



Newsletter – No. 16 8th January 2021

Message From Ms. Mole.

Welcome to the Spring term!

This is definitely not the start that we had planned for, wanted or expected but it is the reality for the coming few weeks and so we want to make the best of it. As you know the Polesden Lacey Infant School staff have been working tirelessly since the announcement on Monday at 8pm to ensure that we are able to provide engaging and meaningful learning for all our children. We also know that you as families have been adapting extremely quickly, managing the expectations for children who woke up on Tuesday morning expecting to go to school, getting their heads round the remote learning and managing their own concerns regarding work and the lock down.

I know that I have personally been on a rollercoaster of emotions over the past week but having staff, colleagues, family and friends to talk to has helped me to see the path to possible solutions. I would encourage you to do the same, speak to family and friends, be honest about how you are feeling, a problem shared is a problem halved. As a community you all supported one another last time we were in this situation and I am sure that we will be able to do the same this time and there is light at the end of the tunnel. We will settle into a routine for the next few weeks and be back together physically soon.

I received a lovely email from a former parent during the Christmas holiday and she had signed off the email saying 'Stay safe and Kia Kaha'. I looked up the meaning of 'Kia Kaha', which is a Māori phrase, and translates as 'stay strong'. It seems very appropriate that she used it in her email and I wanted to pass it on to our community to use in these unsettling times.

I do urge all of you to follow the lockdown, exercise with members of your household, minimize the need to go to shops, mix only with those in your household or household bubbles. The less we mix the less opportunity there is for the virus to spread and the sooner schools will be able to reopen.

Take care, stay safe and Kia Kaha

Rebecca Mole - Headteacher

Star of Week

Well done to all the winners this week.

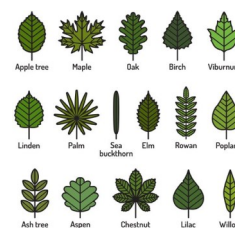
All parents and children for embracing the changes that have happened this week.



Values Leaves: Fair, Resilient, Respectful, Caring, Courageous and Curious.

Below are some of this week's leaves:

Throughout lockdown we will be continuing awarding values leaves so please do let the teachers know if and how your child or children have demonstrated one of the Polesden Lacey Infant School values.



Henry P - for being resilient and persevering with his complicated Lego model.

Oliver - has been caring, sorting through his clothes and giving away the ones that were too small to someone who needed them, thinking of others and making up treasure hunts and games for his family to play.

All the staff - for being super resilient and courageous when having to move from being ready to open the school to all children to remote learning overnight.

Applications for Reception 2021

We are delighted that we have been able to show over 50 prospective parent families around our amazing school (all in small groups to ensure that we were following Government guidance and keep everyone in school and visiting safe).

If you know of anyone who is looking for a Reception place for September 2021, please do signpost them to us. Ms Mole is happy to answer any questions that they have on the phone as we are no longer able to conduct in person tours.

Applications for Year 3

If you have a child in Year 2 please remember that the closing date for applications is 15th January 2021. Applications are made online at: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions/primary-junior-and-infant/apply>

Eco Tip

Waste Buster activities

As the children are unable to bring in their waste buster ideas we would love to have photos of their ideas. For children in Reception please upload them to Tapestry and for children in Year 1 and Year 2 please upload a photo to Google Classroom or email it to the teacher. Closing date extended to Wednesday 13th at 5pm.

(PDF poster is attached with the newsletter)

We can't wait to see the children's ideas.

I'M DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS

Write or draw how you are going to make your Christmas green this year!



Fairtrade Fact

There is Fairtrade gold in some smartphones

Most smartphones contain a small amount of gold. Times that by the number of smartphones in the world and that is a lot of gold. Gold that has to be mined. This often involves dire working conditions, unfair pay, child labour and working with toxic chemicals that are harmful to human health and to the environment.

In 2011 Fairtrade launched a ground-breaking initiative to certify gold and precious metal, meaning miners in Fairtrade certified co-operatives receive a guaranteed Fairtrade Minimum Price and the additional Fairtrade Premium to invest in formalising and improving their mining and business practices. Certification means that the Fairtrade Standards must be met, providing a safe working environment, enforcement of women's rights and protecting the environment.



Dates

Spring Term

12th February 2021 Break up for half term

22nd February 2021 INSET day (No children) This is the spring INSET day which has now been set

23rd February 2021 all children back to school (subject to any changes implemented by the Government)