



## *Kindness, Thankfulness, Perseverance*

Christmas arrived in style on Tuesday, the children (and staff) had a wonderful day decorating the classrooms and making lots of Christmas decorations. Christmas music has been ringing out across the classrooms along with the sound of nativity rehearsals. It is hard to believe we only have 2 weeks left. I have heard from the children that quite a few of you are already embracing the Christmas spirit as you have put your decorations up at home.

The next two weeks are looking busy, as we continue to make Christmas 2020 special but Covid compliant. As we are filming this year's Nativity for you all, you will have received an updated video and photograph permission slip this week. We would be grateful if you could complete and return it as soon as possible.

We have our in-class Christmas parties planned and are hoping to be able to hold a Christingle service on the last Friday of term.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the dedicated members of the PTFA who have been busy as always in their efforts to raise money for the school. If you haven't already bought raffle tickets then do get in contact to find out how you can get involved as there are some fantastic prizes to be won!

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who has written in a message of support for our amazing staff. The staff have enjoyed the surprise and a few tears were shed as they read them on the display in the staffroom. It's not too late if you haven't had a chance to write yet but would like to, just send us an email.

Have a wonderful weekend!



**Last Date for Christmas Cards to arrive in school – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

**Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept any cards after this date as they all need to be quarantined. The cards will be delivered on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December**



### **This weekend! South West Carol Concert**

Please log on to South West Carol Service this weekend and see if you can spot some of our younger children taking part.

We have been chosen to represent Salisbury Diocese in the South West region carol service. The event is taking place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020, from 7-8pm each evening.

It will be repeated each night and will be broadcast at [www.southwestcarols.com](http://www.southwestcarols.com) and also on YouTube.

The event is an online event for all ages and our children will be playing a small part along with other schools across the South West region.

### **Last Day of Term 18<sup>th</sup> December**

**Finishing times**

**Squirrels and Foxes 1:45pm**

**Hedgehogs and Badgers 2pm**

## Head Teacher's Award

Week ending: 4/12/2020



**Rafferty (Hedgehogs)** – for working really hard on his writing and phonics.

**Robyn (Squirrels)** – for always showing kindness to everyone in Squirrels.

**Flo (Badgers)** – for modelling our positive 'diversity' attitude as she is kind to all others and a mature year 4.

**Keeleigh (Foxes)** for being so enthusiastic at everything she does.

**WELL DONE!**

Today we have introduced two new awards. These will be given out monthly. Excellent writers and Marvellous Maths

## Marvellous Mathematician

Dolly (Y2), Harry R (Y2), Elsie (Y1), Annella (Y3), Chloe (Y3), Phoebe P (Y4), Scarlett (Y1), Georgia-May (YR), Ollie R (Y5), James (Y5) and Elsie (Y5)



## TT Rockstar Leader Board

Week ending 4/12/2020

Sonny Y4 Rock Hero Speed 0.67

Oscar Y5 Rock Hero Speed 0.70

Arthur Y6 Rock Hero Speed 0.72

Joshua Y5 Rock Hero Speed 0.78

Ollie Y6 Rock Hero Speed 0.95

Lucas PT Y6 Rock Hero Speed 0.95



## Learnimal Awards

Week ending: 4/12/2020



**Bea** for being a Persevering Penguin

**Eliza** for being a Concentrating Camel

**Alfie-Jack** for being a Concentrating Camel

**Joshua** for being a Have-a-go Hyena



## Bronze Star Awards

Week ending 4/12/20

**Madison (Y2)**

**Joanna (Y1)**

**Chloe (Y3)**

Congratulations



## Pupil of the week

Week ending:  
4/12/2020

Hedgehogs: Rosie

Squirrels: Leo

Badgers: Ralph

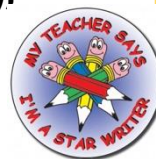
Foxes: Rafe

**Well done**

## Excellent Writers:

Hazel (YR), Joanna (Y1), James (Y1), Alice (Y1), Sophie R (Y2), Noah (Y4).

Annabel (Y3), Bert (Y4),  
Daisy D (Y5), Lucas PT (Y6)  
and Naomi (Y6)



## House Point Scores

**Sandways**

**546**

**Chaffeymoor**

**351**

**Queen Oak**

**394**

## Hedgehogs News

Christmas had definitely arrived in Hedgehogs this week! The classroom has been transformed into Santa's workshop with all sorts of areas for the children to learn in. There is a toy design area where the children have to draw and label their toys before moving to the construction area to make them (out of Lego, Mobilo, Stickle bricks, etc). The toys then go into the wrapping zone where the children are practising their wrapping and sellotaping skills. They must then label with names and house numbers before they are put in Santa's sleigh in the role play grotto. There is a Christmas post office, where children are writing cards and envelopes and then sorting them to post. The Christmas Tree is regularly being undecorated (sneaky elves must come in during the night!) for the children to redecorate every day, practising their fine motor control trying to open the bauble strings. We have made Christmas paper chains, snowflakes and painted a large Christmas tree to help decorate the classroom. We also have an abundance of Christmassy crafts and activities for the children to complete. Alongside this, we are practising songs for our part in the nativity, using baubles to help our subtractions in maths and still doing phonics daily. Busy Hedgehogs!



## Squirrels News

This week in Maths the children have been learning about 2D shapes. The children have been able to name a variety of 2D shapes; describe them using the vocabulary sides and vertices; draw on lines of symmetry; and group them according to their features.

In PE the children had their fifth session of cricket. This week the children were focussing on their batting. They were taught how to hold the bat and where to run once they had hit it. Every single child was able to hit the ball for some runs and there was lots of support, encouragement and cheering from the rest of the class – they were great “Teamwork Tigers!”

Finally, on Tuesday morning the children had great fun doing Christmas Art with Mrs Farndale, Miss Moores and Miss K. The children painted wooden tree decorations, put snowman handprints on baubles, created giant snowflakes and constructed stars out of wool. They all look forward to bringing them home to decorate their tree soon.





## **Badgers News**

This week Badgers made a prosthetic hand in a science and engineering activity. Pupils built bionic hands made out of cardboard, string, straws and rubber bands. They could relate the bionic hand to their own hand to understand the function of the fingers and the importance of the thumb, to grab or hold objects. Badgers also learnt that it would not be possible to move the human hand if it was only composed of bones. They compared how bones, muscles, tendons and ligaments work, by comparing them with the materials used on the bionic hand to move the fingers. In our Diversity topic we have looked at different disabilities and thought about what restrictions or changes they might lead to. We experimented with different ways of looking at each other and what response we felt in ourselves. We learnt a little about transgender parents and how transitioning impacts on the children. We were also glad to hear about the 'human computers' in the true story 'Hidden figures'. This is about the four black American women who were an integral part in the calculations behind the successful moon landing of 1969. They were so important but -sad to say- not nearly as famous as Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong. Festive feeling is building up! Badgers enjoyed their Christmas crafts and we are starting to thinking about our class slice of the Nativity story which we are working on next week. We have a huge pile of Christmas cards building up in the classroom.

Ms Rankin and Mrs McGinty



## **Foxes News**

This week we planned our adventure stories set in South America and look forward to writing them next week. In Maths we started to explore fractions: finding equivalents and simplifying fractions. We have realised how beneficial our times tables knowledge is; it has really helped with fractions this week.

We had another fun cricket session with Coach Sean and improved our bowling and batting skills. We learnt a new version of The twelve days of Christmas in music this week but we don't want to give too much away quite yet. We also got out the hand bells and started to get ready for our nativity play.

The highlight of our week was decoration day. We used compasses to draw circles and make some sparkly baubles using 8 circles. We made square based pyramids and turned them into all sorts of Christmassy designs including Christmas trees, reindeers and elf hats. To keep up the maths theme, we folded some old, outdated Maths text books which were ready for recycling, and turned them into Christmas trees. We also 'developed' our sewing skills (and patience) by making cross stitch baubles. The class room looks wonderful and we are very pleased of our achievements.



**Reading** Please listen to your child read as regularly as you can. Remember we do not have helpers in school at the moment, so one to one reading opportunities are limited. Reading in school is mainly taught by group and whole class reading lessons.

### Microsoft Teams

In the case of a bubble closure due to Covid we will be using Teams for all our home learning.

Please help your child log on to access their spellings and mental math's.

We have removed the need to change passwords so hopefully this will no longer be an issue but if you do have a problem logging on, please contact the school office.

**Amazon Smile:** If you have an Amazon account, please sign up to "Amazon Smile" and search for **St Georges School Bourton Parents And Teachers And Friends Association**. Then with every qualifying purchase you make on Amazon they will donate 0.5% to us. This is at no extra cost to you. Amazon Smile is a great scheme, simple to set up and with more of us shopping online in this current climate it is a great way to make funds from Amazon.



### **Head Lice Alert!**

Please check your child's hair thoroughly for head lice and treat any lice found.

WE ARE NOT ALL  
IN THE SAME BOAT



BUT WE ARE IN THE SAME STORM

### **NUT FREE SCHOOL**

Please remember we are a NUT FREE school. Please ensure your child does not have any nut products in their lunchbox—this includes Chocolate/nut spread in sandwiches and cereal bars which contain nuts. We have children in school with severe Nut Allergies.



### **Applying for a school place September 2021 – moving from Nursery to Reception**

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 they are due to start school in September 2021. The deadline for applications via your home county is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Normally at this time of year we would be welcoming visits to school and holding open days. Due to Covid restrictions this is not possible, however we have added further information on our website under the parent tab and are available to answer any questions you may have via a phone call or email.

### **Christmas Party Day**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

The children can come to school in Christmas jumpers or party clothes.

### **School Twitter**

**Page:**

**@StBourton**



### **Happy Birthday**

*Oliver (6), Bert (8)*

*Many Happy Returns*



### Attendance

#### Week ending 04.12.20

Hedgehogs – 100%

Squirrels – 99.3%

Badgers – 99.4%

Foxes – 96.9%

This week the winners are

**Hedgehogs**



Notification of a child's absence must be reported to the school office on each day of absence.

A phone call or email must be received by the school office prior to 09:00 giving the reason for absence.

Please allow 48 hours after your child's last occurrence of diarrhoea or vomiting before allowing them to return to school.

Where possible, medical appointments should be made outside of school hours.

Our current whole school attendance is an amazing 97.99% WELL DONE EVERYONE!

### NEW FENCING FOR OUTDOOR LEARNING

Hopefully you will have noticed our wonderful new outdoor learning area fencing. Thank you to the PTFA for funding this project. We are now shopping for a fire pit and seating ready to be used next term.

### Car parking at Drop Off and Pick Up times!

Please think carefully and park considerately when dropping your children off and picking them up. During the last few weeks, we have had more and more vehicles parking on the main road next to the church on the brow of the hill. This has caused a number of near misses with cars having to cross the solid white line into the oncoming traffic heading into Bourton. Please refrain from parking here and show consideration for other road users and ultimately the safety of our children arriving and leaving school. Could parents please ensure Grandparents and Child minders are also made aware of this message – Thank you.

### Diary Dates

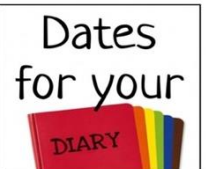
**Week commencing Monday 7th December** – Year 2 Phonics Screening

**Friday 11th December** – Christmas Jumper Day (Children can come to school in Christmas Jumpers in exchange for a £1 donation for Save the Children)

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – Class Christmas Party Day

**Friday 18th December** – Last Day of Term – 1:45/2pm finish

**Monday 4th January** – INSET Day – School closed to pupils



### Breakfast Club

Covid guidance updates now allow us to run a Breakfast Club facility.

PH Sport will be managing and running the breakfast club for us in the school hall with children in their class bubble groups. The sessions will be from 7:45am to 8:45am with breakfast included for £4.25 a session. Bookings need to be made directly with PH Sport, a letter and further details are attached to this email.

