



Kindness, Thankfulness, Perseverance

Our positive start to the Summer Term has continued this week despite the fact the weather has turned slightly wetter and cooler.

We are still following COVID guidance set out by the DfE and we will inform you when any changes are made that effect the way the school operates. This term we have made the slight change and joined Hedgehogs and Squirrels to form one double bubble to enable the children to mix for their phonics lessons. Apart from this slight change everything else is still in place and will remain so until we are advised otherwise.

This term usually brings with it a wide range of additional activities in school and I am sure you will have questions about certain things that traditionally take place at this time of year.

Events such as sports day, school trips, performances and end of year get together are enjoyable activities for children, staff and parents/carers alike. However, this year these are currently on hold until we know what the guidance will be. Currently there is no change in the guidance for schools and we have been informed this week, that the wearing of face masks in school by staff is likely to still be in place for the remainder of the Summer Term. We will, of course, let you know as soon as we can when the guidance changes.

I am sure you will understand that some things may not be able to take place in the normal format due to restrictions but we want to reassure you that we will continue to do as much as we can to ensure all our children experience enriching and engaging opportunities. This may well require us to think outside the box but the last year has given us lots of practice at doing exactly this so please know we will do our best!

Have a wonderful long weekend.

Marvellous Mathematician

Sebastian (YR),

Thea (Y2), Ethan (Y1)

Elliot (Y3), Alicia (Y3)

Florence (Y5)

Congratulations



Excellent Writers:

Jemima (YR)

Lilly (Y1)

Robyn (Y2)

Charlie (Y1)

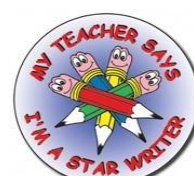
Dexter (Y4), Flo H (Y4)

Alexander (Y4)

Ava-Fee (Y6)

Keeleigh (Y6)

Congratulations



Head Teacher's Award



Week ending: 30/4/2021

Georgia May (Hedgehogs) – for being well organised and ready to learn.

Alice (Squirrels) – for offering detailed, thoughtful and insightful responses during classroom discussions.

Jacob (Badgers) – for trying hard, listening carefully and being a good role model to others.

Naomi (Foxes) - for fantastic perseverance in her Maths and explaining of her ideas

WELL DONE!

Learnimal Awards



Week ending: 30/4/2021

Willow for being a Teamwork Tiger



Freda for being a Concentrating Camel

Milly for being a Concentrating Camel

Oscar, Billy & Sam for being Teamwork Tigers



Pupil of the week

Week ending: 30/4/2021

Hedgehogs: Joanna

Squirrels: Edith

Badgers: Alfie-Jack

Foxes: Bryony

Well done

Silver Star Awards



Annella (Y3)

Phoebe P (Y4)

Well done

Attendance

Week ending 30.4.21

Hedgehogs –99.1%

Squirrels –99.3%

Badgers – 100%

Foxes –100%

Excellent attendance in all classes



Bronze Star Awards

Naomi (Y5)



Well Done

Happy Birthday



Connie (10)

Ollie D (11)

Many Happy Returns

House Point Scores

Sandways

394

Chaffeymoor

368

Queen Oak

276

Hedgehogs News Another great week of learning from Hedgehogs! This week in maths, we have been learning about the order of numbers and comparing different representations of them – numicon, counters, number cards, cubes, tens frames, etc. The reception children have ordered numbers to 20 and played number line games in pairs. The Year 1s have revised using $<$, $>$ and $=$ to compare numbers up to 50 and beyond. In English sessions we have continued writing our Little Red Riding Hood stories. This week we made a large outline of Little Red Riding Hood (by drawing around Niamh!) and labelled it with what the character wore and what she took in her basket to Grandma's house. The Year 1s have been working hard to include adjectives to describe the objects in her basket. In science, we have been looking at what plants need to grow and have planted some cress. We will be watching them closely over the following weeks. In our topic work we have been learning more about vegetables and which part of the plant we eat. We have also been learning about acceptance and friendship in our PSHE sessions. We read a story about Harold the Giraffe and his friends who are all very different in various ways. They all shared a scarf together and accepted one another's differences. We also read The Colour Monster to explore our different feelings and what colour we associate with each feeling. Finally, today they had a virtual fire safety lesson on Teams. The children learnt about how to stay safe at home and what to do in the event of an emergency. A great week!



Mrs Toy and Mrs Cuff ☺

Squirrels News

It has been another busy week in Squirrels class. In Science with Mrs Welshman the children have been identifying wildflowers before learning about their importance in nature. They then planted some wild flowers around the school grounds to encourage bees and other insects to pay us a visit.

In Maths the children have been counting up to 100. They have partitioned the numbers into 10s and 1s, written numbers in words and in figures, ordered numbers from smallest to biggest and compared them using the phrases: "greater than" and "less than."

In English they have been editing sentences from the story Little Red Riding Hood. They have added adjectives, adverbs, similes and alliteration to make the sentences more exciting and have enjoyed adding their own ideas to change the story plot.

Finally, today they had a virtual fire safety lesson on Teams. The children learnt about how to stay safe at home and what to do in the event of an emergency. Mr Abbott



Badgers News

This week Badgers have continued to research the Stone Age and we have learnt about the changes between the Palaeolithic, the Mesolithic and the Neolithic Ages. We have looked at a map of the area between Avebury and Stonehenge and made miniature long barrows in clay, using dismembered Lego people as the dead in the burial chambers. In the Neolithic age, people started to bury their dead. We also made Stonehenge out of Bourbon biscuits and pink wafers. It's amazing to think these important parts of our heritage date back to approx. 3,000 BCE.

We have had our first visit from a visiting Dorset music Hub teacher. Badgers are doing a ten-week programme of Samba drumming. Great fun and fantastic for listening and counting but a bit noisy; don't worry, no practice at home needed as these drums aren't portable!

We are getting into our Summer Sports - striking, fielding and athletics- in PE.

We've been impressed with Badgers and their focus in our writing sessions. They are using some fantastic expressive vocabulary.



Foxes News

In Foxes this week we have been reading about the Dorset Ridge-back dragon. We identified features of non-chronological reports and wrote a toolkit to remind ourselves about how to structure this text type. We then went out on location as nature programme presenters and dragonologists to film what we know about the dragon. The children really enjoyed this and we had lots of Team Work Tigers and problem solvers with i-pads being propped in trees and along fences for hands free filming.

In DT we explored a range of toys which are powered by a cams mechanism and considered how this impacts on the movement of the toy. We are hoping to make a model of a dragon with a moving part powered by a cam.

Foxes have shown great determination with their fractions in maths this week and have been adding and subtracting mixed fractions and considered the impact of this. We considered how to model these using apparatus or images.

We enjoyed describing ourselves in French, focusing on eye colour and hair colour. Amazingly we discovered that no-one in Foxes has green eyes; only blue or brown! We moved onto week 2 of the Couch to 5K although we had to give in to the rain in the end and retire a little early; we are hoping we can finish this stage next week.



Bikeability This term we are only able to offer Bikeability sessions to our Foxes.

Level 1 will take place on **Monday 10th May from 3.30- 5.30pm.**

There are 3x Level 2 courses on **Monday 24th, Tuesday 25th and Wednesday 26th May** during the school day, we will group the children and let you know which day. Please return the consent form and bike check as soon as it is completed.

Dates for the Diary:

Mon 19th April – Thurs 27th May - Summer Term 1

Mon 3rd May – Bank Holiday ~ **school closed**

Mon 10th May 3.30-5.30pm - Bikeability Level 1

Mon 24th May – Bikeability Level 2 Group 1

Tues 25th May – Bikeability Level 2 Group 2

Wed 26th May – Bikeability Level 2 Group 3

Fri 28th May - INSET Day

Mon 31st May - Fri 4th June May - Half Term

Mon 7th June – Fri 23rd July – Summer Term 2

School Twitter Page:

@StBourton



A Polite Plea:

Can we please ask everyone to check and name their child's clothing this weekend, especially jumpers. We have found lots without names in!

A few reminders:

In the sunnier weather, please can the children come to school with sun hats and a named water bottle.

Rucksacks and equipment from home: Please

remember that we are still not able to allow the children to bring in equipment or toys from home. If possible could the children also refrain from bringing in large rucksacks as space is limited as we are not using the corridor cloakrooms.

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.



Reminder

The Car Park is for Staff Use only.

Covid19 Update:

Just a reminder that if your child or any member of your household (including your childcare bubble or support bubble, if you have one) develops Covid19 symptoms all members of your household should isolate. You must book a test for the symptomatic person and phone or email the school office to let us know. You can arrange a test through <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by phoning 119.

The symptoms to look out for are:

- New, persistent cough
- High temperature
- Change to sense of taste or smell

If you do need to get a test for a member of your household, once you get the result, please let us know the result. If we do get a positive case in school, we will work with the Public Health Team to identify close contacts and they will be asked to isolate.

Volunteers

Do you have an hour or so free to hear readers? If yes, please let us know as we are welcoming back volunteers. We are asking that you carry out a Lateral Flow Covid Test before coming in, these are available free of charge from the government website or your local pharmacy. Please email the office with your most recent result before coming into school.

Maths Support for Parents

White Rose Maths have teamed up with TV presenter, teacher and parent Michael Underwood to bring you a mini-series called Maths with Michael. We understand that many parents feel like maths has changed and can sometimes find it difficult to keep up to date with modern teaching methods in maths. Well don't worry, we're here to help. With over 80% of Primary schools and a growing number of Secondary schools using our free schemes of learning, supporting resources and assessments, we can help you bridge the gap between school and home.

Episodes will be released each Sunday at 4pm and Wednesday at 7pm for 3 weeks. Episodes will give you an introduction to place value, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions and algebra.

If popular and useful for parents and carers we may delve deeper into one of these topics in another mini-series.

Now sit back and enjoy! <https://whiterosemaths.com/for-parents/maths-withmichael/?fbclid=IwAR0UhgNi8OO30oK1GpFWNoM1h8l6UrEmPWEBfwOW-eUKsLd4BNTpH1GPK5g>

School Uniform

As we are now in the summer term, children may wear summer uniform to school, this can be a blue gingham dress or skirt, a blue polo t-shirt bearing the school logo and grey shorts. PE kit must consist of our school PE t-shirt, plain black or blue shorts/joggers and a plain black or blue jumper/sweatshirt or the school hoodie on top of their PE t-shirt. We appreciate that children's feet grew over the lockdown and shops were closed however we are now asking that all children wear school shoes on uniform days and trainers only on PE days please.

Mental Health Support

In January 2021, NHS England and NHS Improvement have published new guidance on children and young people's mental health from Dr Prathiba Chitsabesan, Associate National Clinical Director for Children and Young People's Mental Health.

This includes advice for parents/carers and information on how to access services.

Please follow the link below for further information: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/blog/advice-for-parentsguardians-and-carers-on-how-to-support-a-child-or-young-person-if-youre-concerned-about-their-mental-health/>



Improving our Children's Mental Health

Due to the changing lifestyles, which have emerged since the Covid Pandemic began last March, improving children's mental health will continue to be a focus for some time ahead.

NSPCC Learning has launched three videos on children and young people's mental health, looking at: how mental health can become a safeguarding concern; the impact of abuse and neglect; and ways professionals and parents can support children and young people, who are experiencing issues with their mental health. The three videos can be found on the 'WHO IS AT RISK?: Responding and Understanding' sections of the child mental health page. Click [here](#) to open the link.

Swimming Pool

Some of you may have noticed this week as you walked past school that the pool has been painted and is being filled as I type. We are hopeful that it will be warm and ready to use before the half term holiday. The staff have their pool first aid training booked in for next week and the children are really excited. Further details about swimming days/procedures etc. will be sent out over the next week or so. We are extremely lucky to have this fabulous resource in school.

Due to Covid restrictions we will be having smaller groups swimming so we are asking for volunteers to come in and help us out with the lessons – especially with our younger children. If you have some spare time to help out, can you please let Mrs Hudson know.

Attendance

Now that school is open fully, it is essential that children attend whenever they are well enough, so that they can make the most of the learning opportunities on offer.

We would appreciate it if you could make all non-urgent appointments, such as routine dentist appointment, out of school hours to ensure your child has the best possible attendance.

Although we recognise the inconvenience caused by holidays being postponed due to COVID, we are not able to authorise holidays taken in term time unless it is for an exceptional reason.

We will be reviewing attendance and punctuality over the next two weeks and will be in contact if your child's attendance or punctuality is a cause for concern.

As a general rule, we class good attendance as being 95% or higher. If your child's attendance is between 90% and 95% we will review the reasons given. If your child's attendance falls below 90%, this is classed as persistent absence and we have a duty to report it into the Local Authority.

Home Learning

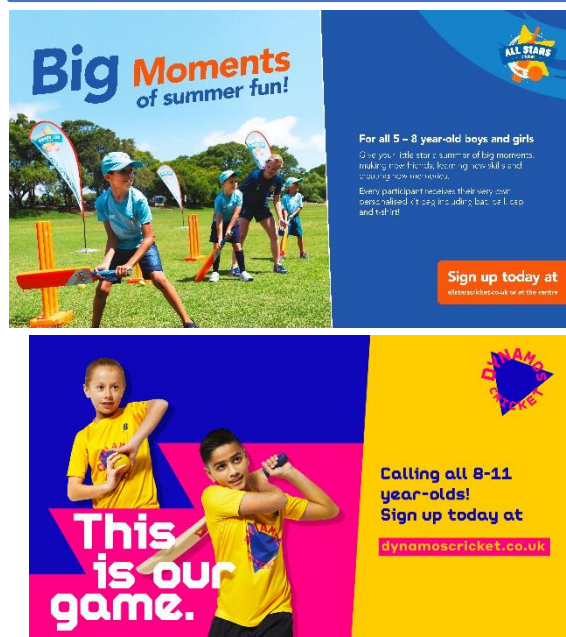
The class teachers are still using Microsoft Teams each week for homework tasks (spellings and mental maths). We have decided to continue to use this platform for home learning as we hope it will encourage children to keep practising the skills of logging on in case we are ever in a position where remote learning is required again. If you do have any questions regarding home learning, please do email your child's class teacher.

Violin Lessons

Mrs Mogridge will be visiting Badgers next week to talk to them about learning to play the Violin. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions she isn't able to visit all classes.

We also offer lessons in Brass, Woodwind, Guitar and Piano.

If you would like to know more about music lessons in school, please contact the office.



Big Moments of summer fun!

For all 5 – 8 year-old boys and girls

Give your little star a summer of big moments, making new friends, learning new skills and creating happy memories.

Every participant receives their very own personalised kit bag including bat, ball, cap and t-shirt!

Sign up today at badgers@stjohns.cusd.nhs.uk or at the school office

This is our game.

Calling all 8-11 year-olds!

Sign up today at dynamocricket.co.uk

After School Clubs - changes next week

Hedgehogs ~ Outdoor fun – cancelled on Tuesday 4th May due to staff training

Badgers ~ Rounders/Tennis – cancelled on Thursday 6th May due to staff training

Please collect all children from the main school Wooden Gate via the Car Park