦ Basic Outdoor First Aid



We are part of the
Berkshire Scout
Enterprise Ltd Group

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