



Newsletter – No.32 21st May 2021

Message From Ms. Mole.

Last week's message from me was about looking after our mental health. I decided to make this a priority for me and really focus on nature when I was out and about last weekend. I particularly enjoyed the bird song and seeing how fast the cow parsley was growing and smelling everything as the countryside moves from spring into summer. I also made a small piece of art work made from catkins and a small stone whilst on the Year 2 trip to the British Wildlife Centre on Monday. I hope that you were all able to get out and enjoy the natural world at some point over the last week and that the experience contributed positively to your well-being.

We have had yet another wonderful week at Polesden Lacey Infant School. As I have already said, Badger class went on a trip to the British Wildlife Centre. This was primarily to support their science learning but was also a great opportunity to experience the wider world, learn in a different environment, enjoy the delights of a coach trip and eat a packed lunch in the woods. On the day I heard the children saying what a great day it was and how much fun they were having. We also received an email from the centre saying what 'a lovely group' they were and how they were 'a credit to the school'. Their answering and asking of questions was fabulous throughout the day and showed not only that they have already learnt a lot but also they have a thirst for knowledge and are curious. Well done Badgers! (See below for photos and a write up on the trip by the children.)

On Tuesday Rabbit class braved the weather to do a mystery photo hunt and take inspiration from natural patterns to create their own. Not one child felt uncomfortable in the rain or let it deter them from their task. However, they did not completely ignore the wet weather and at the end of the afternoon the children were encouraged to pull up their hoods and listen to the sound of the rain. Some lovely descriptions followed such as the rain is "fizzing", "pitter patting" and "like fireworks". Children experimented with sticking out their tongues and holding up their cupped hands saying it was "spotting", "drippy" and "in my mouth but there is nothing". At school we learnt that rain is important for things to grow and thrive but sometimes its good to take a moment and appreciate it just for itself. Well done Rabbits!

Squirrels have continued to work really hard in school but I have run out space - come back next week to hear what they have been up to! (I think it will be Rainforest inspired!)

Take care, continue to stay safe and look after your well-being,

Rebecca Mole Headteacher

Star of Week

Well done to all the winners this week.

Rabbits: **Anya** for good participation and curiosity in her learning.

Squirrels: **Holly** for extending learning outside of school. Well done Holly for stretching your brain.

Badgers: **Lily** for concentrating and trying really hard in every lesson.

Forest School: **Ava (Rabbits)** for being methodical and precise working.



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

Below are some of this week's leaves:

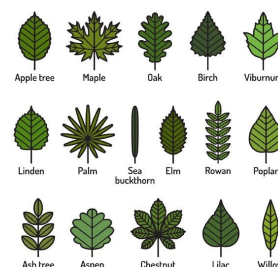
Charlie was caring when he rescued a snail from the road outside school.

Matthew for being respectful and looking after his Lego toys.

William G was caring to his friend when he went to check if he was okay after seeing him upset.

Daniel was caring by bringing in his friends coat from outside so it wouldn't get wet.

Anais was caring to another child who was feeling upset in the playground.



Thanks for Volunteering

A huge thank you to the parents and grandparents who have volunteered their time to help in the grounds. Mrs. Cummings will be contacting you to help you coordinate your times.

If you don't currently have time to volunteer but in the future things change we would still love to have you on board - just let us know!



Fairtrade

Our Fairtrade posters are nearly ready to put up around school and to email out to parents. We hope that you will get to see some of them next week. I have been really impressed at how the children have taken this issue to heart and how they have understood what a difference Fairtrade makes to people.



Mole Valley Family Centre

Mole Valley Family Centre have two upcoming courses that they are running at The Bridge Youth Centre, Leatherhead. They are a joint venture between the Family Centre and the WEA, and will be run by a qualified Occupational Therapist.

Supporting Children with Special Educational Needs

Helping your Child Manage Stress and Anxiety

If you are interested in booking onto one of these course please see the flyer sent out with this weeks newsletter for more information.

Eco Tip

Having watched the Great British Sewing Bee on Wednesday evening, where the theme was Reduce, Recycle and Reuse, this weeks tip is to provoke you into thinking about your clothes buying and using habits.

With cheap clothing readily available on the high streets, it's easy to be tempted into constantly revamping your wardrobe, with one in three women feeling that their clothes are outdated after less than three wears! An estimated £30 billion worth of clothes that have never been worn are hanging in wardrobes across the UK.

The continual drive of 'fast fashion' adds to the waste problem, amounting to a staggering 10,000 items of clothing being sent to landfill every five minutes, equivalent to £140 million in value every year.

But it's not just the impact on landfill that's an issue. It's also the amount of raw materials used to produce the items that are going to waste too. To put it into perspective, it takes around 1,800 gallons of water to make a single pair of jeans.

COVID Local Support Grant

Surrey County Council will ensure help is available for families struggling as we transition out of lockdown, through the Government's COVID Local Support Grant. It is designed to directly help families and individuals who have been hardest hit by the pandemic, with the majority set aside to ensure children do not go hungry during school holidays.

The council, through schools, will ensure support to all 17,000 children in the county eligible for Free School Meals. There will also be a grant for care leavers, and direct support to families of younger children eligible for the pupil premium.

The remainder of the funding will be given to the Surrey Crisis Fund and made available to residents who are struggling. This money will provide support towards food costs and utility bills, but also emergencies such as replacing broken white goods, to guide people away from long lasting debt.

Surrey County Council will administer the funds, which must be spent by 20 June 2021. As the funding is only available for a limited time, Surrey have asked us to share this message with eligible families.

Enquiries should be directed to the Community Helpline: 0300 200 1008. More information can be accessed on the [government website](#) or the [Surrey Crisis Fund webpage](#)

Year 2 Trip to The British Wildlife Centre



Remember you can get Symptom Free Test Kits

The government has announced that if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of a school pupil, college student or of a staff member, you can get twice-weekly symptom free tests. You can use any testing offered by your employer, **book** an appointment online at a symptom-free testing site, **collect** a home-testing kit from a designated collection point, or if unable to travel to a site, **order** a kit online. Find out more at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Dates

Summer Term

Wednesday 26th May—Reception Class Trip to Nower Wood

31st May—4th June—School Closed—Half Term

Monday 7th June—school Closed—Inset Day

Wednesday 16th June—Class Photos

Thursday 17th June—Year 1 trip to Wisley

Thursday 24th June—Year 2 at Yehudi Menuhin School—Singing Festival (am)

Wednesday 7th July—Sports day 1.30pm start

Thursday 8th July—Athletes in School (am)

Wednesday 21st July—School Finishes 1.00pm for the Summer Holidays