



# Newsletter – No.20 12th February 2021

## Message From Ms. Mole.

As we reach the end of the first half of the Spring term I am full of optimism for the next half term. I don't have any insight into when schools will be reopening but the number of positive cases is dropping and Government ministers are talking about 8th March with increasing confidence. This will hopefully mean that all children will be back in school with us very soon and we can't wait to see them in person. In the meantime we have reviewed the feedback that we received from the Remote Learning Survey. Although, as I said last week, the overwhelming response was positive we have identified some areas that we can change to improve the experience for the children and still be manageable for the teachers. Mrs. Quinn is trialing some interactive resources to use with the children and Miss. Williams will then roll this out to Squirrel class. For Rabbit class, Mrs. Binding is able to offer some small group sessions once a week, and where time allows other year groups are increasing their small group interventions and some more 1:1 catch ups. Miss Williams has set up a means of adding additional pictures of additional learning to Google Classroom for Squirrel children and parents who want to share some of the things that they have been doing with the Year 1 staff. The teachers would also like to remind parents that they are at the end of a phone or an email, so please do contact them either via the [office@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk) or email the teacher directly if you have any questions or queries or if you and your child need a 1:1 zoom to explain some learning or to re-motivate them.

Next week is half term and there is no work set! Teachers plan to send out the remote learning plans on Friday 19th February for the week beginning 22nd February. Please note there will only be four days of learning for that week as the 22nd is an INSET and the school is closed to **all** children on that day.

I hope that you all have a lovely week and fingers crossed we will see each other very soon.

Take care, stay safe and Kia Kaha

**Rebecca Mole - Headteacher**

## Star of Week

**Well done to all the winners this week.**

Rabbits: **Gabriel** for working and playing really hard at home.

Squirrels: **Finlay** for working really hard and gaining confidence with his work.

Badgers: **Elizabeth** for working really hard in English.

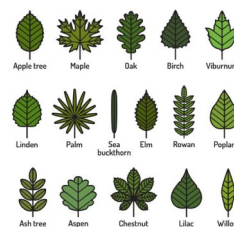
**Michael** for working so hard on his handwriting and tackling some tricky maths



**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.



**All the parents** for being so caring with their generous and very much appreciated gift to the staff, thank you so much.

**Max** showed resilience by persevering with his handwriting and taking care to form his letters properly.

**Max** showed courage by being brave when he had a scan at hospital

**Chloe** was caring for making a card for her nanny to check she is ok.

**William P** was caring when he checked that Mrs. Secker had her wellies inside to warm up and when he kept his brother cheerful in this cold weather.

**Rosie** was caring because she has been making cards for family and friends.

**Flynn** was caring to his mum and dad by helping with the hoovering and setting the table.

### Parent Consultations

Our parent consultations were due to take place during the week of 16th March. In the best case scenario, children will only have been back in school for one week at this point. With this in mind we have decided to postpone these meetings until the children have been back with us for two full weeks. This will give the teachers a chance to assess the children and see the progress that they have made first hand prior to meeting, virtually, with you.

The Government are due to announce their decision on the re-opening of schools on 22nd February. Once this is done we will confirm a date for the parent consultations and provide the information on booking arrangements for these appointments.

### COVID related Early Intervention resources for parents and schools

Please find attached the latest updated resources produced by the Early Intervention team. The activity resource pack has been developed to contain activities and resources that may help learners deal with frustration during homeschooling, as well as build their resilience and feeling of safety during current health crises. A few of the ideas are ones that the teachers may use with the class but the majority are ones that you can do at home.

[CAMHS Early Intervention Activity Pack February 2021](#)

The Back to School Resource pack has been developed to contain information and resources that may support your family through the transition back to school or with continued home-schooling. This pack contains individual leaflets; you don't need to read all the information in this pack; simply use the table of contents to refer to the subject of your interest. Most leaflets have references to useful websites, and at the end of the pack, you will find a list of useful organisations and phone numbers for your reference. We hope you will find this information helpful.

[CAMHS Back to School Resource Pack for Parents – 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 2021](#)

## Fairtrade

How much do you think that you know about chocolate. Below is a link to a quiz that asks lots of different questions about chocolate and also highlights some of the challenges facing those who grow the chocolate. It is a quiz that is aimed a slightly older children but would be fun to do with your children and you could answer any questions that they may have or discuss thing that they find out.

<https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/get-involved/current-campaigns/fairtrade-fortnight/quiz-how-much-do-you-really-know-about-chocolate/>



## Eco

Yesterday Squirrel and Badger classes had an online talk from Surrey Wildlife Trust. They were talking to the children about the wildlife that they may find in their gardens, local woods or parks. I have included the worksheets that the Year 1 and Year 2 children were given as it may be a fun thing to do as a family over half term if you haven't already had a go. Reception class can also have a go with their adults.

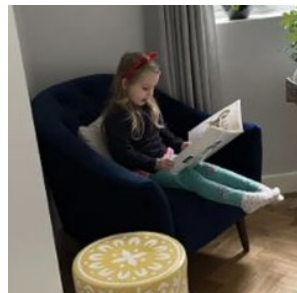
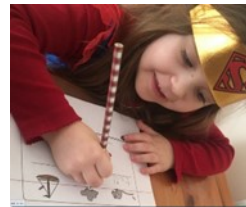
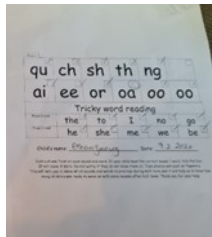
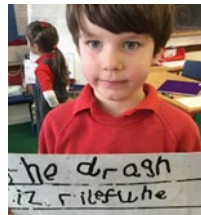
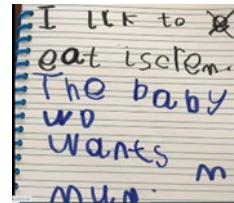
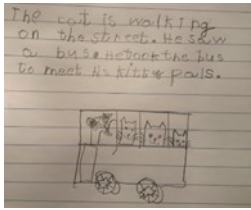
We are planning on continuing our work with the Surrey Wildlife trust over the coming year. Here is a link to their website if you would like to find out more about what they do and some of the activities that they run. <https://www.surreywildlifetrust.org/>



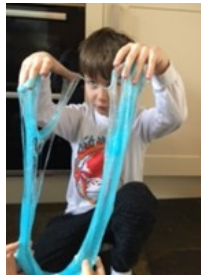


We love to see photos of your children and the learning that they are doing. We hope that the children enjoy seeing one another in the newsletter and that the pictures help to keep feel connected to the Polesden Lacey Infant School community.

Here are some pictures from this week.







### Supporting Parents Helpfinder (Young Minds)

Times are tough for many people right now. Parents find themselves pulled in many different direction and children may be struggling being in the house for so much longer than usual.

A mixture of concern about covid, work from home and children at home, along with a possible financial impact make for a stressful household.

Young Minds have created a useful 'Supporting Parents Helpfinder'. By answering six questions, parents can find out how to support their child's mental health during the pandemic (and beyond).

**YOUNGmINDS**

Find the help finder here: <https://youngminds.org.uk/supporting-parents-helpfinder/>

Young Minds have also created a useful poster highlighting ways to give support to children when they have angry feelings or outbursts and may help families start a conversation and talk about each other's feelings.

Download the poster here:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/media/4291/when-emotions-explode-poster.pdf>

### **Screen Savers: Looking after your eyes, body and mind when using screens (Beacon House)**

We are spending more time online than ever before, possibly sitting and working with poor posture as we use makeshift desks and chairs. There is a tendency to take fewer breaks and less exercise and this is affecting our physical well-being.

Beacon House a specialist, therapeutic service for young people, families and adults has produced a series of six posters outlining ways to keep safe and alert when working at home, whether children or adults.

Download the posters here: <https://beaconhouse.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Screen-Savers-1.pdf>

### **Dates**

#### Spring Term

12th February 2021 Break up for half term

15th - 19th February 2021—**School Closed for Half Term**

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

1st April 2021—school closes at 1pm for Easter Holidays