



# Newsletter – No. 5 2nd October 2020

## Message from Ms.Mole

Last Friday demonstrated what a caring community we have:

The families and children of Polesden Lacey Infant school brought in a huge amount of food to donate to the Epsom Food Bank. The food bank collected all of your contributions on Tuesday morning and they were very much appreciated.

On the same day Badger Class baked apple muffins to sell, along with some produce from the allotment, to raise money for Guide Dogs for the Blind. The children raised over £100 which will be enough to sponsor a dog over the next two years. (See below for a write up)

In addition to all of this the children dressed in 'mufti' in return for a donation to go towards The Friends. The money that is raised helps the school in so many ways. Recently it has been used to buy iPads for the children to use, donations to the classes for the teachers to enhance the children's experiences, the materials to build the terracing for the wild flower garden (building power and expertise provided by some Squirrel dads), a night-time camera so that we can capture the creatures who visit our school during the night like the badgers and foxes (as well as Kylo the cat, who I believe views himself as rightful resident of Polesden Lacey Infant School!) and support in purchasing additional resources when bringing all the children back to school after Lockdown. We really appreciate all that The Friends contribute to the school and the experience it provides for the children whilst they are here.

Below you will see that we are having a working party day on Saturday 10th October (socially distanced and following the Rule of 6) As a group of parents you have been really generous in your offers of help and volunteering your skills and I am looking forward to a great day - I am putting in a request to the powers that be that the sun shines on 10th October for the working party!

**Rebecca Mole - Headteacher**

## Star of the Week

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

**Rabbits - Ethan** for being a super speedy changer for PE and a great listener.

**Squirrels - Jessica** for working in all areas of her learning and being a wonderful role-model .

**Badgers - Aya** for always wanting to work a little more to produce her best work. Great attitude!

**Forest School - William G** whose enthusiasm to 'crack on' resulted in excellent work!



## Guide Dogs for the Blind

Last week, Badger class had a talk, via zoom, from a lady called Anica with her guide dog, Lassie. She told us how Lassie helped her every day; getting to work and taking her children to school. She explained how Lassie had learnt how to stop at curbs and to avoid obstacles, both on the ground and up above. The children were fascinated, listening exceptionally well and asking insightful questions such as 'How was Lassie trained?', 'How did Anica know which coin was which when she went shopping?' and 'How did she use a computer and answer emails?'.

As a result of learning how guide dogs are such superheroes, the children made apple muffins using apples from our orchard and also sold produce grown in the allotments. In total we raised £102.35 and will use this money to sponsor the puppy, Ginger as she begins her training to become a guide dog. We look forward to following her progress throughout the year. Thank you to everyone for supporting Badger Class in this venture.

## Values Leaves

At Polesden Lacey Infant School we like to celebrate the different ways that children and adults show our school values of being Fair, Resilient, Respectful, Caring, Courageous and Curious.

If you see your child doing anything that you think shows one of our Values please write it on a leaf and send it into school. Rather than sending pre-cut leaves home from school please could you cut out a leaf and write the reason on it. Maybe you could pick a shape from leaves of different trees. Each class will have a box to put the 'Values Leaf' in and they will be shared with the class during the week.

Below are this week's leaves:

**Rocco** was very courageous when he fell over in the playground and hurt his knee. He got straight back up and carried on playing with his sister.

**Rocco** was very caring when he made cards for his Aunties and Uncles and posted them.

**Alice** as resilient, riding to school no matter what the weather was doing.

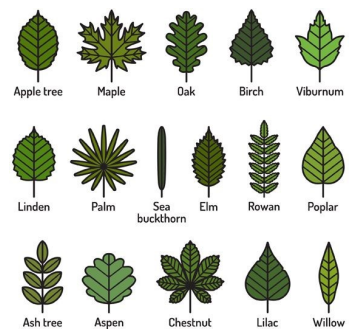
**Alice** was caring, running to save a tiny spider and put it outside so it wouldn't get squashed.

**Freddy** has looked out for his little brother and tries his hardest to cheer him up when he is grumpy. Freddy gives him the best big brother cuddles.

**Elizabeth** was curious and wanted to find out how visually impaired people use a computer and read emails.

**Aya** asked Mr. Gregory what would happen to insect eggs on a leaf that falls from a tree on to the ground. Great Curiosity!

**Evie** was curious and wanted to know how visually impaired people knew which coin is which.



### Working party

On Saturday 10th October we have a group of parents and friends who are going to be working hard to make our school even more fabulous. From 9am to 3pm we will be clearing, tidying, mending and painting around the school grounds. We have an idea of lots of the things that you would like to volunteer so if you are able to come along and help please do sign up in the office or email [info@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk). This year will have to be a little different due to the 'Rule of 6' and social distancing but I feel that as we are working outside and we have plenty of space we will be able to easily comply with the current restrictions.

No experience necessary and I look forward to seeing many of you whilst we dig, hammer, clear, tidy and paint!

### Open Day - New Parents

Subject to any further restrictions imposed by the Government we are planning to hold this year's Open Day on Wednesday 28th October which falls within the school's Half Term Holiday.

To enable us to comply with current Government guidelines each tour will consist of no more than 5 adults plus the Headteacher, making a total of 6 persons present at any one time. This year we are asking that children do not attend the tour and if at all possible that attendance is limited to one adult per household. This will hopefully enable us to give as many families as possible the opportunity to visit our school. All adults will be required to wear a mask whilst in the school hall and during the tour inside the building.

The session will consist of a presentation in the school hall by the Headteacher, followed by a tour around the inside of the school and then finishing with a tour of our lovely grounds. Each tour will last approximately 1 hour and cleaning will take place inside the hall prior to each session.

If you know anybody that is looking for a school place in September 2021 do please encourage them to come along. They can book a space on one of our tours by e-mailing [office@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk)

Alternatively, please encourage them to visit our newly updated school website where they can find out all sorts of information about the school as well as see some lovely photos of the children in action, [www.polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk).

We are also holding a separate Open Day for existing Playschool Parents on Wednesday 14th October, if you haven't already booked onto this tour please do so asap as we only have slots available on the 11am session now.

### **Eco - Tip**

Scrape rather than rinse dishes before loading into the dishwasher;



### **Fairtrade**

Y is for YOU!

Fairtrade relies on you! When you buy Fairtrade products you are part of a chain that leads back to disadvantaged farmers and poverty-stricken communities. It has never been easier to get hold of Fairtrade alternatives to family favourites from tea and coffee, to clothing and home wares. As we near the end of this journey through the Fairtrade alphabet, please continue to make a difference and help improve the lives of farmers and their families.

### **Individual School Photos—Thursday 8th October**

Please note that individual school photos will be taken during the morning of Thursday 8th October so take extra care when getting ready for school so the children are looking their best in their school uniform.

### **Dates**

#### Autumn Term 2020

8th October Individual School Photos

13th October Full Governing Body Meeting (If you would like to attend please inform the school office 2 weeks prior to the meeting)

15th October Flu Immunisations for all classes (Deadline for replies is 4pm on 8th Oct)

Half Term: 26th October —30 October 2020

2nd November - School Closed—Inset Day

4th & 5th November—Parent Consultations (we anticipate that these will be via telephone call— further details to follow in due course)

24th November Full Governing Body Meeting (If you would like to attend please inform the school office 2 weeks prior to the meeting)

Last day of Term: 18th December 2020