

# Chilton Foliat Primary School Newsletter

# Thursday 11th November 2021

www.chiltonfoliatprimary.org.uk 01488 682630 "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

Welcome back to Autumn Term 2 and we hope you have had a restful and happy half-term break. The first term for any new school year is always very busy and very tiring for our children: getting back into the school routine for most, getting used to it for the first time for some. The good news is that we have all come back looking refreshed and ready to enjoy what our second term has to offer – which is a lot!

# Covid-19 Update

By the end of last term, Wiltshire reported an increase of positive Covid cases well in excess of the national average. Case rates in the 10 to 14-year age group were particularly high. In addition, many schools experienced staff shortages as a result of positive Covid testing and winter illnesses. In response, our Wiltshire Local Authority public health colleagues recommended a particular focus on the four following areas for the remainder of the term and for 14 days post half term whilst case numbers are reviewed.

1. Halt 'whole school' assemblies for the time being and any other 'large gatherings and mixing'

2. Introduce face coverings in communal areas such as corridors when movement occurs between lessons for secondary school and college settings

3. Reduce mixing between groups of students as much as possible

4. Social distancing and good infection prevention control amongst staff as much as possible due to the large numbers of staff who are contracting the virus.

For our school context, we have consistently maintained good infection prevention for adults and children alike: good ventilation, handwashing and regular cleaning are at the top of the list. Staff are welcome to wear face coverings. For the 14-day period following the half-term break we are holding Collective Worship in class and have split lunchtimes in the hall so that smaller groups gather at any one time. We are hopeful that following the 14 days post half term, public health advice will enable us to return to normal operations and come together once again.

## Home – School – Church – Pumpkin Trail at St Mary's, Chilton Foliat

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October, our local church, St Mary's in Chilton Foliat, was the venue for a Pumpkin Trail. The children used the church grounds to find answers to craftily placed quiz questions and then as the sun began to set, took a tea light candle tour which ended up by placing their candles on the font just inside the church door.

With a good turnout, our mums, dads and governors who helped organise, raised more than the previous year -  $\pounds70$  in total from refreshment sales.

We have agreed to split this with  $\pounds 50$  going to school and  $\pounds 20$  to the church. Many thanks to all the adults who helped organise.



#### Out and about

Even though we are still managing the ongoing impact of Covid-19, as a school we are looking for opportunities to get out and about and experience the real world. Sika Class had planned to visit the Houses of Parliament on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, a trip which was unfortunately cancelled by the organisers due to Covid. Instead of taking the trip to London, the Houses of Parliament came to the classroom by way of a virtual tour. (We are just in the process of organizing refunds for those parents who paid via parent pay).

#### 譜 UK 翻 Parliament

"Sika Class had the opportunity to have two interactive sessions with team members from the Houses of Parliament. They learned about how our current Government was developed and how the role of the Queen has evolved over the decades. The pupils took part in a process of making new laws, they choose to focus on banning smoking everywhere, a topic they feel very passionate about! The team from the Houses of Parliament were very impressed with the questions the class asked about the systems in place for democracy, and the level of knowledge that some members of Sika Class had acquired previous to the session. All of Sika class have developed a better understanding of our democracy and cannot wait to start voting!!" Mrs Pinnegar.



Muntjac Class were luckier as they ventured from school for a trip to the moon! Last Thursday at Marlborough College. We enjoyed looking at all sides of the moon and how all the craters on the moon were formed. We also found out much more about where different Moon missions have landed. The children using their inquisition skills asked lots of interesting questions of our guide, an astronomy expert and left completely in awe from what they



found out. We are very grateful to Mr Barclay of Marlborough College for hosting our visit. Miss McClintock.

#### Parking on the road

A gentle reminder to all to avoid using the road to park on when dropping off and collecting your children. The car park is only a short distance away and provides ample parking space for safe parking for all when used properly. Many thanks for your support.

#### Kindness Week 15th - 19th November 2021

Did you know that Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November is World Kindness Day! Next week we will be using the national dates designated for anti-bullying week to consider how we can be an even kinder, more positive and hopeful school. Our aim will be to spread more kindness and make



all our children aware of the negative impact that bullying behaviour can have. For our older children, access to social media and the exposure that enables to often unseen bullying will be a prominent area of discussion.

We will start our Kindness Week by sharing resources and video links promoting the theme "One Kind Word". As Saturday is World Kindness Day, it would be lovely to hear from the children on Monday, what words of kindness were used at home over the weekend.

#### "Santapreneurs" Starts Next Week

It is not too late to sign up for the "Santapreneurs" Scheme which will begin next week as The Friends prepare to hand over a crisp, new five pound note to any budding tycoons who want to get creative and help raise money for much needed school funds. In addition, Mrs Kirby has offered a one-off free logo creating and marketing workshop for all our "Santapreneurs" to get them ready to launch and sell their products at the Christmas Fair. This workshop will take place on Wednesday 1st December, 3.20pm to 4.00pm.

Attached with the newsletter is the letter explaining all about the "Santapreneurs" and how to get involved.



#### Remembrance - 11.11.2021

The school came together today to share an act of Remembrance. During the week each class took some time to learn about the significance of Remembrance Day at an age appropriate level. Here is just a tiny sample of the pieces of work that have been produced as a result.



#### The gift of a bible

As part of our Harvest Service, each Year 3 child and all our new joiners received the gift of a bible. The children will use their bibles in school to help them understand many of the concepts and themes that we learn as part of the Understanding Christianity unit of learning and help make important links between the writings in the bible and those in sacred texts from other faiths.



#### Children in Need – Friday 19th November

Next Friday will be the time to get ready to break (a few) rules and bring your  $\pounds 1.00$  donation in to go towards the money we are raising for Children in Need Day. The School Council have also prepared some activities for all to enjoy.

### The Friends

The Friends are delighted to be organising Christmas wreath making workshops with Alicia Billyeald of the Wessex Flower Company. The workshop on 1st December has sold out but we have added another one on 6th workshop which has one space available. Please contact <u>friendsofchiltonfoliat@gmail.com</u> if you would like to book a space! All details are on the Friends Facebook page.

M&M Productions will be visiting the school on Monday 22nd November to perform their Snow White pantomime which will be a lovely treat for the children! If you haven't done so already, tickets are available to buy via ParentPay and are  $\pounds$ 6 per child. The deadline has been extended until next Friday 19th November.

The Friends would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came along to the fireworks display last Friday. We are delighted to have raised £300 for the school! An enormous thank you to Linda and Rich for so generously offering their garden for the evening. Thanks also to all of our volunteers and to Adam Day and Matthew Armishaw for handling the pyrotechnics! It was indeed a fantastic display.

# **Dates and Events**

Wednesday 17th November Tempest photographer (younger siblings from 08.30am) Friday 19th November Children in Need - Activities being organised by School Council and to include "Break the Rules Day" Saturday 20th November Open Morning at school for prospective parents 09.00am—12.00 noon Monday 22nd November Christmas Pantomime - Snow White Travelling Book Fair will be in school all week and at the Christmas Market Monday 29th November Wednesday 1st December Christmas Wreath Making Workshop to be held in the Clubhouse 6-10pm Friday 3rd December Outdoor Christmas Market Friday 3rd December Christmas Tree Sale Monday 6th December Christmas Wreath Making Workshop to be held in the Clubhouse 6-10pm Thursday 9th December Donations to the Christmas Surprise Room Friday 10th December Sika trip to see The Nutcracker Royal Opera House Wednesday 15th December Christmas Jumpers and Christmas Lunch Day Wednesday 15th December Christmas Surprise Room Friday 17th December Last Day of Term 2 Tuesday 4th January Term 3 starts

This term's Christian value is:

# Thankfulness



