Newsletter – No. 11 24th November 2023

Message from Mrs. Mole

This week in school, we were fortunate to have some anti-bullying workshops for the children, based around friendship and kindness. All of the classes had a session with Emily, from Open View Education, and her wonderful puppet, Phillip. Between Emily and her puppet, with help from the children as actors, we found out about two friends, the hare and the tortoise. These two friends were not always kind and thoughtful to one another but by communicating they learnt to understand each other better. One of the phrases they used, which we also use in school, was 'Stop it, I don't like it. We also thought about what to do if someone does not stop when they are asked and the children suggested telling family members, school staff and friends.

In school we have also been talking to the children about being a 'bucket filler'. This is based on a lovely book by Carol McCloud called 'Have you Filled a Bucket Today?' The concept behind this is that we all have an invisible bucket and every time that we do something nice or someone does something nice for us it fills our invisible bucket and a full bucket helps us to feel happy. The reverse of filling a bucket is to bucket dip. When we are unkind and dipping into someone else's bucket it makes them feel sad. The children seem to relate to this idea and can easily identify kind behaviours and when behaviours are unkind or hurtful.



This relates to learning that Year 2 did earlier this term about friendship and bullying. They thought about bullying, what it is and what to do if they believe that either they or someone else is being bullied. They learned that bullying is not ok and it must be stopped. Miss. Joslin helped the children to understand the difference between hurtful and unkind behaviour and bullying. (Bullying is intended to hurt, it happens more than once to the same person or people. Something that happens once may be mean and hurtful but it is not necessarily bullying.) Next week the Governors will be reviewing our Anti -Bullying policy and I hope to share the final version with you all next week.

I hope that you have a good weekend and that your buckets are filled to be overflowing!

Rebecca Mole, Headteacher

Star of Week

- Rabbits: Seth for making super stampo lines for J and explaining his maths thinking!
- Squirrels: Seren for writing a fantastic story in English this week.
- Badgers: Theo for amazing effort in phonics and trying so hard to learn all your spellings!

Values Star of the week: .

Rabbits: Calista for being a fair and caring member of Rabbit Class!

Squirrels: Margot for being curious in her reading this week.

Badgers: Lara for being resilient and always trying your best!

Forest School star of the week:

Rabbits: Otis for being resilient and persevering to creep up to catch the caterpillar.

Squirrels: Amelie for helping to collect lots of snappy sticks for the fire so we can make hot chocolate.

Badgers: Ava for using your senses to detect the predator coming in our 'predator, prey game'.

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day – 12th December

On the 12th 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. This year we would like to fundraise for Billy in Rabbits, to help provide support for his family, and help bring moments of joy and laughter and memories that they can cherish forever, especially over the Christmas period.

To help us with this, we would like to ask you to donate £1 per child, which will be collected on the day and then donated to Billy's parents via their just giving page.

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 13th 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 5th December at 9.00am to 9.45am approximately.

The Year 2 show (which includes Year 1 children) will take place on Thursday 7th 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 dat e. 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. Some have already been sent home others will be coming home over the course of the next week. If you don't think you have received anything by next Friday please check with your class teacher.

Message From The Friends

The most wonderful time of the year is just around the corner, and we're bursting with excitement to spill the festive beans on the Christmas plans!

Friday 8th December – Stanta's Grotto and Christmas Crafts in the classroom.

Santa's gearing up for a grand entrance on the 8th! Picture this: he'll be strolling down the school driveway, spreading cheer and joy to our little ones before retreating to his super-secret Library Grotto! During the morning, the children will visit Father Christmas in small groups with their classmates and receive a special gift. When not popping into the Grotto the children will be making Christmas decorations and crafts with parent volunteers and their classmates in the Festive Making Morning. Children will have the excitement of moving freely between classrooms as they collect their Christmas makes.



If you can spare any time at all to help put up the grotto on Thursday afternoon, help with Crafts in the morning or help in the afternoon to pack away the grotto please do sign up to our volunteer sheet here. We really cannot do it all without the help of others: <u>https://volunteersignup.org/LAA77</u>

Thursday 14th December – Christmas Movie Night

The children can stay after school to enjoy a festive film in the classroom with popcorn and a drink. Rabbits will be picked up at 3.45pm and Squirrels and Badgers will be until 4.15pm. If your child usually does after school club on a Thursday, they can either go into after school club once the film has finished or they can be picked up. As children will be staying after school and we will offer them popcorn and a drink, your permission for this is essential. Please complete the form here: <u>https:// docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdkYqOiK2FDVaPQuhBEpP8Ww0mMsft1juQx0Av-fkUwH7SIZg/ viewform?usp=sf_link</u>

What you need to do please - Signing up for the Christmas activities

In order to provide as magical an experience as possible for the children, and to continue our fundraising, we do need to ask for your financial donations please. We have kept these as low as we possibly can in order to cover costs and continue to try to meet our fundraising targets. Tickets for each event is £5 and you can pay through our online platform here - just click "buy tickets" and then select how many tickets you'd like for each: <u>https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/event/christmas-at-polesden-lacey-infants-2023</u>

By making your donation through the payment link above you are giving permission for your child to take part in the activities on 8th December. Because The Movie Night involves popcorn and a drink - as well as purchasing a ticket please ensure the permission form above is also completed.

If you prefer not to make online payments please leave cash in an envelope with the school office and write the name of your child, their class and what it's for on the front.

No child will ever be excluded from taking part in any Friends' activity, if you wish them to. In the event that the suggested donation is a stretch at this time of year please speak to the office, Ms Mole, or your child's class teacher. We're here to make the season merry for everyone!

"Surrey County Council encourages residents to offer Supported Lodgings/foster

Supported Lodgings, and Fostering are both incredibly rewarding experiences that can transform the lives of both the children/young people being supported and the carers' themselves. Children and young people who enter the care system have often experienced trauma and instability in their lives, and a stable and supportive carer family can make a significant difference in their wellbeing and development.

Nationally, there are currently over 70,000 children living with carer families in the UK. However, there is still a significant shortage of Supported Lodgings and foster carers, with around 9,265 new carer families needed in the next year alone. In Surrey, there are over 1,000 children in care and Surrey County Council have just under 400 carer families.

Supported Lodgings is targeted at young adults aged 16-21 to help them build their independence skills ready to live independently in the future, from the security of a caring, stable home environment.

Supported Lodgings Carers and Foster carers come from all walks of life and backgrounds, and there is no one-size-fits-all approach to caring. Whether you are single or married, young or old, own your own home or rent, you can still become a carer. The most important thing is a willingness to provide a safe and loving home for a child in need.

This is the message that Surrey County Council is promoting in national recruitment film 'Any of Us'. The short film has been jointly funded by over 80 councils across England and aims to raise awareness about fostering, particularly among those people who may not have previously considered themselves suited to caring for vulnerable children and young people. The film looks at the potential of three people from different backgrounds to become carers, and the potential of children they care for to grow and thrive. 'Any of Us' is available to watch from the 26th September.

If you have ever thought about fostering, or offering Supported Lodgings, now is the time to take that first step and find out more. The more people who consider caring, the greater the chance of finding loving, stable homes for children in Surrey who desperately need them.

You can contact Surrey County Council Fostering Service on 0300 123 1620 (this is the General Fostering Duty telephone, please ask for the Supported Lodgings worker, when connected), via email at <u>supportedlodgings@surreycc.gov.uk</u> or by visiting the website; <u>www.surreycc.gov.uk/fostering</u>

You can watch 'Any of Us' via <u>Any of Us - YouTube</u> and connect with the Fostering Service on social media via @surreyfostering"

THE VINERIES GARDEN CENTRE. LOWER ROAD. EFFINGHAM. KT24 5JP

CHRISTMAS TREE VOUCHER

ON PRODUCTION OF THIS VOUCHER 2023

50p WILL BE DONATED TO SCHOOL FUND





YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE WITH THIS VOUCHER

THE VINERIES GARDEN CENTRE LOWER ROAD, EFFINGHAM, SURREY. KT24 5JP.

Telephone no:01372 458934

This week at Forest School



Dates

29th November (am) Reception Class to visit St.Nicholas Church, Bookham (more details to follow)

5th & 7th December 9am—9.30am approx —Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance

8th December-NO Judo Club

wk cmg 11th December NO Art, Gardening, Lego, Multi Sports or Judo Clubs

12th December - Christmas Jumper Day

12th December — Christmas Dinner

13th December 9am—9.30am approx.—Reception Class Christmas Performance

Last day of Term; Friday 15th December 2023 school closes at 1pm

Winter Term

2nd January 2024—School Closed Inset Day

3rd January 2024—School Closed Inset Day

4th January 2024—All children return to school

11th January A-Life Healthy Eating and fitness workshop—all classes

26th January RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch

1st February Fairtrade Day

7th February Safer Internet Day

12th—16th February Half Term