



Newsletter – No. 8 23rd October 2020

Message from Ms. Mole

What a half term we have had and it has been finished off with an amazing technology week. It is great to see the progress that the children make in a relatively short period of time and see them grow in confidence, independence and resilience. Every time I walk around school I am so impressed at the focus, engagement and joy that the children show in their learning. This is testament, not only to the skill and dedication of the staff but also to the support and guidance that the children receive from family and carers.

Our Rabbit class have now been at school for just over 6 weeks and they are an absolute delight, always curious, investigating the world around them, learning new things everyday whilst enjoying getting to know each other. Mrs. Binding and Mrs. Leggatt are so impressed at how quickly the children are learning their phonics, writing their names, becoming confident with their number skills and becoming a group of individuals who learn and play so well together. As the children go through the school, we see that the foundations they build in Reception serves them well and I am sure that this group of children will continue to go from strength to strength.

Squirrel and Badger classes are continuing to impress their teachers with their progress and their attitude to learning. Both Mrs. Mathews and Mrs. Quinn have shared some of their assessments with me and we have been delighted to see some children making great strides. Keep it up Squirrels and Badgers!

The week after half term we are holding our parent consultations. This is an opportunity for you to speak to your child's teacher, find out how they are progressing and how you can continue to support them. In the meantime, over the half term, remember to keep reading and enjoy spending time with your fabulous children.

I wish all of you a safe and enjoyable half term and look forward to seeing all of the children back at school on Tuesday 3rd November.

Rebecca Mole - Headteacher

Star of the Week

Well done to all the winners this week.



Rabbits: - **Charlie** for practicing writing his name and making amazing progress!

Squirrels: **Sofia** for working so hard on her reading and making great progress with recognising the phonics sounds!

Badgers: **Hailey** for working really hard on her spellings and maths.

Forest School: **Aaron** for super teamwork!

Puffin Club: **Joseph** who is always a delight to have at Puffins

Parent Elections

We are pleased to welcome Mr Gandhi onto our Board of Governors as a Parent Governor. We look forward to working with him.

Mystery Readers

The children and staff at Polesden Lacey Infant School love reading and listening to stories. After the success of the mystery reader last year we are excited to offer this opportunity to our parents again. If you would like to read a story via zoom to your child's class then please sign up with the office. These stories will take place each Friday at 2.30pm. The children will not be told who is going to read to them, hence the term Mystery Reader.

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.

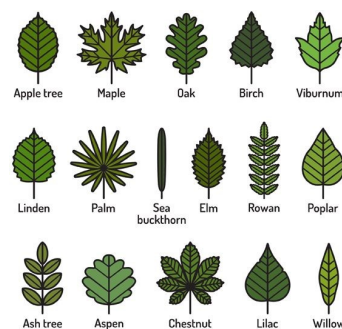
Below are this week's leaves:

Brooke was caring when she found a ring at the park and handed it into the shop hoping it was found.

Poppy K was brave and enthusiastic for her first day at Stagecoach.

Holly was brave and enthusiastic for her first day at Stagecoach.

Mia W was caring when she helped mummy with the planting of tulip bulbs around the garden.



Love in a Box—Reminder boxes need to be at school by Thursday 5th November

In assembly this week the children will learnt our project to help the 'Mustard Seed', charity which collects shoe boxes full of gifts for children in Eastern Europe. In previous discussions with the children we talked about the following items being suitable: small toys, puzzles, soft toys, drawing materials, shower gel, hats, gloves and scarves. We also previously discussed 'second hand' items and agreed that these would be fine as long as they are 'good as new'.

The boxes need to be returned to school by Thursday 5th November 2020.

Please place any donations on the table outside the school office.



Science and Technology week

Technology Week in Rabbit Class

This week in Rabbit Class we have been practicing our peeling and chopping skills to make delicious fruit salads. We learnt about different fruits and that it is important to try and eat 5 fruits and vegetables a day to keep us fit and healthy. We also designed, made and evaluated musical instruments using recycled materials.

Technology Week in Squirrel Class

This week in Squirrel Class we have been exploring a range of technology-based learning! We kicked off the week with coding, the children used their knowledge of directions and instructions to code an algorithm into a Bee-bot and make it move in an intended way - we had lots of fun! We have also spent time thinking about healthy and unhealthy food choices and the importance of a healthy balance lifestyle linked to not only food but exercising and a healthy mind. The children worked together to peel and chop vegetables to make a chunky vegetable soup which they really enjoyed eating too!

Technology week in Badger Class

This week in Badger Class our learning has covered a wide range of science and technology. We have been measuring, sawing and painting to create a secret project. We discovered how much sugar is in different drinks and learnt that too much sugar is not good for our bodies. We really enjoyed our Lego workshop, we cooperated, persevered and felt brilliant when we saw our Lego models move!



E-Safety

During our Technology Week the children have been learning about how to stay safe when using technology at school and at home. Buddy the Dog helped remind us what to do if we see something we don't like online and who to ask for help. Below are our Polesden Lacey e-Safety Rules please take a look at them with your child and talk about the boundaries you have in your own home and how they protect your family. Take a look at our website <https://polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk/parents/e-safety> which has helpful links to help safeguard your family.

- I will tell an adult when I am using technology: e.g. tablet, iPad, phone or computer.
- I will ask an adult before playing a new game or downloading a new app.
- I will only play games that are suitable for my age.
- I will only click on things that I understand.
- I will ask for help if I see something I do not like.
- I will keep my personal information private.
- I will spend a sensible amount of time on technology at home.
- I will treat others as I want to be treated by using kind words.

Parent Meetings

As this newsletter goes to press more than 60 parents have signed up for a parent consultation meeting with the teachers.

If you haven't done this yet follow this link to let us know your preferred slot:

<https://forms.gle/pJgu315i9k6ZuxSi7>

We will display the timetable for phone call consultations on Mrs. Scott's window from Tuesday 3rd November.

Covid — 19

Please keep yourselves safe during the half term.

If anyone in your household, including your child, does test positive we ask you to inform the school, by emailing office@polesdenlaceyinfant.surrey.sch.uk as soon as you receive the test results. This will enable us to contact the DFE and the Health Protection Team for advice.

Fairtrade

The Fairtrade Foundation has some suggestions for some Halloween activities. Why not try some of them out.

<https://schools.fairtrade.org.uk/take-action/carve-out-time-for-fairtrade-this-halloween/>



Eco - Tip

This week Ms. Mole looked back at some of the suggestions that the children made in Circle time about how to look after our environment and she decided to include one of them as this week's Eco Tip.

Always carry a fold away bag so that you do not need a bag when you are in the shops

Forest School Den Building with Squirrel Class

During technology week Squirrel class had to work out how they could build some dens. Below are a few pictures showing how they got on. More pictures can be seen on the school website in the Gallery pages.



Dates

Autumn Term 2020

Half Term: 26th October —30 October 2020

28th October—Open Day

29th October—Open Day

2nd November - School Closed—Inset Day

4th & 5th November—Parent Consultations

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