



Kindness, Thankfulness, Perseverance

Oh my, what a busy week we've had. I'm sure this week has had more than 5 days in it! I cannot believe that we have come to the end of week 4 and only have 3 weeks left of this term!!

The next few weeks are looking like they will be busy as we prepare for Christmas starting with our Advent Christmas Decoration Day on Tuesday. The children can come to school in their Christmas jumpers (or home clothes) on Tuesday for a day of making. The teachers have planned some lovely decorations for the children to make; thank you to the PTFA for paying for the supplies! Each class has a Christmas tree to decorate so look out in next week's newsletter for lots of Christmassy classroom photographs.

Thank you

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to Joanna (Hedgehogs) and her Mum who have very kindly gifted each class a beautiful hand sewn Advent Calendar. The designs are even more special as they contain all our classroom animals on the doors. They are absolutely stunning, and the children are excited to be able to look inside pocket number one next week.



School Council

Correction: We accidentally missed a name off the newsletter last week – Apologies to Ollie D who wasn't in school on Friday but received his School Council badge on Monday morning in our whole school assembly.



Chair = Lillianna
Vice-chair = Daisy D
Scribe = Honie-May
Foxes Reps = Elsie, Jasper & Ollie D
Badgers Reps = Annella & Jacob
Squirrels Reps = Arthur & Eliza
Hedgehogs Reps = Arabella & Alice M

Amazon Smile: If you have an Amazon account, please sign up to "Amazon Smile" and search for **Georges School Bourton Parents And Teachers And Friends Association** or click the link <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/gp/f.html?C=2VU7EQUPB3HNX>

St

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 simple to set up and with more of us shopping online in this current climate it is a great way to make funds for school from Amazon.

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Attendance

Week ending 27.11.20

Hedgehogs – 97.2%

Squirrels – 100%

Badgers – 98.1%

Foxes – 97.5%

This week the winners are

Squirrels



Bronze Star Awards



Week ending 27/11/20

*Dexter Y4, Reuben Y3,
Thisbe Y6, Florence B Y5,
Maisie-Grace Y5, Daisy TD Y6,
Billy Y5, Ava-Fee Y6, Elsie SR Y5,
Leo Y2, Vita Y2 and Arthur R Y6*

Congratulations

House Point Scores

Sandways

404

Chaffeymoor

351

Queen Oak

393

Happy Birthday



Phoebe S (9)

"Many happy returns"

Parent Survey Result:

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the parent survey last week. The results have now been collated. Parental engagement is a significant factor in supporting pupils to make progress. We value any feedback that we get from parents and always use this feedback to move forward. Here are some of the main headlines:

- ▶ 96% of children have settled back into school and feel happy and safe
- ▶ 99% of parents feel confident that the school is doing all it can to keep the children safe (0% disagreed).
- ▶ 100% of parents felt the information given by the school regarding the stages of Covid reopening was informative.
- ▶ 98% of parents would recommend the school to others
- ▶ The main strengths of the school were identified as; friendliness, caring nature, general atmosphere, teaching and supportiveness.

Accidents happen

We are running low on spare underwear for our younger girls. If you have any outgrown items in good condition please could you send them in. Thank you.

Hedgehogs News

This week in Hedgehogs, we have continued our Towers and Turrets topic. In English we have read the story The Knight Who Would Not Fight. We have drawn a story map to help us retell the story and made up actions to help us. The year ones have also been writing parts of the story following the story map. We have looked at different characters; if they are baddies or goodies, and labelled them. In phonics the reception children have been working on word building and counting the sounds they can hear on their 'Fred Fingers' to help spelling. In History we looked at how castles are represented in different stories, having a fun session 'castle spotting' in lots of books. We read the story of Rapunzel and made her tower, learning how to cut tabs into cardboard tubes to make them stand up. We have also made trebuchets (catapults) as part of our DT and enjoyed firing pom-poms at the small world castle! Mrs Toy and Mrs Cuff



Squirrels News

This week in Squirrels the children have been reading the story of George and the Dragon as part of their "Towers and Turrets" topic. They have taken sections of the story and changed it by adding a variety of adjectives, adverbs and similes. They were also introduced to alliteration and have enjoyed using it to describe castle vocabulary. Some of their examples were: murky, muddy moats and dangerous, deadly dragons.

In PE the children have been developing their gymnastics skills with a particular focus on balance and coordination. They all created a short sequence involving travelling in different ways along a bench, and jumping off making either a tuck, straddle or star shape.

Finally, in Art with Ms Rankin, they have been looking at how to make pictures 3D by adding shading. They used their new-found skills to create 3D castle pictures. Mr Abbott



Badgers News

This week Badgers have really enjoyed doing the Indoor Athletics challenge, trying to do their best in Shuttle run, Chest Push, Standing Long Jump, High jump and Speed Bounce. We enjoyed knowing that all the other Gillingham Pyramid primary schools were doing the same.

We are continuing with our Diversity topic and we have explored racism and talked about what the Black Lives Matters movement is all about. They have also learnt about the Suffragettes and women achieving the right to vote.

The children have really grasped the importance of appreciating all people whatever their look, race, culture, nationality or preferences.

We are at the beginning of our Fractions topic in Maths and are making good progress dividing all manner of objects into equal parts.

In RE, looking at the Old Testament, we have learnt about the importance of Noah and God's covenant and that a rainbow is a symbol of that agreement.

We are having some party games to celebrate our November Birthdays!

Ms Rankin and Mrs McGinty

Foxes News

In Foxes this week we looked at photos of a range of items discovered in Mayan ruins and used these to try to find clues about their culture. We decided they were skilful crafts people, creating items from pottery, wood and stone and that some people wore jewellery and headdresses. We finished our writing based on the book 'Explorers' and managed to escape the clutches of the caimen! We are continuing to be inspired by each other's book reviews: Tom Gates and David Walliams books are top of many of our Christmas lists this year.

In Maths we used our calculation skills from the last few weeks to solve problems: thinking carefully about each step and how to give answers, including rounding up and down with division, depending on the context.

We had a fun cricket session with coach Sean on Thursday, practising our bowling and playing diamond nine - we only managed to lose one ball in the church grounds which Sean had to rescue afterwards. We also enjoyed competing in the indoor athletics completing speed bounces, standing long jump, throws and shuttle runs. We were exhausted by the end!

Mrs Shears and Mrs Welshman



Our school Guinea Pig George, is still living at the Shear's house and is getting lots of cosy cuddles. He is enjoying his new sleeping bag which he uses on chilly evenings and even has a hot water bottle to snuggle up to. Although he is being a good boy and eats most of his vegetables, he refused to eat curly Kale this week and pushed it all out his food bowl.

Christmas Cards

Everyone loves to send and receive Christmas Cards. Usually, we have our lovely School Christmas Post box in the corridor where children can post their Christmas cards for their friends in school. This year we've made changes due to Covid restrictions and decided that each classroom will have their own post box for cards. We are asking that ALL cards need to be in school no later than Monday 7th December so that we can quarantine them before sorting and delivering during the week beginning Monday 14th December. Unfortunately, any cards received in school after 7th December will NOT be delivered.

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.

South West Carol Concert – SAVE THE DATE:

We have been chosen to represent Salisbury Diocese in the South West region carol service. The event will take place on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th December 2020, from 7-8pm each evening. It will be repeated each night and will be broadcast at 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. Save the date and hopefully you will see some of our children.



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.



This week we welcomed Sam to Foxes. We hope he enjoys his time in Foxes.

Be strong now
because things
will get better.
It might be
stormy now, but
it can't rain
forever.

School Twitter
Page:

@StBourton



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

If your child was born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 they are due to start school in September 2021. The deadline for applications via your home county is 15th 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 at St George's School

Christmas Class Party – Thursday 17th December

Children to come to school in Christmas Party clothes ready for a Christmas Party day in each class bubble. More details to follow.

Christmas Play

This year we are still planning to put on a Christmas Show for you all “remotely”. Together we are going to retell the Christmas Story with each class taking part, the teachers are busy getting creative and planning their class part; there will be acting, sign language songs, artwork, storytelling and much more. All parts will be filmed and then put together to share with you all.

If anyone has a film producing talent and would be happy to help us film our Christmas play, please email the office. Any help gratefully received.



Our Birthday Party Celebrations

This afternoon instead of our usual Achievement Assembly we held our first Birthday Celebration afternoon to celebrate all the children who have had a birthday in September, October or November.

The children in each class all took part in party games and the birthday children got to blow out the candle on a small birthday cake as we played the Happy Birthday song and mimed along with gusto (Covid restrictions prevented any live singing).

We hope we have allowed the children to celebrate their special day with their friends – something that is tricky with Covid restrictions this year. We will continue this throughout the year so everyone gets to celebrate their special day.



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 – seen in the photo. 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.

