



St George's C of E School
FRIDAY NEWS
10th December 2021

This is the last newsletter of 2021. What a year it has been! As we approach the end of this term (and year), I would like to start this newsletter by thanking our entire school community for their monumental efforts throughout the year. Yet again, Covid 19 has impacted upon the personal and professional lives of us all in a range of different ways, yet the full commitment, drive and energy to ensure St George's children continue to thrive, flourish and shine is inspiring and humbling.

It is the children, staff and families that make St George's such a wonderful place to be. I will admit this year has certainly challenged my role as a school leader and there have been decisions I have had to make which I know have not pleased everyone. I totally understand the huge disappointment felt by all in our community at the decision not to hold live performances of our Squirrel and Hedgehog Nativity play, however I do hope you will enjoy watching the show over and over again via the link which you will receive next week. If the rehearsals in classes are anything to go by it should be a wonderful show!

I am pleased to write (while I keep my fingers crossed not to jinx anything) that this week we have seen a decline in Covid cases. In fact, Tuesday was the first day in over a month I have not had a case to report to Public Health and yesterday was the first day in over a month we have been fully staffed.

In total we have recorded 54 positive Covid cases since the beginning of November. Remarkably, by a wing and a prayer, we have managed to maintain face to face learning, alongside remote learning, whilst ensuring that there has been a teacher for each class. I thank all of you for playing your part in testing your children regularly, following the guidance, informing us of test results and reading my many letters and emails. I do know it is not easy or pleasant to carry out Covid tests so thank you.

The St George's Team continue to be absolutely incredible; their love for the children, determination to carry on and dedication to the school community is truly humbling.

I hope you all enjoy the festive break and take time to switch off with your loved ones. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to welcoming you back on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS



School will close next

Friday 17 December at 1.30pm

for the Christmas holidays and reopen on

Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 8.45am

Please note the school will not be staffed during the afternoon of Friday 17th December

**Wednesday 15th, Thursday 16th
and Friday 17th December**



the children are invited to come to school in "Christmassy" clothes rather than uniform



Key Stage 1 Christmas Production

Ralph the Reindeer

Hedgehogs and Squirrels

Look out for the link which will be sent home next week

Head Teacher's Award



Week ending: 10/12/2021

Niamh (Hedgehogs) – for bouncing back and coping well with home learning.

Joey (Squirrels) – for effort in writing and really persevering to write some super sentences!

Robyn (Badgers) – for showing kindness to others.

Phoebe P (Foxes) - for being an extremely helpful member of the class.

WELL DONE!

Learnimal Awards



Week ending: 10/12/2021

Alice for being a Teamwork Tiger

Oliver for being a Concentrating Camel

Reuben for being a Persevering Penguin

Charlotte for being a Concentrating Camel



Well Done



Pupil of the week

Week ending: 10/12/2021

Hedgehogs: **Jasmine**

Squirrels: **Ethan**

Badgers: **Kenan**

Foxes: **Joshua**

Well done

Bronze Star Awards

Week ending 10/12/21



Bea Mu (Y2)

Scarlett (Y2)

Bert (Y5)

Congratulations

Attendance

Week ending 10/12/21

Hedgehogs – 97.5%

Squirrels – 96.0%

Badgers – 95.7%

Foxes – 93.4%

This week the winners are

Hedgehogs



Birthdays

Percy (5)

Many Happy Returns

Wonderful Writers

Halle (YR)

Eliza (Y2)

Alicia (Y4)

Alfie-Jack (Y4)

Ollie (Y6)

Florence (Y6)

Well Done!

Marvellous Maths

Finley (Y1)

Joanna (Y2)

Sophie B (Y3)

Jessica (Y4)

Phoebe S (Y5)

Albert (Y6)

Congratulations

Achievements Out of School

Congratulations to Kenan who won the Player of the Match Cup at Football.

House Point Scores

Sandways

1042

Chaffeymoor

1025

Queen Oak

872

Hedgehogs News

This week hedgehogs have been getting ready for Christmas! Our tree is up, the nativity is in preparation and the calendar is being opened! We started the week off by writing our letters to Father Christmas. They explained what would be needed in the letter and used great sounds. For Science we were looking at what it was to be healthy, exercise and what we eat. The children picked up quickly what should be on a healthy plate and the types of foods we should eat more and less of. The children have concluded our history topic of the Great Fire of London by using a timeline to sequence events, the children stunned us with their understanding of events and those key people involved.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Ramage and Mrs Nicholls

Squirrels News

This week has been another busy one in Squirrels and the excitement is rising! We have been making our class's winter seasonal science display look very frosty and interesting with some snowflakes plus some winter-y themed questions and facts. On Tuesday we enjoyed some winter-themed art. We used pastels to create images of the Northern Lights and snowy scenes; it was fun using pale chalks against a black background for artistic effect. In English we have been continuing to plan, write and edit diaries from the point of view of an animal during the Great Fire of London and we also thought about what questions we would like to ask Santa Claus if we were able to interview him on the news! Mrs Cuff was Santa Claus and Alice was the interviewer! We then wrote our question sentences. In our science, continuing our work on the senses, we have been finding out about Helen Keller and sensory impairment, imagining what we would miss the most if we couldn't see or hear. Today we have been busy making the first of our Christmas crafts – quite a messy afternoon! A reminder to please keep practising words with your children at home ready for our filming next week. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Cuff and Mrs Toy



Badgers News

In Badgers this week we enjoyed using our creative skills. We turned an egg box into a little creature decorating it with paint, pipe cleaners and googly eyes. We made a whole menagerie of animals including a jaguar, a jelly fish, a panda and a couple of cows. In English we then wrote instructions for younger children so they can make our creatures. We ensured we had a list of items that are needed and clearly sequenced instructions.

In PE we worked in groups to invent a new step aerobics routine and started to perform these to each other. We enjoyed trying out the new steps that we'd created to the music.

We have had lots of fun practising our times tables this week, focusing on x9 and x4. We learnt some new songs and games. We especially enjoyed exploring different rules and patterns for the 9 times table. We also tried to write number stories for different multiplication and division calculations and considered how we use multiplication in everyday life.

Mrs Shears and Mrs Welshman

Foxes News

This week in English, the children in Foxes have been writing Kennings poems about animals that live in "Frozen" habitats. Kennings poems are a way of describing something using clues, and each line consists of two words (usually an adjective and a noun) connected by a hyphen. An example for a Polar Bear is: Fast-swimmer; Ice-walker; Blubber-wearer; Ocean-diver; Seal-hunter.

In Forest School with Ms Rankin, the children began to make wooden reindeer. They used palm drills to make holes in to the log bodies to fit legs into and next will attach the antlers. They plan to finish them next week in time for Christmas.

Finally, in PE the children completed the last session of their fitness exercises circuit. They worked hard to improve the amount of speed bounces, sit ups and shuttle runs they could do in 30-seconds. The children were all "Concentrating Camels" as they strove to achieve personal bests. It was nice to be back in school with the children.

Mr Abbott



Support the PTFA whilst shopping:

Amazon Smile is a simple way for you to support St George's School Bourton as you shop, at no cost to you! Please visit:

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk>

School Lottery:

The PTFA are also part of a lottery group, to find out more and purchase tickets visit

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk> then search for St George's School, Bourton.

Dates for your Diary

17 th Dec	Break Up @ 1.30pm
5 th Jan 2022	Children return to School
10 th Jan	Piano Lessons start
12 th Jan	Violin Lessons start
15 th Jan	Applications for September 2022 Admission closes
20 th Jan	Brass/Woodwind Lessons start
21 st Jan	Guitar Lessons start

Attendance

At St George's we have a duty to provide an environment where all young people can shine as a member of a happy, caring and safe community and we encourage positive attitudes to school and learning.

It is our goal that each child attends school regularly and on time, making the most of the opportunities available to them.

We acknowledge the challenges this term has brought for pupil illness and absence however, please continue to work with us to help improve attendance for every child in St George's by arriving at school on time, continuing to book holidays during the school holidays, informing us of reasons for pupil absence or reaching out if you need support from us.

TRANS FAMILY DAY

Saturday 29th January 2022

Bridport Youth & Community Centre (BYCC)

Gundry Lane, Bridport DT6 3RL

For Dorset's transgender young people (including those questioning or gender non-conforming) and their families: parents/carers, siblings, & any other significant relatives

Arrive: 10:15am welcome for 10:30 start

10:30am – 12:30pm activities

12:30pm – 1:30pm lunch (provided)

1:30pm – 2:30pm feedback session

Booking is essential!

For more information, please get in touch with Dean:

dean@spaceyouthproject.co.uk

07584 096444

