



# St George's C of E School

## FRIDAY NEWS

### 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Oh my goodness, what a busy week we've had. I have spent a lot of time in the classrooms -my favourite part of my job. The children have continued to shine this week. They have worked hard, applied themselves to new challenges and welcomed visitors showing respect and kindness. Each class has been a hive of activity as the children fully immerse themselves in their class topics.

It is wonderful to have some normality back in our day to day school life. This week we started our after-school clubs; netball, football, drawing, circus skills and choir! We also welcomed Rev. Ben back into school on Wednesday for our whole school assembly where we continued our theme of the week focusing on our Christian Value of thankfulness.

Yesterday the school council met for the first time this year. They spent time together discussing the year ahead and sharing ideas. They have already come up with some fabulous ideas.

This week has also seen the return of volunteers in school. It is great to have so many volunteers in school who help in many different ways, e.g. reading, forest school, clubs, trips etc. If you have time to spare and would like to help out in classes please contact the school office. As ever, thank you for your support for what we do because it makes all the difference.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Jill Farndale

#### Pupil Premium – Please apply by our Census Day, 7th October

Pupil premium is extra Government funding to boost the learning of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities and to close any gaps between them and their peers.

If you think you may be eligible for Pupil Premium, please follow the link to check.

You will be able to access some funding through school, and school will receive some additional funding too. All you need is your National Insurance number and proof of allowance

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/pupil-premium.aspx>

If your child is eligible and you do not apply immediately when they start school, they will still get an infant free lunch but the school could miss out on up to three years' funding.

At St George's School we are committed to providing an education full of opportunities that will prepare all pupils for their future with a positive attitude and an ambition to be the best they can be.

#### Themed Day Menu – Deep South Diner

#### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Every term Schools have to complete a census which is used as a basis for areas of our budget, such as School lunches. The first one of these is on 7<sup>th</sup> October. To promote the service our lunch provider has prepared a special meal option on this day. If your child is in Yrs R, 1 or 2 this would be an ideal opportunity for them to try a meal, free of charge, at the same time helping to secure essential funding for school.

Please find attached to this email the Themed Day Hot Menu and supporting Allergen Reports, this will replace the standard menu options for this day only. Cut-off date for ordering meals is **Sunday**

**26<sup>th</sup> September.**

## Head Teacher's Award

Week ending: 24/9/2021



**Charlie (Hedgehogs)** – for being very polite, a super sitter and willing to try out all activities.

**Arabella (Squirrels)** – for homework and home reading, super effort.

**Ralph (Badgers)** – for making amazing contributions in English and inspiring others.

**Emily (Foxes)** - for being a kind, respectful and hardworking member of the class.

**WELL DONE!**

## Pupil of the week

Week ending: 24/9/2021

Hedgehogs: **Halle**

Squirrels: **Eliza**

Badgers: **Coby**

Foxes: **Sam**

**Well done**

## Birthdays



**Ivy (7)**

**Many Happy Returns**

Well done to our Reception Children who have been working hard with Mrs Ramage carrying out their Reception Baseline Assessments. The RBA is a short, interactive and practical assessment of a child's early literacy, communication, language and mathematics skills when they begin school, using materials that most children of that age will be familiar with.

It is statutory for all schools from September 2021. For more information on the Reception Baseline Assessments please see the attached document.

## Learnimal Awards

Week ending: 24/9/2021



**Milo** for being a Have a go Hyena

**Emilia** for being a Concentrating Camel

**Elliot T** for being a Noticing Newt



**Sophie R** for being a Noticing Newt

**Sonny** for being an Imagining Iguana



**Well Done**

## Attendance

**Week ending 24/9/21**

Hedgehogs – 96.7%

Squirrels – 99.2%

Badgers – 98.2%

Foxes – 97.6%

This week the winners are **Squirrels**



## Achievements Out of School

**Well Done to Elsie SR who was awarded her Learn to Swim Stage 4**

Each week we celebrate the children's achievements outside of school. Please let us know if you would like a mention in the newsletter.



## House Point Scores

**Sandways**

**495**

**Chaffeymoor**

**431**

**Queen Oak**

**440**

## Hedgehogs News

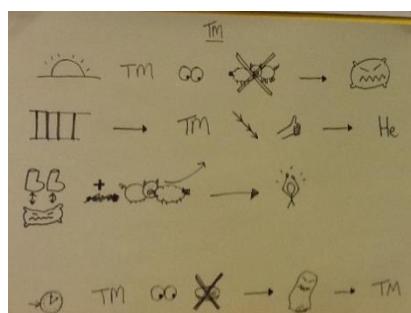
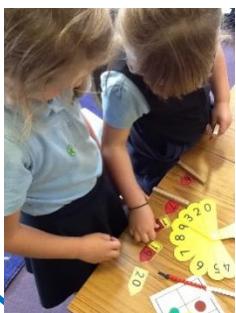
We have had a very exciting week in Hedgehogs! Reception have joined Y1 full time and have been able to join in with PE and Forest School. The children have been busy playing Rugby and balancing during PE, acting out our Traction Man story in English and counting in Maths. For Forest School, the children were learning the safety rules, making sticky sticks and learning whittling having lots of fun! We have been making some moving crocodiles for DT, they enjoyed trying to make them eat.

Mrs Ramage and Mrs Nicholls

## Squirrels News

This week Squirrels began with another Rugby session with a focus on thankfulness. We have been learning lots of different games where we have to work individually, in pairs or in teams, learning how to move with the ball and how to tag each other. In English, we started a narrative unit based on the story Traction Man is Here. We drew story maps and did a fantastic job of retelling the story. We first did this orally using the class story map, then using props and finally we wrote the story, concentrating on our capital letters and full-stops. In maths, we have continued to secure our place value knowledge by counting forwards and backwards. We identified missing numbers by looking closely at how many tens and ones were in the numbers either side. We have continued our Toys topic and designed a moving picture using Traction Man as a main character. In Science we have been looking at how animals are affected by the weather. We are learning how to log on to the laptops using our new logins and passwords in Computing and getting used to the new layout of the desktop. Forest school has been fun and everyone made their own journey stick to take home, persevering with wrapping and tying the wool! We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Toy and Mrs Cuff



## Badgers News

In Badgers this week the children enjoyed starting to write quest stories. They focused on the opening and explored using expanded noun phrases to add interest for the reader. They continued this skill when writing about a Viking invasion.

In topic they looked at Anglo-Saxon clothing and considered the features of traditional brooches. Then they drew some of these in their sketch books ready to design their own next week. They also used maps of Britain to identify how place names indicate something about the area. We learnt that around our area, lots of places, including Bourton, Silton and Kilmington all end in 'ton' indicating that they were traditionally farming communities.

In Science Badgers showed curiosity by asking questions about magnets and then planned and undertook an investigation to find out about magnetism and everyday objects.

The children are very much looking forward to their visit to the Ancient Technology Centre next month and just a reminder to return your form and payment so we can complete our paperwork before our visit.

Have a good weekend.

Mrs Shears and Mrs Welshman

## Foxes News

This week in Foxes, we have read the story *The Way Back Home* as part of our "Reach for the Stars" topic. The children enjoyed listening to this example of a Meeting Tale, before creating a story map to retell the story themselves. Then we focussed on specific sentences from the book that we felt we could improve by adding adjectives, similes and adverbial phrases - there were lots of 'Imagining Iguanas' in class.

In Art we have continued to focus on the surface of the Moon. This week the children used different types of white mediums (chalks, pencils, crayons) on black paper to recreate the different bumps and craters.

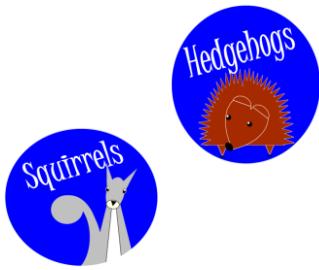
Finally, in Science we have been thinking about forces and in particular Gravity and Air Resistance. The children investigated whether the size of an object affects the speed at which it falls to the ground. We made predictions before carrying out the experiment and afterwards discussed whether it was a fair test or not!

Mr Abbott

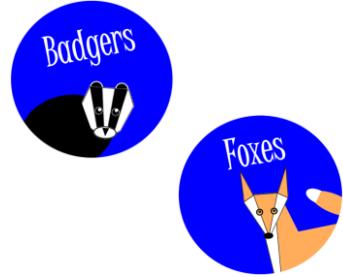


## School Council

Each class then held a vote to choose representatives for their class. Votes have now been counted and the representatives are:



Foxes ~ Ruby and Ollie  
Badgers ~ Vita and Kenan  
Squirrels ~ Scarlett and Alice B  
Hedgehogs ~ Halle and Rafferty



### Hedgehog plea:

Have you got any toys your children no longer play with at home which you think our children would enjoy using? Hedgehogs would be delighted to receive any Jigsaw puzzles, construction toys, dressing up clothes or dolls which are no longer needed at home. Hedgehogs are also after some natural materials to use in their outdoor area. If you spot conkers, pinecones, or acorns on your walks this weekend could you please pick up a few for us please.

## Librarians

A big thank you to all those that applied to be a librarian this year. We are pleased to announce that we will have 3 Librarian Teams opening the library on three days each week.

Congratulations to the following children who wrote lovely letters of application Mrs Toy was very impressed with the entries.

Autumn Term			Spring Term		
Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday
Elsie SR Charlotte Phoebe S	Laila Esme	Dexter Hollie Sophie B	Alfie-Jack Emily Charlie K	Lydia Karis	Noah Phoebe P Ruby

The library will be opening from Monday 27th September from 1 - 1.15pm.

### Class Email contact addresses Please use these email addresses to contact the class teachers:

Hedgehogs — [hedgehogs@bourton.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:hedgehogs@bourton.dorset.sch.uk)      Squirrels — [squirrels@bourton.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:squirrels@bourton.dorset.sch.uk)

Badgers — [badgersclass@bourton.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:badgersclass@bourton.dorset.sch.uk)      Foxes — [foxes@bourton.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:foxes@bourton.dorset.sch.uk)

### 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.

### Have your details changed?

Our priority in school is to keep all our children safe whilst they are at school.



In the next week or two we will be sending home a pack of forms, please look out for them. A data checking sheet will be included so you can check data we currently hold and update it where necessary.

Please contact the office if home time arrangements change.

## **Wellbeing for Parents and Carers from Dorset Council**

Wellbeing is the state of being comfortable, healthy and happy; both physically and mentally. Following a further year of change and challenge for families and children we need to consider the wellbeing of parents and carers, as well as their children.

It is hard to prioritise your own wellbeing when you may be juggling the needs of your children, your work, and the additional stress that the pandemic has thrown in.

Here are things to help you to focus on your Health and Well-being:

- Try to exercise every day
- Go outside to a green space and notice the natural environment
- Try mindful breathing.

[Find out more](#)

## **Concerned about the wellbeing of your child?**

If you are concerned about the wellbeing of your child, the Dorset Educational Psychology Service has information on:

- \* how to deal with difficult thoughts and feelings
- \* how to access the parent/carer helpline
- \* guidance booklets for: the recovery curriculum, autism and anxiety, bereavement, trauma and attachment and transition to a new school

Like everyone, children's emotions fluctuate, particularly at times of stress and crisis and in the height of emotion. Returning to school from the summer holidays can be an exciting but also stressful time for children, especially after the uncertainty they experienced last year.

Recognising the signs that a child or young person may be struggling with their emotions helps us to support them.

This [webinar](#) aims to provide an understanding on how parents can emotionally support their children to manage their worries returning to school.

If you would like to find out more about the Dorset Educational Psychology Service or access their parent helpline click [here](#)

## **Hello Yellow Children's Mental health Day Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October**

We will be supporting this event again this year and the children are invited to come into school in anything yellow for the day in exchange for a donation towards the Children's Mental Health Charity.



## **REMINDER**

### **Forest School and PE kit**

Please ensure your child has their full PE kit and Forest School clothes in school. It is a challenge when we have lots of identical jumpers to match to owners when they are not named so can you please check everything is labelled clearly.

### **Forest School Shelter**

Ms Rankin is asking for volunteers to help with putting up a shelter in the forest school area. Mr Phillips will be leading the project but would need a few volunteers who could help with digging holes and assembling the framework. Suggested dates are 2<sup>nd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> October.

## **Dates for your Diary**

28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Yr1 Hearing check
1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Individual Photographs
4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Badgers class visit
	Sports Ambassadors Event
8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Wear something Yellow
20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	NO Archery Club
21 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Foxes class visit
25 <sup>th</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Half Term
31 <sup>st</sup> Oct	Deadline for Secondary School Applications

We have been notified of a case of Head Lice in school please check your child/ren over the weekend.  
Thank you.



### **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

The Application process is now open for applying for School places for September 2022. If you have a child due to transfer to secondary school or if you have a 3/4 year old due to start school please check the website of your home County for details.



#### **FREE gardening equipment for your school**

Do you shop at Morrison's??? Could you help our school??? Here's how.....

From September to October 2021, when you spend £10 spent in store or online, you'll get one Grow Token (for every £10 you spend) that school can then redeem for a wide range of gardening and growing equipment.

You will need to download the MyMorrisons app today to take part.

For more information check out :  
<https://www.itsgoodtогrow.co.uk>

### **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. ALSO PLEASE DO NOT park near the BIG BLUE GATES or next to the grass bank next to the church. There are solid white lines in the middle of the road and by parking here you are forcing other road users to cross the white lines to pass—causing a risk to other vehicles on the brow of the hill.