



Purley CE Primary School

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Friday Bulletin



18th December 2015

**Wishing You A Merry Christmas
And A Happy New Year.
See You All On Tuesday 5th January**

NEW YEAR, NEW PLAYGROUND

How many times have I said – the build is nearly finished? Well, finally, we are down to snagging and the back playground will be open in January. Thank you for your patience during this time.

With all the new equipment, we need to put in some rules to ensure the safety of everyone before and after school. Please stop your little ones – and school aged children from venturing on to the equipment and soft surface at these times.

Please stay in the fenced area until classroom doors are open. Woodpecker class enter from the back of the school for a trial period. Children entering from the front of the school – please wait in the playground. No one on the soft surface at the back of the school.

government and laws. We finished by reading The Wise Men's Story from the Lion Storyteller Bible. Happy Christmas!

Rev Archer

WOODLAND SCHOOL



It was our last woodland school session for the year this week. We had fun using blindfolds. One child was blindfolded whilst their partner gave them verbal instructions to get from A to B safely. We also spent some time improving a den. The children moved large branches safely. We decided to decorate the den for Christmas. We used ferns, branches, twigs and leaves for decorating. A small tree was decorated outside the den too. **Woodland School will restart after the February half term.**

Mrs Herbert

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP



This week in Collective Worship we completed telling the Christmas story.

To help us do this, we looked at a star found in modern day Bethlehem that marks the point considered to be where Jesus was born. We thought about the 'story' of Christmas and that it is more than just a story - it is about a real, historical person. Many consider Jesus to be the most important person ever to have been born. We thought about how Jesus and Christianity have shaped our own country - our calendar, our Queen, our



GOOD TO BE GREEN

Look out for a certificate in your child's book bag. We are very pleased that 96% of the children stayed either green or yellow and 71 % stayed green. It was very pleasing to see some children who have struggled to stay green in the past have managed it this term. Well done.

WE HAVE LIFT OFF!

In Key Stage 2, we were all very excited on Tuesday to be able to log on to NASA-TV and watch the launch of the Soyuz rocket taking Tim Peake to the International Space Station. Major Peake is the first British European Space Agency astronaut to visit the ISS and will be spending the next six months on board, carrying out research.

We are very excited that Purley Primary School has been selected to be a part of the Tim Peake Primary Project, which aims to use space to increase the engagement of primary school children with science, numeracy and literacy, and we are looking forward to running some exciting activities around the theme of space next term.

We were also successful in applying to ESERO-UK for a grant and the school has been awarded £500 to put towards our space activities.

How to Survive in Space

The tradition of Royal Institution Christmas Lectures was started in 1825 by Michael Faraday. Aimed at young people, they are entertaining and informative and this year's lectures are on How to Survive in Space! The first lecture in the series of three will be broadcast at 8pm on Monday 28th December on BBC4.

Spot the Space Station

The ISS is passing over Reading quite frequently



at the moment. You can find out when it is next likely to be visible using the NASA website <http://spotthestation.nasa.gov/sightings/>.

It looks like there will be a good chance of seeing it on Saturday 19th December at 4.55 pm when it should be visible for 5 minutes. Let's hope for a clear sky!

SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE



Eating with a knife and fork is a skill the children need to master. Not only does it support the strengthening of the hands (which support handwriting etc) but it is also a social skill that may be very useful as an adult. This is a skill best practised at home. Congratulations to the following children for using their knives and forks beautifully to eat their Christmas dinner:

Charlie, Oscar, Jessica, Samuel, Elliott, Olly, Davontay, Dugald, Ella, Nathan, Emily, Jasmine, Madeline, Tanisha, Josh, Erika, Elizabeth, Rosemary, Sienna, Niamh and Shannon.

AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS

A list of clubs will be sent out at the beginning of next term. If you are able to help with a club, please let Mrs Ham know. Clubs can be creative (like music, crafts etc), or physical (dance, sports etc).

Gym Club (Year 3 upwards) is being run separately by Virtue Gymnastics. There are currently 4 spaces left on the club on Thursdays.

Please contact kara@virtuegymnastics.co.uk if you are interested.

Choir will resume on Monday 11th January (3.00-3.45). We would like to invite Year 2 children to join the school choir as well as any other children who wish to join. If your child is interested in joining the choir, please email Mrs Ham (office@purley.w-berks.sch.uk).

REMINDERS

Challenge time is held at 9.00-9.15 every morning when children have an opportunity to practice their targets and teachers give individuals their feedback. Your child needs to be sat at their tables by 9.00 am to ensure the best possible use of this time. Please be

punctual – doors open at 8.50 am. Children arriving after 9 will be given a late mark.

FOPS UPDATE

Fireworks update: thanks to your fantastic support and with the help of the community, we managed to raise in excess of £6,000 on fireworks night.

Bags for Life: we still have a few bags for sale (£5 per bag). If you are interested in buying one, please ask the office for an order form.

Have a great Christmas and see you next year for some more fundraising events!
Nicky Gibbens, *FOPS Chair*

STARS OF THE WEEK



Hedgehog Class

Star of the week: Jaiden for learning all his high frequency words to read. Brilliant!

Friendship Star: Iqra for being thoughtful and caring towards her friends

Purley Paragon: Elsie

Superstar: Sergio as he is always so polite, helpful, gets on with his work and always tries his best with everything.

Badger Class

Star of the week: Evans for settling down to write quickly and trying his best.

Friendship Star: Tiana for helping a friend with their learning and being so supportive of them.

Purley Paragon: Olly

Woodland Star: Ben for showing some good leadership qualities when a group of children were improving the den. He listened to other children's ideas and organised the decorating of the tree.

Superstar: Alice for consistently working hard in all areas and always being responsible.

Owl Class

Star of the week: Jisel for always trying to work things out independently before asking for help.

Friendship Star: Corey for always sharing in class and in the playground.

Purley Paragon: Leo

Superstar: Natalya for working exceptionally hard in all areas of her learning.

Woodpecker Class

Star of the week: Josh for being a ray of sunshine in class: always smiling, always working hard, always considerate.

Friendship Star: Ella for her joyful interaction with everyone in class and for being so caring when other children are hurt.

Purley Paragon: Ruby

Superstar: Samuel for his outstanding writing and excellent effort always.

HEDGEHOG CLASS



The children in Hedgehog class have been busy with Christmas activities, songs and stories. The children were very imaginative outside and built a sleigh for Santa complete with reins for the reindeer! They enjoyed their class party and played lots of games with some very good dancing from all the year 1 boys! We talked about being a good sport and not minding when we were out of a game. The Foundation stage children have all had a very good first term at school and have worked hard learning their sounds and numbers. Year 1 children have become more independent and are working hard on their challenges. Well done everyone - Keep it up!

A very Happy Christmas to you all. Mrs Carr

BADGER CLASS



This week in Badger class we have been writing the Christmas story and have made our own books retelling the Nativity. We have enjoyed making Christmas cards and Christmas decorations. The children have also looked at the vestments of a Reverend and the different colours they wear during advent. We have discussed how symbols are important in different religions and what they represent to us.

Next term our topic will be called "Mission to the Moon" and we will be following closely the work of Tim Peake. Mrs Lyn-Jones

OWL CLASS



Well, here we are at the end of our first term together in Owl class. I would like to thank all the children for their hard work and

enthusiasm with their learning. I have to say I think our "Bake a better Biscuit" has been a great success and engaged everyone, including some of you adults. Thank you for supporting your children in their first home learning projects; it would seem that you all had fun learning together about biscuits, especially Huntley and Palmers. We hope you all enjoyed our biscuit presentation; the children had great fun preparing for it and used a large range of skills putting it together. Next term our topic will be "The world from above" . We are hoping to continue to follow Tim Peake during his time at the International Space Station within our project.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. *Mrs Pickering*

WOODPECKER CLASS



We enjoyed the grand finale of our 'Bake a better biscuit' project and were thrilled by the number of parents, grandparents and other family members who came along to the children's presentation morning. Following on from this event, was further excitement as the whole of KS2 gathered together to watch Tim Peak's live launch into space. Many children also tuned into the news later in the day to watch his safe (albeit eventful) docking with the ISS. From futuristic Science, to a 2000+ year old historical event, we have considered the Christmas story from different perspectives and have re-written this remarkable tale. In maths, we have been solving mystery puzzles using coordinates. *Mrs Archer*

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21/12/15-04/01/16	Christmas Break
05/01/16	Start of Spring Term 1
12/02/16	End of Spring Term 1 at 3.00pm
15/02/16-19/02/16	Half Term
22/02/16	Start of Spring Term 2
24/03/16	End of Spring Term 2 at 1.15pm
25/03/16-11/05/16	Easter Break
12/04/16	Start of Summer Term 1
15/05/15	Tour de Purley!
27/05/16	End of Summer Term 1 at 3.00pm
30/05/16-03/06/16	Half Term
06/06/16	Start of Summer Term 2
20/07/16	End of Academic Year at 1.15pm

As always, please remember our doors are open, should you wish to discuss any concerns, ask questions or celebrate successes regarding your children. You can contact me by phone on 0118 9842384 or email: headteacher@purley.w-berks.sch.uk

Nadolig Llawen – ie Merry Christmas in Welsh!

Karen Fakes (Headteacher)
Learn to Love, Love to Learn

