



Newsletter – No. 26 25th March 2022

Message from Mrs. Mole

We have so enjoyed the warmer weather in school this week and watching the buds open on the trees. The children have enjoyed all of their outdoor learning and being in the sunshine at playtimes.

Last Friday, Badger class had a fabulous time baking Fairtrade gingerbread men/rabbits/fish/eggs/snowmen. They used Fairtrade ginger, nutmeg, cinnamon, honey, vanilla, golden syrup and sugar and then sold them after school. Thank you to all the children in Badger class as well as Mrs Quinn, Miss Aylett and Mrs Cushnie for all their hard work baking and selling and many thanks to all those who

bought the biscuits. Badger class made a whopping £64.60 which we will be sending to the Fairtrade Foundation to help them continue to support workers and the environment across the world.

Have a lovely weekend, and fingers crossed that the sun will continue to shine!

Rebecca Mole, Headteacher



Star of Week

Well done to all the winners this week.

Rabbits: Anastasia for fantastic reading and participation

Squirrels: Alex L for working hard in his writing

Badgers: Finbar for having a good attitude towards learning

Forest School: Jessica W for making a beautiful flower and being kind,

Values Star of the week: Henry E (Squirrels) for being so curious about everything in assemblies this week and asking loads of questions.



Values Leaves

We are changing the way that we celebrate the children's values leaves. The children will still get values' leaves from home and from school and these will be celebrated in school and with a mini certificate from myself or Mrs. Binding. The leaves will be hung on the Values Tree in the main entrance or in Rabbit Class for the half term that they are given in and then they will be taken down and stuck on an individual painted values tree that the children will keep once they leave the school.

The teachers will also be selecting one or two children in each class to give a special values certificate to and these will be included in the newsletter from next week.



Fairtrade

Q is for Quinoa

Quinoa is a healthy food that Andean farmers have shared with the world. While the appetite for quinoa has improved living standards for producers, to meet increased demand many quinoa farmers have expanded cultivation of the crop beyond their traditional high-elevation plots. This has implications for the long-term sustainability of quinoa farming which Fairtrade is working to address.

When you buy Fairtrade quinoa, you are helping to ensure that this food can continue to be enjoyed for many generations to come!



Dragon Eyes

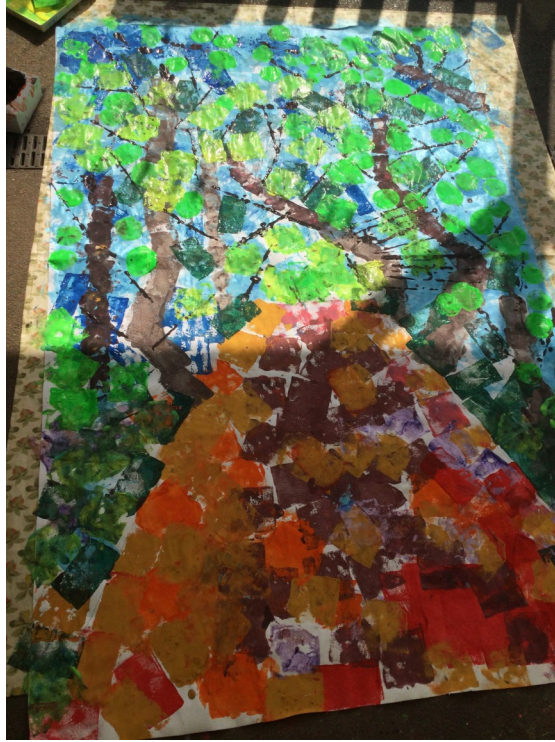
This week Squirrel Class created dragon eyes with clay! They have spent this half term exploring sculpture and planning their own dragon eye creation. The children used different techniques to make patterns and also learnt how to attach two pieces of clay together using slip. Don't you think they are 'roar' some!



One True Picture!

We had a visit this morning from local Artist Imogen Hartridge. She spoke about how she creates her art work and things that inspire her. We all then had a go at recreating one of her pieces of art for our selves. The original piece of art is based on Ashted Common. If you want to see more of Imogen's work please look up her website; <https://www.imogenhartridgeart.com/>





Ukraine

As a school we have families who have links both to Ukraine and to Russia. Please do be mindful of the conversations that you have with one another and with your children. One of our school values is 'respect' and another is to be 'caring', this would seem a perfect opportunity to show both values. If you have conversations with your children about the situation please do help them to understand that you cannot stereotype people or generalise. It is so important for us as a school that every child feels valued and welcome no matter what their ethnic origin or language they speak and that they feel confident in who they are and speak the language of the countries they have links to.

With the events continuing in Ukraine there are listed below some more online resources that you may find useful. The list was produced by Surrey County Council and shared with schools.

DfE blog: [Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation](#)

Children's Commissioner blog: [We should not hide from children what is happening in Ukraine](#)

Ideas from the Place2Be Educational Psychologists to guide thinking about how to talk to children and young people about war and conflict <https://www.place2be.org.uk/about-us/news-and-blogs/2022/march/talking-to-children-and-young-people-about-war-and-conflict/>

BBC News website has an informative article by Lauren Potts called 'Ukraine Conflict: How to help yourself, your kids and other <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-60557186>

Guidance from the British Psychological Society / Division of Child and Educational Psychology <https://www.bps.org.uk/news-and-policy/supporting-children-manage-anxiety-over-war-conflict-and-crises>

Professor Hill advises:

- **Give them the basics and don't avoid the conversation** – Listen to their worries and provide honest answers to their questions about what is going on, don't overcomplicate your responses and try to give details at an age-appropriate level. Don't avoid answering their questions about the situation as this could promote more anxiety, but keep to basic facts.
- **Ensure they feel supported and safe** – It's important to help children understand the level of threat to them and their friends and family. Explain this is happening in Ukraine, a different country and show this if necessary using a globe or map.
- **Manage your own feelings** - Try to deal with your own feelings of stress and distress in a way that it is managed as your children will be sensitive to your reactions.
- **Explain to your children that bad things can happen in the world but there is always some way we can help** - Plan together how you might deal with this situation through fundraising or other actions to support the Ukrainian community.
- **Avoid exposure to a constant stream of news** – Be mindful of whether you have the radio or TV on all day, as children will be absorbing news without us realising it. Try to build in 'breaks' from the news, for example, if you are picking up your children from school, turn off the radio or make sure it isn't on a news station to provide a break from the constant exposure to worrying rolling news cycles.
- **Watch where they are getting their news** – We know that fake news is an issue, particularly on social media sites so be mindful of what your children are absorbing and where they are getting it. Ensure they understand that not everything they see on social media sites is true, and they know what reliable sources of news they can access.

Seek advice and support if you are concerned about your child – School staff and educational psychologists can offer specific advice and support if you feel that your child is becoming overly anxious and distressed. Providing support and reassurance and diverting their thoughts through engagement in pleasurable activities can help.

The Great Easter Egg-stravaganza!

On Wednesday 30th March we are inviting children to take part in an Easter Egg hunt in the grounds of the school and enjoy a mufti day.

During the school morning, each class will hunt for eggs and find clues to form an Easter word. At the end of the school day, every child will receive a chocolate egg to take home (as long as their parent / carer has given permission via our online form).



To continue to raise funds towards our outdoor classroom we will be asking for a donation of £4 for the egg hunt and £1 for mufti day. We are asking for online payments only please.

We appreciate that finances are very tight for a lot of families so please be assured that if you are unable to donate the £4 suggested as long as you complete the online permission form your child will still receive an egg. If you are unable to pay the full donation but are able to make a smaller contribution to help cover the costs that is also absolutely fine. Please feel free to have a confidential conversation with your class teacher or Ms Mole if this causes you any kind of difficulty.

Please complete the form below by Friday 25th March - it's quick and easy and we will need permission for every child to receive a chocolate egg.

<https://forms.gle/U9LFPoh7jgWys2s6>

Volunteers needed

We are also looking for volunteers to help on the morning, if you would like to come for all of the event (9am – 11.30am) or can spare half an hour for your child's class, please let us know by emailing the Friends plisfriends@gmail.com or telling Cathy, Emily or Vicky when you see us at school.

Families Magazine

Families London Surrey Borders is a free print magazine for parents ages 0 to 12 showcasing what's on offer locally for families. We often have paper copies outside the school office for you to help yourselves to.

Due to the huge increase in paper costs, the magazine are having to review their distribution policies to make their budget go as far as possible.

If you would like to see a copy of the latest issue for Mar/Apr please click [HERE](#).



Dates

Spring Term 2022

1st April; Last day of term school closes at 1pm

Summer Term 2022

Tuesday 19th April Additional Inset Day

Wednesday 20th April—Children return

Mon 2nd May—School closed May Bank Holiday

30th May—3rd June — school closed for Half Term

Mon 6th June—School closed Inset Day

22nd July—last day of term school closes 1pm

Friends Events 2022

Wednesday 30th March - Easter egg hunt and mufti day

Friday 27th May - Jubilee bake sale, after school at 3pm

13th and 14th June – Costume making morning, with support from parents / carers. To be used at the Village Day parade 18th June

23rd June - Sponsored bounce where children bounce on an inflatable castle as many times as they can in one minute!

10th July - Polesden Lacey Infant School 50th Anniversary fayre ****Date for your diary****

18th and 19th July - Movie nights for all classes with popcorn, straight after school

The Friends of Polesden Lacey Infant School

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PLISFriends>

Cashback for us from your shopping: [Easyfundraising Registration](#)