Pyrford C of E Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Year 3 practised their football skills and did fitness circuits in PE this week







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Y4 & Y5 consents

Consents for Year 4 Saxon
Workshop and Year 5
Planetarium activities should
now have been given on
Scopay. Please log in and give
your consent if you have not
already done so.

Headteacher's Letter

Good morning. What a week! I don't think anyone is more pleased it is Friday than me!

A huge thank you to everyone for your support and understanding after what has undoubtedly been a very disruptive week. The closure of two year groups has been far from ideal for everyone concerned and has been a steep learning curve for the school community.

There remain huge issues with the gaining of tests, test results, and track and trace. Alongside this, over last weekend and presently, the support lines which schools can access have been overwhelmed. I have spent hours and hours, day and night trying to get hold of the relevant people schools need to contact to advise of a positive case. However, as they say, every cloud does have a silver lining and in my experience, investigation and advice from PHE has been good. Once PHE have investigated the case and enforced bubble closure this triggers the allocation of additional electronic devices to support home learning. We have been allocated 9 devices (I am well aware that this is nowhere near enough to support families in the school, however, this is done using a DfE calculation, not actual need). Devices were due to be delivered yesterday but we are still waiting, so my apologies for people who are desperate for a device to help their child work. We will get those out to you as soon as we can and will continue to provide printed materials. The school is in the process of ordering 100 chrome books (school and PTA funded). Again demand is far outweighing supply currently as both the education and business sectors seek to increase their devices. However, once we have these in place we will be well set up for when children have to engage with home learning.

Many thanks to parents, particularly in year 4 who we have contacted over the last few days to gain some feedback. We are not ringing to check up on you but wanted to get an overview of how things are going for you and what the school can do to help you. We can see a very mixed picture: for some of you working from home this time is extremely stressful as you juggle your own work with supporting your child; some say there is not enough work for children and others are begging for us to reduce the work. Similarly in year 2, we sent a suggested timetable for the day and you have told us it is just too much. We are trying to find the best possible ways to support you all and meet your individual needs which is so hard, as we work within government guidance which is fairly prescriptive. My message to you all is please try not to worry - you can only do what you can do. We are in unprecedented times with much uncertainty. I appreciate some of you are trying to hold on to jobs, some are still furloughed and some of you are perfectly happy knowing your children are safe at home. Home learning, particularly in a primary setting is so hard. Normally in school a teacher fully interacts with the class, the lesson is tailored to meet every child's needs and the teacher is constantly reviewing and switching direction during the entirety of the lesson. We can normally quickly recap previous learning stages, introduce new vocabulary, explain misconceptions etc. We really don't expect parents to be delivering learning in the same way - don't worry we are trained to support this and will ensure any misconceptions and over-learning take place as soon as children are back in the classroom.

We do acknowledge that children would benefit from seeing their teacher and have set up zoom sessions. I am sorry that this is not accessible to you all at present due to the device situation. I also appreciate that some parents don't agree with this but we are offering a short wellbeing zoom session to isolating children which your child is welcome to join. Details are sent to parents via email.

For those of you entitled to free school meals, we have delivered food boxes to

you. Pupils in Year 4 will receive another delivery to last for 3 days on Monday. It was good to see some of you on our delivery round! I am meeting with the school catering company to discuss the content of these boxes, after I was disappointed to say the least, with their first offering. I am very grateful to our own cook Vanessa, for making up boxes which we could deliver to you. Please get in contact if you have any feedback.

Moving on, today we are celebrating Harvest festival in school. The children have enjoyed a prerecorded service which staff have engaged in by filming themselves at home with their harvest goods. Thanks to Suzanne Lees-Smith for leading this worship and putting it all together technically for us. Suzanne does a plethora of collective worship sessions over the week which we are able to share with the children in the classrooms. Thanks also to parents for your very kind and most generous donations of harvest goods. I know they will be much appreciated by the Food Bank in these challenging times.

This week we had our school photos taken in a white gazebo pitched outside. I was quite amused to be contacted by locals who had seen this and thought it was a Covid test centre and could they book a test? Sadly I had to disappoint folks! We will ensure that photos are taken of the children who were isolating at the time. Another local rumour which I thought I ought to clarify concerned me closing the school today for a two-week circuit breaker and then enforcing all families to self-isolate. I'm afraid that's not true either, if only I had the power! Please be assured if there's any big news, I will let you all know in good time and will be open and honest with you.

My thanks again for all your support during these challenging times. As always, get in touch if we can help you.

Have a good weekend.

Kathryn Krynicki Headteacher



Amelia's version of the Holy Trinity
(see Golden Book overleaf)

Middle figure - The Son - tree with decorations of all his creations and a rainbow for hope

Left figure - The Father - church to represent his family

Left figure - The Father - church to represent his family Right figure - doves and flames and water for the ever-flowing Holy Spirit



GOLDEN BOOK

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GOLDEN BOOK WINNERS THIS WEEK

| N SQUIRRELS James Haigh for settling really well and finding an adult when he needs help. | 3 ELM Fleur Cobbett for retelling the story 'Gorilla' so well. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| R BEECH Toby Brewster for always trying really hard in everything he does. Listening well on the carpet and having a go even when it's tricky! | 3 MAPLE Maddy Elliott for writing such a fantastic letter all about 'Gorilla'. |
| R HAZEL Evie Helyar for taking the initiative to ask for a dust pan and brush so that she could tidy the beads. Well done Evie for finishing what you started and not giving up! | 4 ALDER We hope to share good work next week. |
| 1 CHESTNUT Maggie Freeman for thoughtful writing all about her favourite cuddly. | 4 LARCH We hope to share good work next week. |
| 1 OAK William Wheatley for super writing about his favourite cuddly. | 5 CHERRY Freya Andrews for a thoughtful, well written diary entry. |
| 1 PINE Hugo Kelly for brilliant descriptive writing. | 5 WILLOW Evangeline Lyon for a thoughtful, well written diary entry. |
| 2 HAWTHORN We hope to share good work next week. | 6 SYCAMORE Imogen Reynell for some great work in Science on inheritance and breeding. |
| 2 CEDAR We hope to share good work next week. | 6 LAUREL Freddie Wakeling for a fantastic cave painting in Art. (see below) |
| | 6 HOLLY Amelia Theodorou for her own beautiful version of Rubler's Trinity using lovely symbolism. (see previous page) |







| | EYFS/KS 1 | Lower KS2 | Upper KS2 | Class |
|-----|-------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| 1st | Immy Fitch | Mujtaba Ahmed | Emelia Parvin | 3 Maple 313,909,289 |
| 2nd | Munis Zahid | Zain Bashir | Ahmed Najaf | 4 Alder 134,349,124 |
| 3rd | Iman Ahmad | Sadiqah-Noor Mehmood | Joe Spencer | 2 Cedar 1136,185,017 |





Times Tables Rock Stars Awards!

Rock Hero Status has been awarded to:

| | Lower KS2 | Upper KS2 |
|-----|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1st | Amina Azeem | Wafa Zaynab |
| 2nd | Bella Tubasei | Kendall Goodrich |
| 3rd | Finlay Boulby | Nico Regueiro Russell |

And top of the Classes Leader Board are

1st Place: Alder Class

2nd Place: Larch Class
3rd Place: Willow Class

https://play.ttrockstars.com/ttrs/online



DIARY DATES

Tue 13 & Wed 14 Oct: YN-3

Perform Drama Workshops

Thu 15 Oct: Y4 Saxons Day

Thu 22 Oct: Y5 Wonderdome

Mobile Planetarium

Fri 23 Oct: Y3 Romans & Celts

Day

24 Oct - 1 Nov: HALF TERM

Mon 2 Nov: INSET Day

Thu 17 Dec: School finishes at

1:30pm

Fri 18 Dec - 3 Jan: Christmas

Holiday

Mon 4 Jan: INSET Day

Tue 9 Feb: Y6 Greeks Day

13 - 21 Feb: HALF TERM

Thu 1 Apr: School finishes at

1:30pm

2 - 18 Apr: Easter Holiday

Tue 11 May: Y5 Vikings Day

29 May - 6 Jun: HALF TERM

Mon 7 Jun: INSET Day

Tue 22 Jun: Leavers' Service at

Guildford Cathedral

Wed 21 Jul: School finishes at

1:30pm



A free virtual festival - Festival of the Girl is launching THIS Sunday 11th October (International Day of the Girl).

It is a fun, engaging and safe environment for girls and their families to explore key topics, from body positivity and mental health to feminism and careers. Although it is aimed at girls aged 7 - 11, it is open to everyone including teachers, parents, grandparents, carers, and boys. It aims to help attendees see beyond gender stereotypes and encourages girls to be confident in creating the future they want.

Centred on the theme of 'Future change makers', this year's festival includes a diverse range of speakers, collaborators and interactive online sessions. Speakers and collaborators include Olympic Trampolinist Bryony Page; Gemma Tutton from Our Streets Now; Boxer Stacey Copeland; Taylor Wimpey Homes; and the British Army, to name just a few. Carefully created videos include Festival of the Girl bootcamp, tips and tricks on building confidence, careers in STEM, 'being a change maker', and many more. See the line-up and sign up here.





If you live in Surrey, you can find out all you need to know about school admissions and apply online at surreycc.gov.uk/admissions or you can call us on 0300 200 1004.

