



**Polesden Lacey
Infant School**

Newsletter – No. 10 15th November 2024

Message from Ms. Mole

As we move into darker evenings, I thought I would take advantage of reminding you all of the importance of reading to your child. Not only is reading books and stories to your children one of the loveliest ways of passing time, it exposes the children to more sophisticated vocabulary, improves reading attainment, develops their cognitive skills, fosters a feeling of warmth and community when being read to, helps them make sense of the world, give them skills that they will use in school and later life as well as taking them on magical journeys. The list seems to be endless! Mrs. Bryan is doing some studying of her own through a course entitled 'Everybody Read—Leading Reading for Pleasure'. One of the startling facts that she has already learnt was regarding the drop in the number of children being read to regularly at home. In 2012 52% of 5 to 7 year olds were read to at least 4 times a week and in 2023 this number had dropped to 39%. Let's buck the trend at Polesden Lacey Infant School—snuggle down with your child and a wonderful book!

One of our Badger parents is currently studying and carrying our research into the impact of Forest School. Below, in the newsletter, there is a link to a survey she has put together. As a school we are very excited to be part of this project and I hope many of you will complete the survey. This will provide her with a wealth of information, adding to the success of the research.

Rebecca Mole, Headteacher

Star of Week

Rabbits: **Jasmine** for working so hard to improve her phonics and blending.

Squirrels: **Calista** for working so hard on her letter formation.

Badgers: **Gian** for amazing progress in reading!



Values Star of the week

Rabbits: **Stanley** for demonstrating a curious attitude to all areas of his learning.

Squirrels: **Charlie** for being curious when faced with a tricky maths challenge.

Badgers: **Arthur** for showing great curiosity about the Great Fire of London!

Forest School Star of the Week

Rabbits: **Jessica** for being helpful raking up leaves in the orchard.

Squirrels: **Katie** for making a beautiful Beech leaf poppy.

Badgers: **Charlie M** for always reminding me of fun ideas discussed during Forest School reflecting time and being thoughtful and caring.



NUMBOTS Star of the Week

Rabbits: Sammy

Squirrels: Sienna

Badgers: Sophie



Attendance Cup: Rabbits

Applications for Reception and Year 3 Places

If you or anyone you know is looking for a Reception place we have 2 tours left before the closing date for applications in January 2025. Monday 2nd December 2024 1.30pm—3.00pm & Thursday 9th January 2025 at 1.30pm—3.00pm. Please click on the following link; <https://polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk/news-and-events/barham-open-days> to book a place.

Primary, infant and junior school admissions for September 2025 are now open as of 4th November 2024. Parents and carers with a child who was born between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 (or a child leaving Year 2 of an infant school in July 2025) will have until 15 January 2025 to apply for their child's 2025 school place.

For more information or to apply for a school place please visit <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions>

Social Media

Don't forget to look at our school facebook page for more photo's and information about things going on at school.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PolesdenLaceyInfantSchool>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/polesdenlaceyinfant>



Parent Consultations

Year 1—Tuesday 19th November

It has been great to see so many of you at the parent consultation meetings and I hope that they have been useful and informative. For those of you in Year 1 that haven't seen Mrs Bryan yet, she is looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday. For those who still need to meet with Mrs. Mathews we have e-mailed you directly.

Appointments take place in your child's classroom. Please enter via the main entrance and wait in the cloakroom until the teacher calls you in. Please note the driveway has limited lighting so you might like to bring a torch with you if your appointment is after dark.

In fairness to other parents each appointment will start and finish promptly. If you need further time to discuss any concerns after your 10 minutes are up please make another appointment to see the teacher separately at a later date.

Any accompanying school age children will be asked to sit quietly in the class book corner, where books will be provided for them to look at. Please keep toddlers with you during the meeting.

Many of you will have had the opportunity to look at your child's books on Open Afternoon (Wednesday 5th November) if you were unable to do so and would like to look at the books on parents evening please let Mrs Bryan and Mrs Mathews know in advance so they can have them ready.

Christmas Cards



As an Eco School we are mindful of the impact we have on our environment at all times of the year and especially at Christmas. At Polesden Lacey Infant School we encourage the children, that would like to, to give one Christmas card to the whole class instead of individual cards. These will be opened in class and proudly displayed in their classroom. We hope this helps to reduce waste and cost whilst also celebrating this festive season.

Cards can be sent in any time from 1st December.

Christmas Performances

We are really looking forward to welcoming you to our Christmas performances.

This year there are three dates, one for Reception and two for KS1. We are aware that some parents will wish to attend more than one show as they have children in different classes, this is absolutely fine. NB. The show for KSI will be exactly the same on both dates but has been split to allow more room for parents at each show. We will not be issuing tickets this year but are restricting numbers to no more than 2 people per family per performance. **We request that you do not bring siblings, unless they are one of your two tickets.**

The Reception's Nativity will take place on Wednesday 11th December at 9.00 am to 9.30 am (approximately).

The Year 1 show (which includes the Year 2 children) will take place on Tuesday 17th December at 9.00am to 9.45am approximately.

The Year 2 show (which includes Year 1 children) will take place on Thursday 19th December starting at 9.00am to 9.45am approximately.

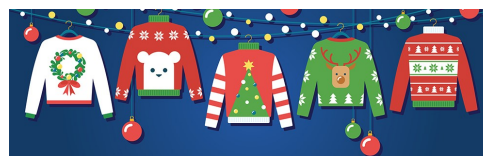
If Year 1 & 2 parents are not able to attend on the date allocated for your child's class performance there is capacity for you to attend on the alternative date. All we ask is that you let the school office know so that we can put out the correct number of chairs. (The show for both dates is exactly the same)

Please keep an eye inside your child's book bag for letters providing costume details, song lists and words to learn. (Costumes for year 1 & 2 will simply consist of a specific coloured t-shirt along with PE tracksuit bottoms and plimsolls). These will be coming home over the course of the next couple of weeks.



Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day – 18th December

On the 18th December the school catering team will be serving up a delicious festive Christmas lunch. We've also chosen this day as our Christmas Jumper day, where children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper, full Christmas outfit, or their own weekend clothes. We are asking for a voluntary donation of £1 per child, which will be collected on the day.



An exciting opportunity to be help with research into the impact of Forest School

One of our parents is undertaking research around Forest School, as part of her studies and she would like to invite the families of Polesden Lacey Infant School to complete a survey to help her with the research. Any adult members of the family, who spend time with their Polesden Lacey Infant School child (grandchild, niece or nephew, child minder child) on a regular basis can complete the questionnaire. The questionnaire should take approximately 7 minutes to complete and relates to the school's Forest School sessions and nature connection.

The questionnaire can be accessed either on a laptop/desktop or mobile phone.

The following link will take you to the live survey which will record your responses: https://qualtricsxmdwcz4smjk.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cBdq5MzDZ0Ry59Q

The more data that she is able to collect the greater insight she will have on the themes she is exploring, so please do click on the link and complete the survey.

Message from the Friends

Santa's elves are very busy planning events for later this term – more details on these and how you can get tickets will be in next week's newsletter!



Christmas Volunteers Needed

Thanks to everyone who has already signed up to support our upcoming Christmas events next month, we still have a few spaces, please sign up here if you're able to help: <https://volunteersignup.org/3DYA9>

If you'd like to be the first to know about volunteering opportunities at school we'd be pleased to add you to our Friends WhatsApp group, send the team a message at plisfriends@gmail.com and we'll add you.

Christmas Artwork – shop re-opening!

Thank you again to everyone who ordered Christmas Artwork. If you missed out on ordering last time, or want to order more, the shop for Christmas Artwork is now re-open until noon on 25th November. If you have lost your code, please email us and we can get that over to you.

Request

Santa and his elves have asked for donations of **recyclable wrapping paper** to wrap gifts for the school grotto. If you're able to donate any, please leave it by the school office. Thank you to those who have dropped wrapping paper already.

Easyfundraising

And as we, like Santa, all prepare for Christmas, we wanted to remind you about easyfundraising, a free and easy way that you can support the fundraising efforts for our school. Over 7,500 brands will donate to Friends of Polesden Lacey Infant School at no extra cost to you, allowing you to raise donations when you shop online. Please see the link below for more details:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=206787&invite=52j5ox&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_campaign=refCROtest

2024 Dates for your diary (tickets on sale next week)

- Santa's Grotto – Friday 6th December
- Making morning – Friday 6th December
- Christmas Movie Night - Tuesday 10th December
- Christmas jumper day – Wednesday 18th December

Dates For Your Diary

School Events:

19th November—Parent Consultations 4pm– 7pm - Year 1 only

6th December—Christmas Making Morning & Santa's Grotto

11th December—Reception Class Christmas Performance—after drop off

12th December—Rock Steady Concert—10am—for parents and carers of children that attend
Rock Steady

17th December—KS1 Christmas Performance—after drop off

18th December—Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

19th December—KS1 Christmas Performance—after drop off

20th December—Last day of term—school finishes at 1pm.

Friends Events:

Santa's Grotto – Friday 6 December 2024

Making Morning – Friday 6 December 2024

Christmas Movie Night – Tuesday 10 December 2024