



Well, it's been great to welcome everyone back to school after the half term holiday. I hope that you all had chance to enjoy some quality family time together during the break.

Despite some Covid restrictions being in place the children have enjoyed starting their new termly topics this week with some exciting "hook" activities. The younger children in school had great fun re-enacting the Great Fire of London on Tuesday; passing buckets and containers of water along the line to put out a pretend fire. There were lots of Teamwork Tigers.

Badgers have enjoyed the start of their topic "Celebrations of Light" by celebrating Diwali. They have been busy cooking celebration sweets, as well creating some beautiful artwork.

This week to coincide with COP26 we have had a whole school focus on Climate Change. The children have discussed ways we can all work together and play our part in protecting our planet. I have been extremely impressed by the passion they have shown when talking about Climate Change. We have discussed pledges we can all make to improve the world around us, from walking to school, planting more trees, making sure we don't buy products containing palm oil and turning off the lights when we are not in the room. Our Badgers Light monitors have been keeping an eye on all areas of the school this week ensuring we are not wasting electricity and gently reminding everyone to turn lights off when they leave a room.

Foxes have also been superstars this week as many of them became expert tour guides for our "Open Afternoon". The children did an excellent job giving "socially distanced" tours around school to 18 prospective families; sharing with the visitors what life is really like at St George's. There were many, many positive comments from the visitors and our children did us all proud.

Talking about doing our school proud; our netball players were fabulous on Wednesday afternoon as they attended the first inter school tournament in over 18 months! They were fabulous ambassadors for school, demonstrating excellent sportsmanship skills, great teamwork and displaying all our values! Thank you to the parents who helped with transport and came along to cheer us on for our last two games.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend, stay safe if you are watching fireworks.

Jill

#### Remembrance Service

Next Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11am we will be joining together on the playground (socially distanced) to commemorate and remember the fallen. We will be holding a two-minute silence. Please can you ensure your child has a **warm waterproof coat** in school on Thursday as we will be standing outside for our Remembrance Service.

Due to the change in Covid restrictions the Squirrels and Hedgehogs Achievement Assemblies have been rescheduled  
Please look out for new dates

#### Poppies

Next week some of our Y6 children will be selling Poppies and Poppy merchandise on the playground at the end of the day.

#### Forest School

Thank you to everyone who has completed the Forest School Survey. If you haven't yet added your views and would like to please click on the link before Monday.

#### Parents Evenings

Thank you to everyone for signing up and attending the virtual parent meetings this week. Despite a few hiccups with technology, we hope you found them informative and beneficial.

## Head Teacher's Award

Week ending: 05/11/2021



**Percy (Hedgehogs)** – for taking his love for learning around the classroom and using it in different areas of the class.

**Eliza (Squirrels)** – for fantastic knowledge and ideas about climate change and the way that humans are causing problems, and how Cop26 is trying to find solutions.

**Alfie-Jack (Badgers)** – for being thoughtful and helping Mrs Shears take photos in our Diwali party.

**Ruby (Foxes)** - for being a caring, supportive and helpful member of the class.

**WELL DONE!**

## Learnimal Awards

Week ending: 05/11/2021

**William** for being a Teamwork Tiger

**Georgia** for being a Teamwork Tiger

**Leo** for being a Persevering Penguin

**Laila** for being a Persevering Penguin

**Well Done**



## Achievements Out of School

Congratulations to Charlie K who has completed his Stage 3 Learn to swim

## Pupil of the week

Week ending: 05/11/2021

Hedgehogs: **Evie**

Squirrels: **Ben**

Badgers: **Max**

Foxes: **Ryan**

**Well done**

## Attendance

**Week ending 05/11/21**

Hedgehogs – 99.2%

Squirrels – 97.7%

Badgers – 96.4%

Foxes – 97.6%

This week the winners are

**Hedgehogs**



## Wonderful Writers

**Finley (Yr1)**

**Hazel (Yr1)**

**Dolly (Yr3)**

**Chloe (Yr4)**

**Emily (Yr5)**

**Bert (Yr5)**

**Well Done!**

## Marvellous Maths

**Harry (YrR)**

**Charlie (Yr2)**

**Vita (Yr3)**

**Kenan (Yr4)**

**Maisie-Grace (Yr6)**

**Joshua (Yr6)**

**Congratulations**

## House Point Scores

**Sandways**

**301**

**Chaffeymoor**

**271**

**Queen Oak**

**285**

## Hedgehogs News

It was lovely to welcome back Hedgehogs this week, and an exciting week it has been too! Hedgehogs started listening to poems this week with the Receptions describing bonfire night and Year 1 writing their very own bonfire poem. They have been looking at money this week in Maths. The children are very good at knowing what coins they have! In science, they have started looking at our bodies, the children were able to identify key features and were introduced to their senses. In History, they found out about the Great Fire of London! They used their imagination and went back in time! There was a fire in London (the back wall) and we had to join Squirrels class to help put it out! We used the water from the Thames (the school) and had to pass buckets along. It was very fun and exciting!

During this COP26 week, Hedgehogs have learnt about the importance of trees and plants and how they produce oxygen. In Forest School, they enjoyed making potions.

Mrs Ramage & Mrs Nicholls



## Squirrels News

This week in Squirrels we started our Emergencies topic, focussing on Fire and Firemen to begin with. We introduced our History topic about the Great Fire of London by 'putting out' the 'fire' that we had drawn on the back wall of the playground (Thank you to the KS2 children who helped me!) We put it out in the old-fashioned way by lining the children up and passing buckets along the line. Each child had a turn at throwing water on the 'fire'. Great fun and lots of learning! We then went back into the classroom and wrote questions about what we would like to find out about the fire. Over the next few weeks, we will find out the answers! In English we have been writing a poem about bonfires using our senses and choosing the best descriptive words. In Maths we have been looking at fact families, using numicon to show a calculation in up to 8 different ways. This week we have also had a focus on Climate Change, including learning about the importance of trees and plants in the struggle with climate change. In Forest School, Squirrels planted some spring bulbs and did some helpful weeding of our planters. The children also showed excellent teamwork and construction skills when making dens and digging holes. Later, the Hedgehogs children thought they were giants' footprints! A quick note to say that PE is now back on a Wednesday and Friday as Rugby has finished. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Toy and Mrs Cuff



## Badgers News

In Badgers this week we had a Diwali party to start our new topic, 'Festivals of Light'. We worked in groups to make beautiful Rangoli patterns which would normally be placed at the front of doorways. We also made paper bag lanterns and coconut sweets. At the end, we sang a song about Diwali lights and learnt a traditional dance.

In English, we watched a film about a wishing machine and considered what we would wish for if we used the machine. There were lots of good ideas, some wishes for themselves and some were for other people. We then read a wishing tale, The King of the Fishes and considered different parts of the story.

We also did lots of work this week on climate change. Badgers decided that they would like to help our school to use less electricity by reminding each other to turn off lights in a room when it is not being used. We made some posters and have chosen some monitors who will check the lights have been turned off.

Mrs Shears and Mrs Welshman



## Foxes News

Welcome Back! This week we have been focusing on Global Warming to coincide with 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference. The children have been thoroughly engaged in understanding the challenges of climate change and biodiversity. They have explored their carbon footprints, thought hard about how they can make a difference and enjoyed designing a 'sustainability island.' We also begun our new topic: "Frozen" and the children discussed solids, liquids and gases and how the tiny particles in them differ. The children then researched the different melting points at which a solid changes to a liquid. They were amazed that gold melts at 1,064°C.

Finally, in PE, we have been focussing on our fitness and the children completed a circuit of different exercises including speed bounces, sit ups and shuttle runs. The children had to see how many exercise tasks they could complete in 30 seconds.

Mr Abbott



## Toy Museum

Just before half term, Squirrels set up a Museum of old toys which had kindly been sent in from home. Each child wrote an information piece about one of the toys to display alongside them. The Museum was opened for parents to come and see all the amazing toys from the past. Thank you to all those that joined us. The children were very excited to show you all around their museum.



## EVEN MORE THANK YOU'S!

Even more books! Thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you so much to Isla's family, Hector and Harry's family and Joshua's family for their generosity. (Photos of Ethan and Charlotte from before half term too as they disappeared!)



The children will benefit immensely from these generous gifts of books. Thank you.

Our Amazon Wish list - [https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/16AOBV159X9M5?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/16AOBV159X9M5?ref=wl_share)

## School Uniform

Several children have lost items of school uniform in the classrooms.

Please can you check at home to see if your child has accidentally picked up something that doesn't belong to them and return any items found.

**Thank you**

## Dates for your Diary

12 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Fire Safety Talks
18 <sup>th</sup> Nov	House Challenge
19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Children in Need
23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Flu Spray for Children
23 <sup>rd</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Book Fair in School
25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Governors Full Board Meeting
26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Achievement Assembly in Church
9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Visit to Mother Goose Panto
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	PTFA Christmas Fayre
17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Break Up @ 1.30pm

## Did you know your child's meal could be FREE?

School meals for children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 are FREE to all pupils, but did you know that children in Years 3 to 6 could also get their hot school meals **FREE** for

If you are in receipt of selected Government benefits e.g. Universal Credit, your child may be entitled to free nutritious school meals saving you approx. £400\* a year!

\*This saving will depend on the cost of a meal at your school.



## Travel Survey

A part of the council's aim of understanding the effect of Covid-19 on travel habits/behaviours with regard to people's journeys to school and colleges, Kevin Humphreys has produced a quick survey for parents, carers and students (who travel independently) regarding their journey to school and college.

This online survey has been launched as an opportunity for parents, carers and students (who travel independently) in Dorset to share their views and let Dorset Council know about any issues they may be experiencing. Your responses will help the council's transport team to build a better picture of school travel across the county and will help them to look at what changes might be possible to improve transport, congestion and the environment in your area.

To start the survey [click here](#):

The survey closes on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

## Car Park Reminders

The car park is for STAFF and Visitors parking only. As this is the main walkway through for our youngest children, please don't attempt to park in the car park. Please park considerately of our neighbours down Church Track by not blocking driveways, leaving room for home owners to leave their driveways.

Also please avoid parking by the grass in front of the Church on the main road, this causes cars to cross the double white lines and into the path of vehicles coming over the hill from Wincanton.

Please help us to keep our children safe!

## **CLOCKS BACK! DARK NIGHTS AHEAD!**

The clocks went back an hour and summer-time has come to an end. It is important to teach your child the importance of road safety and how to stay safe, particularly as the evenings get darker throughout winter.

### **STOP, LOOK, LISTEN AND THINK!**

**Stop:** when you approach a crossing, STOP before you come to the edge of the pavement  
**Look:** LOOK for cars, bikes, lorries and other vehicles by looking right, left and right again  
**Listen:** LISTEN for vehicles too. You may be able to hear them before you see them  
**Think:** is there enough time for you to cross the road safely?



The resources below will help remind children, including teenagers, about road safety and keeping safe in the dark.

Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents <https://www.rosipa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf>

Safety First – Cycling at Night <https://www.cycletraining.co.uk/cycle-training-and-cycle-safety/safety-first-cycling-at-night/>

Keeping Children Safe in the Dark <https://firstaidforlife.org.uk/keeping-children-safe-in-dark/>

Dark Nights <https://www.childcare.co.uk/information/dark-nights-children-safety>

Be Bright Be Seen <https://brightkidz.co.uk/initiatives/be-bright-be-seen/>

### Reporting Absences and after school collection

Please send notification of Absence or after school collection to the office email or mobile  
Teachers are not always able to check the class emails during the day so might miss this important information

[office@bourton.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@bourton.dorset.sch.uk)

Mobile - 07530 878675