



Newsletter – No. 1 4th September 2020

Message from Mrs. Mole

Welcome back to Polesden Lacey Infant School. It has been a delight to see all of the Squirrel and Badger children and their families at school this week and we are really looking forward to welcoming the Rabbit children next week. The staff and children have settled quickly into the school routines and I would like to thank all of you for supporting us in implementing the changes that we have made due to the current situation regarding Covid-19. The Government have published a guide for parents about what to expect in schools and you can read it by following the link [here](#).

Although things are a little different in school, we continue to make sure that the children are still enjoying their learning and are happy and confident. So far that appears to be the case, I see smiling faces and hear happy voices in the classrooms and on the playground.



Squirrels labelling the parts of a body.



Badgers thinking about real life heroes

This first week back in school has been uplifting, the sun has shone and I am looking forward to seeing the children develop as the year progresses. (I am also keeping my fingers crossed that in my second year of headship I manage to keep the school open to all children all year long!)

Rebecca Mole - Headteacher

Star of the Week

Well done to all the winners this week.

Squirrels - Henry H for settling so quickly into life at Polesden Lacey Infant School

Badgers - Oscar for always listening and being ready to learn.



Congratulations to Mrs. Mathews

It is with a sense of great joy and excitement that I would like to share with you the news that Mrs. Mathews and her husband are expecting their first baby. We suspect that many of you will have guessed that this was the case when she was shielding at the end of last term but, as with most expectant mothers, they want the first few months to be a private time for celebration and adjusting to the news. After meeting with Mrs. Mathews and risk assessing her situation she is now happily back with her class and enjoying being with the children. She will be talking to the children about being pregnant next week and explaining to the children that there are some things that she may ask the other adults in her classroom to do instead of her such as first aid and doing up shoe laces. Knowing so far in advance that Mrs. Mathews will be taking maternity leave enables us to plan ahead to ensure that the person who covers her leave is fully ready to continue with all the learning that Mrs. Mathews will do with the children.

I hope that you will all join me in congratulating Mrs. Mathews and her husband.

Forest School and PE

Mrs. Secker has started Forest School sessions with the children and PE sessions will be starting next week. Please can you make sure that your child has their Forest School and PE kit in school.

Remember to ensure that everything is clearly named - it is easier for us to help reunite your child with their things if they are named rather than relying on the children to say, 'I know it is mine because it smells like mine!'



Calling unwanted house plants

The staff in Rabbit's class would like to make the inside of their classroom a greener space by adding some house plants to the room. The suggested benefits range from helping to provide fresher, more oxygenated air to improving mental well-being and developing greater responsibility in children.

We have started our collection with this magnificent *Monstera deliciosa*, also known as the Swiss Cheese plant and would love to add some more greenery. If you have anything that you would like to donate, no matter how small or large please let Mrs. Binding, Mrs. Leggatt or the office know.



Fairtrade

U is for Ubuntu Cola

Ubuntu Cola was the first cola in the UK to get the Fairtrade mark (back in 2007) and is made with Fairtrade sugar from the Kasinthula Cooperative in Malawi and from the Kaleya Cooperative in Zambia. It seems an appropriate way to round off an unusual year as the cola is named after the African philosophy of Ubuntu which means humanity or fellow feeling of kindness. Ubuntu give at least 15% of its profits to the Ubuntu Africa Programme which supports sugar producers and their communities and encourages entrepreneurial projects aimed at tackling poverty. However you celebrate the end of the school year, remember to support Fairtrade where possible!



Eco - Tip

It appears that we will be using masks when we are out and about in indoors locations for the foreseeable future. In May a report was released which examined the potential impact of using disposable face masks by the general public. The report estimated that if people used disposable masks we could end up with 66,000 tonnes of contaminated plastic mask waste in the household waste stream. By using reusable masks we will help to prevent this happening and continue to reduce plastic waste.



Dates

Autumn Term 2020

Starts; 1st September 2020 (inset)

2nd September Year 1 & 2 Return

7th September Reception Class start (staggered start across the week)

14th September Reception Class go full time

15th October Flu Immunisation's for all classes

Half Term; 26th October —30 October 2020

2nd November - School Closed—Inset Day

Last day of Term; 18th December 2020