



Chilton Foliat Primary School Newsletter

December 2nd 2020

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'With thankfulness, courage and love, we strive to improve heart and mind'

Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst". John 4:13

Dear Parents and Carers

The first set of decorations have gone up in school with Sika Class's impressive collection of three Christmas trees and the rest of the school are following suit! The Christmas tree sale is taking place in the car park this Friday 4th December and with thanks to the Friends we will have our own real tree taking pride of place in the hall.

We will be busy rehearsing, in individual classes, our whole school Christmas Service and Nativity this week, ready to be filmed on Wednesday 9th December. The final edit of our Christmas Service film will then be uploaded to our school website for all our families and the wider community to watch at their leisure. A photographer from the Newbury Weekly School will also be visiting on the 9th December, to take photographs of our classes as they perform. Some of these photographs will then be printed in their newspaper and also added to their own website, so please do look out for our wonderful performers in the local press in the weeks to come.



Christmas Cards

At this time of year, the Christmas Post Box would usually be making its appearance, however very sadly we will have to keep it tucked away this year. Due to our Coronavirus preventative measures, we will not be able to invite our children to bring into school their individual Christmas cards. The good news is that we have in place a number of alternatives which will be made available on a class by class basis. They will include: making one big class card; asking every child to make a card addressed to everybody in their class and finally using a Secret-Santa style method, whereby each child is given a different child to make a card for.

If we can't get to the river, the river can come to us...

Sika Class have been working with the charity A.R.K (Action for River Kennet) as part of a project to develop the children's understanding of their local environment. We had 3 Zoom sessions with the charity, over the course of 3 weeks. This included a session with their sponsor, Thames Water, to encourage the children to save water at home and discuss the best solutions for getting rid of waste responsibly, to prevent further 'fatbergs' developing in the sewers of our local area and flooding the local river with pollution. As you can see in the photographs, A.R.K. were able to send in equipment and samples of the Kennet River to school enabling the children to investigate what lives in the river and develop a deeper understanding of how the invertebrates fit into the local food chain! The children had an amazing

afternoon and were shocked by the variety of creatures which lived in such a small sample! We hope to visit the River in the new year, so the children can investigate the rest of the local area, and think about how we can support the local environment for the future of our planet!



The Friends

Virtual Christmas Fair

With thanks to all who went shopping at our Virtual Christmas Fair, which ran during late November and raised £314 for the school. The event supported small, local businesses, while retaining some of the fun and excitement normally generated by the annual Christmas Fair. Additional online festive activities included story time with Santa, guess the number of chocolate coins in the jar, name the reindeer doorstep competition and participation in a Christmas bake-off.

Reminder about Christmas trees



Those who have requested Christmas trees, please wait in the car park after 3.20pm on Friday 4th December. If you wish to pay in advance, please do so using the Friends Paypal. If not, please bring the correct cash in an envelope on the day. If you would like to place an order for a Christmas tree, please message Rachel Gear ASAP. Thank you.

Christmas Sparkle Day (non-uniform day) in exchange for rainbow hamper donations on Thursday 10th December 2020.

Children are invited to come to school on Thursday 10th December dressed in Christmas sparkle! Christmas jumpers, sparkly reindeer

antlers, sparkly tights and anything else that glitters and shines! This very special non uniform day is in exchange for donations for rainbow hampers. The rainbow has become a symbol for 2020 and so we thought a rainbow-themed raffle was a fitting way to end the year. Each class has been allocated a colour as follows:

Roe - red

Fallow - blue

Muntjac - green

Sika - yellow (or gold)

To take part, please bring in a gift(s) in the colour that has been allocated to your child's class. Please ensure all gifts are new and unopened. No perishables or refrigerated items please. We're sorry but we can't accept homemade items either.

Items can include but are not limited to: candles, drinks, sweets, stationery, toys, hair accessories, toiletries, chocolates, games, crafts, Christmas decorations, or books. Items should be brought into school on 10th December at drop off and placed into the lidded tubs in each classroom. They will then be taken off site, sorted, and made into hampers. They will then be quarantined in school until we draw the raffle via Facebook live on Thursday 17th December. We look forward to seeing your colourful donations!

Messy Church

The School's wonderful Messy Church team have come up with a creative and exciting way of engaging with our children and encouraging that all important connection between **home**, **school** and **church**. The Messy Church team are putting together activity packs for every child to take home over the Christmas holidays. We would love to find out how the children get on with their activities and would encourage photos to be sent into school after the holidays so that the Messy Church teams can see how much they were enjoyed. The packs will be ready to send home towards the end of term once they have been made up and left to quarantine for the required period of time.



Christmas Carols at St Mary's Church, Chilton Foliat – Sunday 13th December 2020

Please put this date in your diaries. Whilst the school have not been able to join together at church for our traditional Christmas service with carols, the local church community are holding an outside Carol singing get together on Sunday 13th December at 4.00pm at St Mary's church, Chilton Foliat. It will be a wonderful, warming occasion with light sparkles, hot drinks and mince pies.



Hungerford Hub Mural Art Competition – The Winners!

You may remember at the end of September we advertised the Hungerford Hub and Library children's art competition. The Hub ran a special children's art competition where children were invited to design a mural to brighten up the children's new reading area. Mrs Kirby will be painting the winning design onto the wall and we invited all our children to take part. The fantastic news is that we have 3 winners from Chilton Foliat Primary School in the 8-11 age category. Mrs Kirby told me that "all the entries were very imaginative and well presented." The mural design consists of combining aspects of the 6 winning designs, half of which were produced by our very talented artists here at school. "I was very proud that Chilton Foliat provided so many entries. The competition was advertised to all schools in the area, so well done!", said Mrs Kirby. Well done indeed! The mural is currently being painted and we await further news as to how it will be unveiled and prizes, kindly donated by Hungerford Book Shop, will be awarded to the winning entrants.



'Swinging and Reading'
By Iris



'Books are like portals' by another world by Samuel



'Even Batman takes a break to read' by William

Date	Event	Description
06.10.2020 to 06.12.202	The Big PTA Raffle	A Nationwide Schools PTA Raffle. See poster attached.
04.12.2020	Christmas Tree Sale	Sale taking place in school car park from 3.00pm. Details to follow.
04.12.2020	Christmas Wreath Workshop	Online Workshop via Zoom. See poster attached.
10.12.2020	Christmas Sparkle Day	Non Uniform/dress up to Christmas Theme Day. In exchange for Rainbow (Christmas) Hamper donation. Online Panto via Zoom – Jack and the Beanstalk
16.12.2020	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day	Christmas Jumpers and Christmas Lunch Day to be followed by a special visit (virtual) from the National Elf Service.
16.12.2020	Christmas Nativity and Service	Christmas Nativity and Service "It begins in Bethlehem" to be available via school website.

This term's Christian value is:

Thankfulness