



Oh, it is wonderful to have the whole school back together; the sound of the whole school singing in the hall is truly magical, especially as it's been such a long time since we have been able to.

On Monday we welcomed Chris Andrew to St George's from Project Touchline. Project Touchline is a programme which teaches Christian Values in school through sport sessions and through collective worship to ensure that children are "living life in all its fullness" John10:10.

We kicked off our work with Chris, who will be teaching our Christian Values through rugby sessions across the school over the next 6 weeks, by enjoying the dry weather and playing some fabulous rugby on the field focusing on our value of Thankfulness.

This week we also welcomed many of you into school for our "Meet the Teacher" sessions. Thank you to everyone who came along. Hopefully you enjoyed spending time in the classrooms, seeing where your children spend their days and hearing about the classroom systems and routines.

Finally, this afternoon we were able to welcome parents into school once again for our weekly Achievement Assemblies. A time to come together to see how our children truly SHINE and celebrate their weekly achievements. Remember if you would like to join us for assembly on a Friday afternoon please come to the main gate before 2:40pm where Mrs Hudson will let you in to the hall. As our assembly starts at 2:40pm the gate will be locked at this time, this is part of our School Safeguarding measures.

Jill Farndale

Macmillan Cake Sale - Friday 24th September

Next week the PTFA are inviting you to come along to our MacMillan Big Coffee Morning event in the school hall. This will be an opportunity to enjoy a cuppa and a piece of cake, raising money for a worthy charity, along with meeting members of our PTFA and other parents. Please do come along. Entrance will be through the rear hall doors only from 9am.



Themed Day Menu – Deep South Diner **Thursday 7th 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 7th 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. Ordering instructions are included (cut-off date for ordering meals is Sunday 26th September).

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.

Head Teacher's Award



Week ending: 17/9/2021

Finley (Hedgehogs) – for settling in so well in a new school and a new Country.

James (Squirrels) – for showing great perseverance in all his tasks.

Bluebell (Badgers) – for being so welcoming to our children and for quietly helping others.

Rory (Foxes) - for having a great start in Foxes and giving everything a go!

Learnimal Awards

Week ending: 17/9/2021



Charlotte for being a Questioning Queen Bee

Joey for being a Persevering Penguin



Edith for being a Persevering Penguin

Albert for being a Reviewing Rabbit

Karis for being a Concentrating Camel



Attendance

Week ending 17/9/21

Hedgehogs – 98.8%

Squirrels – 98.5%

Badgers – 97%

Foxes – 99.7%

This week the winners are

Foxes



Pupil of the week

Week ending: 17/9/2021

Hedgehogs: **Annabelle**

Squirrels: **Oliver**

Badgers: **Milly**

Foxes: **Maisie-Grace**

Well done

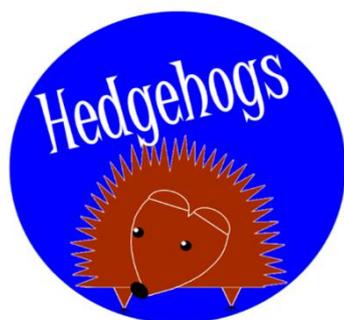
Birthdays



**Ben (6), Noah (10),
Hazel (6)**

Mr Oxtan

Many Happy Returns



Our new reception children have settled very well in Hedgehogs, this week they have stayed for lunch and will be joining us full time from Monday. We have been impressed by their confidence and independence when saying bye to parents at the gate on a morning. Well Done!

Achievements Out of School

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

348

Chaffeymoor

305

Queen Oak

339

Hedgehogs News

The year 1s have had an exciting time back in school, especially in the afternoons when they have been able to join in with Rugby and Forest School!

They were keen to explore the new areas in the classroom and around the outdoor area, while enjoying being back with their friends. We have been thinking about labels in English and sorting and counting in Maths.

We have also welcomed the new Reception children into school for the second week of their transition. We have been amazed at how well they have settled in already - it is wonderful to see. They have found their pegs, joined in with whole school assemblies and explored their new classroom and outdoor area. We have been thinking about our topic toys this week and had lots of fun singing and dancing with number.

This week Hedgehogs and Squirrels have also been able to enjoy lunch together. We look forward to having everyone in all day from next week!

Mrs Ramage and Mrs Nicholls

Hedgehogs are looking for the following – construction toys (Lego, bricks), farm toys, jigsaws/puzzles, games or Happy Land play items. If you have any at home that are no longer used they would love to have them.

Volunteers for reading in all classes are welcome please speak to a member of staff to arrange this.

Squirrels News

Squirrels started off the week with a super Rugby session which focused on our three values of thankfulness, kindness and perseverance. The children thoroughly enjoyed persevering to capture the tags, returning them with kindness and saying thank you for their returned tags. In English, we began our focus on dictionaries and alphabetical order. We have been singing the alphabet to the tune of Auld Lang Syne so we can hear each letter clearly and identify any mistakes in the order. We wrote definitions for our favourite toys and made a class dictionary of toys. In maths we have been counting in tens, representing numbers using a variety of resources and reasoning about numbers. We have started our Toys topic and began by looking at the movement of toys. We practised making mechanisms with card and split pins ready to design our own toy movements. We learnt the language of *pivot*, *lever* and *guide* and I was very impressed with the children's perseverance when trying make their mechanism move. In Science we have been looking at the weather and how it changes for different seasons. The weather has been so changeable this week - it's been perfect! We hope you have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Toy & Mrs Cuff



Badgers News

This week Badgers have been learning more about invaders and settlers. In Topic they considered why invaders came to Britain and learnt about the different Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. In Forest schools they considered what settlers would need and started to build their own settlements in the school grounds. The children also had a fun time in Science on the front playground, exploring how well items move on different surfaces.

In English we read the story of Arthur and the Golden Rope and considered the plot points of a quest story. We then looked at other quest stories to see if they follow the same structure. We also enjoyed reading lots of extracts of Roald Dahl stories to celebrate Roald Dahl day at the beginning of the week.

Have a good weekend.

Mrs Shears and Mrs Welshman

Foxes News

It has been another busy week in Foxes. On Monday we welcomed Chris from Project Touchline into school and the children enjoyed their first tag rugby session. The session focussed on our three Christian Values of "kindness", "perseverance" and "thankfulness" and how they can be incorporated into sport.

In Maths this week we have been looking at numbers up to 10 million. The children have made the numbers using place value counters, ordered numbers from smallest to biggest, compared numbers as well as solved problems involving 5-, 6- and 7- digits. We have had lots of "Persevering Penguins" in class as they came across challenges they were unsure about but didn't give up.

Finally, in Art, we have been focussing on the Moon as part of our "Reach for the Stars" topic. We discussed what the surface of the Moon might be like by looking at different images, before the children used different sketching pencils to draw it.

Mr Abbott



House Captains

Congratulations to our 2021/2022 House Captains
Joshua, Honie-May, Maisie-Grace, Elsie, Bertie and Oscar

It was an extremely hard decision for Mr Abbott and I, as all the letters of application were fabulous.

Today our House Captains enjoyed their first House Challenge event. Each House Team got together to create a hall display to represent their house. The staff are also part of the House Teams so there has been some healthy competition today! Look out in next week's newsletter for the finished displays. They have also enjoyed counting this week's house points.

School Council



This week we also elected by public vote our new School Council leadership team. Those who were keen to stand for a leadership position spoke to the whole school sharing their vision. The whole school then voted.

Congratulations to
Chair: **Emily**
Vice Chair: **Sam**
Scribe: **Connie**

Mr Abbott and I are looking forward to working with them this year. A big well done to everyone who stood for a post – they all had fantastic speeches and were very worthy candidates

Each class then held a separate vote to choose representatives for their class. Votes will be counted before the first meeting next week; we will let you know who they are in the Friday News.

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

Hedgehogs — hedgehogs@bourton.dorset.sch.uk Squirrels — squirrels@bourton.dorset.sch.uk
Badgers — badgersclass@bourton.dorset.sch.uk Foxes — 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.



Attendance Information

Today we have sent home an Attendance letter. This letter is in line with Dorset Council policy and is followed by all Dorset Schools. The law states that "If a child of compulsory school age who is a registered pupil at a school fails to attend regularly at the school, his parent is guilty of an offence." S444(1) Education Act, 1996.

Following the Covid pandemic it is crucial for the children to attend so we can ensure no further learning is missed. Please note that 10 sessions or more in a 12-week period will be referred to Dorset Council, this includes holidays in term time. Obviously, we all know that children can be poorly, and we have specific codes for Covid-19 related absences so please let your class teacher know if there is anything they should be aware of or speak to me if you have any questions.

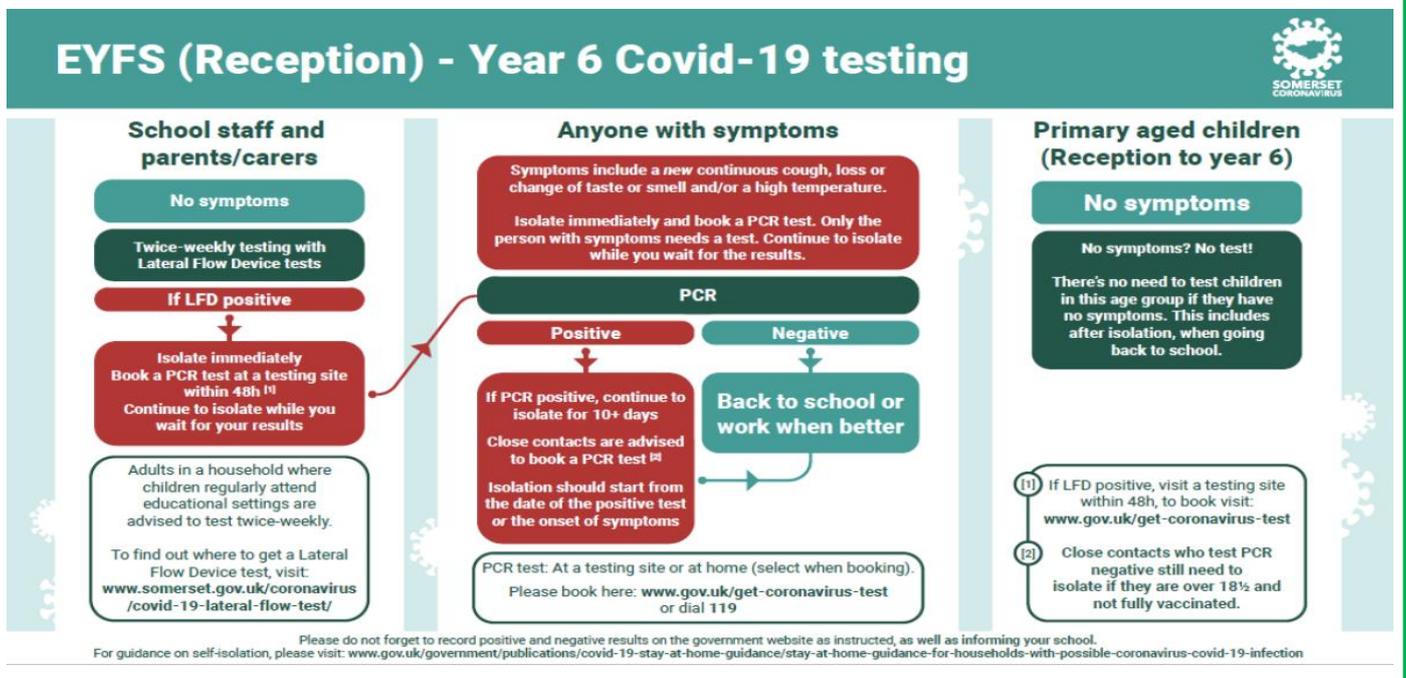
We have had numerous requests this week for holidays in term time. We are not able to authorise term time holidays including days added onto weekends. Every day counts for two sessions in school so days added onto a weekend can increase your child's absence by 4 sessions.

The government have said that any child with below 90% attendance is a Persistent Absentee. This is a very low level of attendance and cause for serious concern. We want to prevent any child's attendance falling to this level and have a target attendance of 97%.

COVID information

As you are aware the guidance for COVID has changed and up to date information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>

The flowchart below is very useful:



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.

Free School Meals

Please can I encourage parents to apply for Free School Meals, if you are eligible? You do not have to have the meals but eligibility may mean that some trips are significantly cheaper for these families, and children eligible for Free School Meals attract additional funding to the school (which is important at this time of budget cuts). This applies to all families even if you are currently receiving UIFSM (universal infant free school meals). Free School Meals can be awarded if parents/carers are in receipt of:

- * Income Support
- * Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- * Income Related Employment and Support Allowance
- * Child Tax Credit (providing your annual income is less than £16,190)
- * Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit
- * Support Under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- * Working Tax Credit 'run on'
- * Universal Credit.

Please note, if you currently receive Working Tax Credit, you are not eligible to claim Free School Meals. However, if you become unemployed or reduce weekly working hours below 16, you can claim Free School Meals for a 4 week period after employment ceases or hours reduced.

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 MyMorrison's app today to take part.

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

Dates for your Diary

24th Sept PTFA Coffee Morning
Foxes Assembly
28th Sept to 1st Oct Book Fair in School
1st Oct Individual Photographs
4th Oct Badgers class visit to ATC

25th – 29th Oct Half Term

New School Year Reminders

Snacks for playtime should be healthy—fruit, vegetables, cheese. Crisps are not suitable.

School starts at 8:45am every morning when the gate is open.

Registration closes at 8:55am. If your child is late they will be marked as late in the register.

Uniform

The children are looking very smart in their uniform, could I please remind everyone that PE kits need to be in school every day and that the children do need to bring a coat to school every day.

We like to get the children outside in all weathers for playtime and lunchtime and if they don't have a coat they will not be allowed outside if it's wet or cold.

Also a gentle reminder that trainers are only to be worn for PE as they are not part of our every day school uniform.

Jewellery should not be worn for PE and only small stud earrings should be worn at school. As always, please make sure everything your child brings to school has their name on it!

