



We are now halfway through this term and unfortunately, we have seen an increase in Covid cases across the school this week with some cases reporting for the second time.

We are now back to virtual assemblies, meaning we are unable to welcome parents into school on Friday afternoons for our Achievement Assemblies. We are continuing to ventilate the building, with doors and windows open throughout the day, encouraging good hand hygiene and we are contacting parents when we believe their child may have been a close contact with positive cases. I am liaising with Public Health on a daily basis and they have continued to confirm that we are taking the appropriate measures to reduce risk where we are able to.

A huge thank you to everyone who has been swiftly letting us know about any positive cases so we can act and inform everyone. We are also hugely appreciative to those who are carrying out daily LFD tests to ensure negative results are received before attending school. Thank you also to those letting us know, by emailing the office, the results of the LFD testing. Please keep up the great work in order that we may protect our school community through this continued challenging time.

A Reminder of the Start of the School Day

Our School day starts at 8:50am – please ensure that your child arrives on time. The gate ‘opens’ at 8:45am where staff are on duty and the staff then take the children into school to start their learning at 8:50am. It is crucial that your children arrive on time. Please make sure you give yourselves plenty of time to travel and particularly to park your car safely if you come by car.

Children don't like being late as they miss the start of the lessons, sometimes feeling embarrassed and they miss out on the lovely start to the day where the teachers meet and greet on the playground.

Anyone who is arriving in class after 8:50am will be registered as late (L code in the register).

Home House Challenge

In preparation for our forthcoming Children's Mental Health week, we are setting a House Challenge to produce a self-portrait using any art form

The portraits will need to be brought into school by **MONDAY 7th FEBRUARY**

Every entry will be awarded 5 house points with the winners for each year group earning an extra 25 house points for their team. We are looking forward to seeing the children's work. It would be wonderful if we had an entry from every child in school. The portrait will then be displayed in school as part of our "Growing together" theme for the Children's Mental Health Week.

On **Friday 4th February** we will be taking part in the NSPCC's Number Day.

The children will be spending the day carrying out fun filled number activities and games as well as taking part in a House Challenge. We will be asking for a £1 donation to go toward supporting the NSPCC's service (Childline) in exchange for the children coming to school in number themed clothes for the day.



Head Teacher's Award



Week ending: 28/01/2022

Annabelle (Hedgehogs) – for trying really hard this week, she has used her initiative to find strategies that help her work and shown a great work ethic.

Aralynne (Squirrels) – for great focus and determination in her learning at school, especially in maths and science.

Amy (Badgers) – for trying so hard in her Maths.

Alex (Foxes) - for great work in Maths adding and subtracting decimals.

WELL DONE!

Learnimal Awards



Week ending: 28/01/2022

Felicity for being a Teamwork Tiger and a Concentrating Camel

Pippa for being a Planning Panda

Victoria for being a Reviewing Rabbit

Maisie-Grace for being a Reasoning Robin



Well Done



Pupil of the week

Week ending: 28/01/2022

Hedgehogs: Alice

Squirrels: Lilly

Badgers: Isabelle

Foxes: Rory

Well done

Bronze Star Awards

Week ending 28/01/22



Dulcie (Y2), Bea Mo (Y2)
Freda (Y2), Arabella (Y2),
Annabel (Y4)

Alicia (Y4), Isabelle (Y4)
Lydia (Y5)

Honie-May (Y6)

Congratulations

Birthdays



**Hector (5), Billy (11)
Alex (10)**

Many Happy Returns

Silver Star Awards

Week ending 28/01/22



Hazel (Y1)

Ethan (Y2)

Well done

Attendance

Week ending 28/01/22

Hedgehogs – 97.6%

Squirrels – 98.7%

Badgers – 94.8%

Foxes – 92.8%

This week the winners are

Squirrels



House Point Scores

Sandways

471

Chaffeymoor

546

Queen Oak

468

Achievements Out of School

Congratulations to Ernest who was awarded Player of the Session at his football Club on Saturday

If your child has achieved something special outside of school let us know, so we can celebrate your child's achievement. If possible a photo of them and their award would be great for our "Look how we shine" board.

Badgers News

In Badgers this week we have been writing our own meeting tales set in different countries across Europe. We had characters dangling off the Leaning Tower of Pisa, swinging round the windmills of Amsterdam and being chased by sharks on the Spanish coast. We had some fantastic stories and the children worked really hard at using questions and descriptions to interest the reader.

In Geography we considered different features of countries in Europe including languages, currency and food. We also looked at different flags and tried to match them to the correct country. In Maths we looked at the temperature of countries across Europe and were surprised at the range even across one country. We looked at temperatures below zero and developed our understanding of negative numbers.

Mrs Shears & Mrs Welshman

Foxes News

This week in English the children in Foxes have been using Lego to write instructions. We initially discussed the key features of instructions and the importance of them being detailed and precise. Then the children built a Lego model and wrote instructions for a friend to follow. In Science we have continued to learn about fossils as part of our "Evolution and Inheritance" unit of work and what they can and can't tell us about the creatures who left them. We then discussed extinct creatures we knew (dodo, woolly mammoth etc.) and why they possibly became extinct, with children giving suggestions like: the demise of their food source, an inability to evolve, global warming and the loss of a habitat.

Finally, in PE the children have been creating sequences of balances and movements in small groups. Their sequence had to include four or five balances consisting of the key shapes (such as straddle) as well as a range of transitions between balances. Mr Abbott



RSPB Bird Watch



The children have been learning all about Garden Birds in their forest school lessons. They have made bird feeders which are hung around the school grounds.

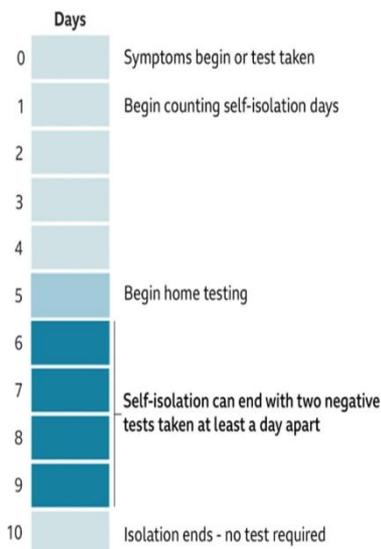
Ms Rankin has also been talking to the children about the forthcoming RSPB Bird Watch. To find out more and to take part in the RSPB Birdwatch (data collection) weekend please click on the link below.

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>

Dates for your Diary

1 st Feb	Chinese New Year
4 th Feb	Numbers Day – wear a ‘number’
7 th –13 th Feb	Children’s Mental Health Week
7 th Feb	Home House Challenge closing date
8 th Feb	Safer Internet Day
9 th Feb	Yr5/6 Hockey Festival
15 th Feb	Fencing session for all
18 th Feb	PTFA Valentines Raffle – tickets coming home soon
	PTFA Tuck Shop
	21st – 25th Feb – Spring Half Term
3 rd Mar	Cricket session for all
6 th April	6pm PTFA Easter Bingo – more details to follow
7 th April	Last day of Spring Term

How five-day isolation rule works in England



Covid Testing

The majority of children have had very mild or no symptoms, so we appreciate people testing their children regularly and getting them to self-isolate if positive. If a child tests positive on a LFD test they do not need to get a PCR but should self-isolate for at least five days.

If they test negative on day 5 and then day 6 (with 24 hrs in between the two tests) they can come back to school on day 6 if they are well and do not have a temperature.

If they test positive on these days they should continue to test until they get two negative tests with 24 hours in between or until they have had 10 days isolation. The day of the test is classed as day zero with the next day being day one. The class teacher will set work for your child to do at home if they are well enough.

Thank you for your continued support with this.

Safeguarding at St George’s

We are committed to Safeguarding at St George’s School. Our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy is available on our website. It is the duty of all staff and visitors to report any concerning behaviours to the school’s DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) Mrs Jill Farnedale or DDSL (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead) Mr Tom Abbott. The children and staff are encouraged to talk to a member of staff at any time if they have a concern. Alternatively, if you have concerns about any child’s safety, you can contact the Children’s Advice and Duty Service (ChAD) on 01395 228866

Local SEND Offer



Please see the below for the local SEND Offer from Dorset Council

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/children-families/sen-and-disability-local-offer/dorsets-local-offer>

LSA

We are looking for a Lunchtime Supervisor for 1 hour every day to join our staff team

Please contact the office if you, or someone you know, is interested in finding out more about the role

Attendance Letter

Each term we review attendance to see if anyone's attendance is a cause for concern. This is because attendance is clearly linked to children's progress and attainment.

The school average for last year was around 97%, which was good. We aim for attendance to be 95% or higher for all individuals and look closely at attendance that falls below 90%, to see what the reasons are.

Once attendance falls below 90% it becomes a cause for concern and is classed as persistent absence. At this point we will send out a standard letter to parents to let them know we are looking at their child's attendance. If at the end of 6-week monitoring period things are not improving, we will ask parents to come into school to discuss the reasons and to see if there is anything in school that can be done to help. Sometimes there is, but it is also helpful for us to have a good understanding of the reasons for their absence, even if there is nothing, we can do to change it.

It won't surprise you to know that so far this year we have many children with a low attendance. We recognise that there are usually very genuine reasons for this, especially as this year we have already had high numbers of children with illnesses and COVID.

If you receive a letter about attendance, then we just ask that you think about whether there is anything that can be done to help your child's attendance going forward and let us know if we can help.

We aim for attendance to be improving each term following a bout of illness and want to work with parents to help this to happen.

Do you teach YOGA? Do you know a friendly YOGA teacher?

As part of our Children's Mental Health Week, we would love to run a Yoga session for the children. If you know anyone who could help us out, please let the office know.

Speed Limit reduction

The Parish Council are currently running a petition to support a reduction in the speed limit through and within the village

Please sign the petition at www.change.org/p/dorset-council-lower-speed-in-bourton-for-a-safer-community or ask at the school office for a paper copy

This closes at the end of January

Hot Meals - Due to the feedback received from their schools stating that children are not enjoying the Chicken Casserole dish, Chartwells have decided to replace this option for the remainder of this term. The Main Chicken Casserole dish will be replaced with **BBQ Chicken & Mash** and the Vegetarian option will change to **Tomato & Veggie Balls & Mash**. This change will apply from **Tuesday 15th February 2022**. Due to this change and to remain compliant, we have also had to change Week 3's Thursday's Main option to Macaroni Cheese and the vegetarian option to BBQ Beans. This will apply from **Thursday 10th February 2022**.

The meal ordering website has been updated with the revised menu, please visit the site to make any changes to your orders by **Sunday 30th January**.

Thank you, thank you

We have had some more gorgeous books donated, many of which are from our amazon wish list and will help immensely with the English curriculum over the coming terms. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity - we very much appreciate it. Thank you to Finley's family and to Miss K. We are continuing to stick little thank you plaques inside the front covers, so keep your eye out for them! Thank you.



Our Amazon Wishlist - https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/16AOBV159X9M5?ref_=wl_share

Childrens Fun for National Storytelling Week

Children and Families come and play a game of "story consequences", and hear a traditional tale.



Gillingham Library
Saturday 29 January
10.30am - 11.30am

Places are limited and must be booked via the Library
For more information ☎ **01747 822180**
Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

[@DorsetLibraries](#) [f DorsetLibraries](#)

[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries)

Chinese New Year of The Tiger

Children and Families Craft Activities to celebrate Chinese New Year of the Tiger.



Gillingham Library
Tuesday 1 February
3:40pm - 4:30pm

Places are limited and must be booked via the Library.
For more information ☎ **01747 822180**
Under 8's must be accompanied by an adult.

[@DorsetLibraries](#) [f DorsetLibraries](#)

[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries)

Safer Internet Day - Basic Advice For Families

A short introductory session for Adults with children in Primary School. Crafts to be provided for the children during the session.



Gillingham Library
Tuesday 8 February
3.40pm - 4.30pm

Booking essential, please contact the library on gillinghamlibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk or:

For more information ☎ **01747 822180**

[@DorsetLibraries](#) [f DorsetLibraries](#)

[dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries)



Starry, Starry Nights Art Activities

Help us celebrate our status as an International Dark Sky Reserve and join us for a FREE two-hour Starry, Starry Night-inspired art session at Coombe Bissett Village Hall. Children will create their own stars and planet inspired creations to take home

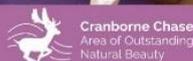
When: Thursday 24th February from 10am to 12 noon or from 2pm to 4pm or Friday 25th February from 2pm to 4pm

Where: Coombe Bissett Village Hall, Shutts Lane, Coombe Bissett, SP5 4LU

Suitability: Ages 4-11 (but all ages welcome)

To book: The event is FREE to attend but please ensure you book a space for each child that is attending. See our website for how to book www.cranbornechase.org.uk/events/ or search 'Chase and Chalke' on Eventbrite

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult



Provided by the Chase and Chalke Landscape Partnership with funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund

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

