



"Learning that lasts a lifetime"

Newsletter

HEAD'S BLOG

Welcome back to a cold and rainy 2nd half-term.

I was very impressed with how the children have returned—focussed and ready to learn. They obviously had a good rest and enjoyable half-term break! Our Christian value this half-term is RESPECT. We will be discussing respect for each other as well as ourselves over the next few weeks.

Children have been most excited to delve into a new stock of reading books this week. It was lovely to see so many of you sharing a book with our pupils at our Parent Reading afternoon on Wednesday. If you'd like to become a regular volunteer, please let your class teacher or our office staff know—we'd be glad of the help. We are also putting together the finishing touches to the year 1/2 parent reading workshop—watch this space for more details!

We will be hosting our regular Scholastic Book fair next week—a great opportunity to purchase a new book for your child as well as supporting the school as we are able to get some freebies too!

Parent consultation meetings are taking place next week. If you haven't managed to book an appointment yet, please speak to one of our secretaries, who will be able to book one for you. After school clubs will not be running next week to allow for these meetings.

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe wherever you celebrate Bonfire Night!

Mrs Carmichael

SECRET SANTA

Friends of BB are delighted to be organising Secret Santa again this year. We know the children love it. For those who don't know, Friends of BB come into school and have a sale of small items suitable for the children to give as gifts to adults in their life. These items are carefully selected by the child then they have them gift-wrapped by BB Friends Elves. Friends of BB will be collecting the gifts at the Ark on Tuesday 19th November and Wednesday 20th November between 8.30 and 9 am; please donate a small gift for a man and a woman. (Sorry, but we cannot accept alcoholic products, or fictional/autobiographical books as we cannot sell them to the children - recipe/cook books are ok. Thank you)



BBKIDS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 01726 65471—THIS IS FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY

Our Christian values: Compassion, forgiveness, trust, respect, courage and perseverance

PHOTO PAGE



READING

On Thursday of this week, KS1 were fortunate enough to have dance workshops as part of our 'We are performers' topic. We learnt a dance routine that had been choreographed for us for our Nativity performance. The children (and staff) all loved it!



ATTENDANCE

The expected average attendance for a child is 96% for the year

Our attendance for this week is **95.21%**

Our attendance for this school year is **96.46%**

Well done to **Pelicans** class for the attendance stars of the week!

Classes	%	Lates	Class	%	Lates
Little Doves	97.54%	4	Pelicans	97.7%	1
Little Fish	91.53%	0	Angels	88.18%	0
Little Lambs	95.24%	1	Faith	93.1%	0
Peacocks	96.43%	2	Hope	95.39%	1
Phoenix	94.76%	2			

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2019/20 Autumn Term Diary Dates:

w/c 4th November—Parent consultations (only BBKids running after school)

Wed 6th November—Year R & Year 6 Weighing and Measuring

Wed 6th November—Bookfair

Tues 12th November—Year 2 Parents Maths meeting @ 3.20pm

Thurs 14th November—Year 1 Parents Maths meeting @ 3.20pm

Fri 15th November —Children in Need dress up—Wacky dress up day! £1 donation

Tues 26th November—Years R—6 Immunisations

w/c 9th December—Christmas plays (more info to follow)

Fri 13th December—Christmas Jumper Day

Wed 18th December—Christmas Lunch

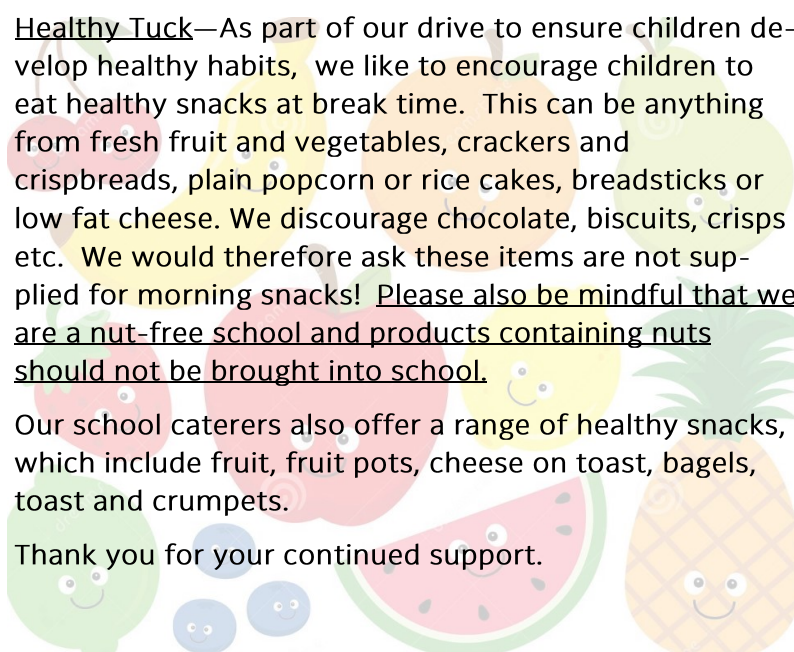
Fri 20th December—Last day of Autumn Term (school finishes at 3.15pm / no after-school provision)



Healthy Tuck—As part of our drive to ensure children develop healthy habits, we like to encourage children to eat healthy snacks at break time. This can be anything from fresh fruit and vegetables, crackers and crispbreads, plain popcorn or rice cakes, breadsticks or low fat cheese. We discourage chocolate, biscuits, crisps etc. We would therefore ask these items are not supplied for morning snacks! Please also be mindful that we are a nut-free school and products containing nuts should not be brought into school.

Our school caterers also offer a range of healthy snacks, which include fruit, fruit pots, cheese on toast, bagels, toast and crumpets.

Thank you for your continued support.



PSA CONTACT DETAILS—01726 64322 or 07903 613074

Working days Monday 08:30—16:30, Wednesday 08:30—16:30 and Thursdays 08:30—13:30

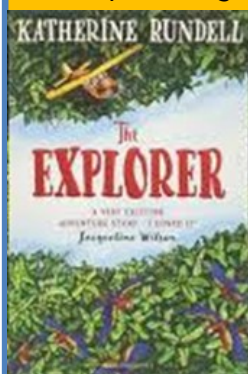
READING



We have been fortunate enough to have some money to purchase some beautiful new reading books. If you have a child in KS1, they will have new reading books to help with using phonics to read and in KS2 we have some beautiful new reading books too – aren't shiny, new books exciting? There's a whole world of adventure inside of them! We haven't purchased enough for everyone YET, but we're getting there. As reading is so important, teachers and teaching assistants had a half term holiday homework: to read a children's book and write a review. Over the coming weeks, we will share some of their reviews and this might give you some inspiration for books to purchase for Christmas.

Miss Moore chose to read *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell and in fact her class were so impressed with her review, that they have chosen to have it as their class reader for this half term. I agree with Miss Moore, this book is a gripping adventure in the Amazon. It would be appropriate for children in about Y5 and 6, or how about reading it to a younger child – they'd love it too!

The Explorer by Katherine Rundell



I loved this book so much that I read it in just one weekend! Go on an adventure through the magical Amazon rainforest with Fred, Con, Lila and Max. When their plane crashes on the way to Manaus, the children are stranded in the jungle. They must figure out the basics of survival: water, shelter, food. As they grow braver, the children start to explore, building a raft to sail down the river and discovering all sorts of curious (and dangerous!) wildlife. Soon, they discover traces of another human inhabitant – and then they find the map! This book will leave you wanting to head straight for the Amazon jungle and search for a lost city! I would give this book 5 stars – beautifully written and beautifully illustrated!

SCHOOL NOTICES PAGE



School Admissions

If your child is due to start school in September 2020, detailed information about the admissions process is available online or on request from the School Admissions Team.

Please ensure you name more than one preference. It will not mean less chance of securing a place at your preferred school. Please note that if you do not apply on time your preferred school/s may already be full.

If you need support with your application process, please contact the office or contact the Family Information Service (0800 587 8191) or School Admissions Team (0300 1234 101).

Deadline dates:

Application for starting school—15th January 2020

Please apply online at www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions



Change of Menu—Bonfire Night—Tuesday 5th November

Bangers and Chips or Veggie Bangers and Chips

Dessert: Catherine Wheel Cookies or Fruit



Public Health
England

Norovirus Season

I am writing to let you know that a number of children have recently been absent with suspected norovirus, a common infection which causes symptoms of diarrhoea and vomiting. I have taken advice from Public Health England and they have offered the following advice:

- Norovirus is generally a mild infection and people usually recover fully within 2-3 days. No specific treatment is needed, but it is important to keep hydrated by drinking fluids as tolerated.
- Norovirus is highly infectious and spreads easily from person to person, especially in close knit communities such as nurseries and childminders, therefore, we are asking for your help to prevent further illness within the school by following the advice in the checklist below:
- Staff and children who develop symptoms of diarrhoea and/or vomiting should stay away from nursery/childminder and other childcare settings until they have been symptom free for at least 48 hours.
- Good hygiene is important to stop the spread of infection, especially hand washing, frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, particularly after using the toilet and before eating or handling food.
- Good hygiene in the home will also help prevent spread to other family members. If possible separate toilets and towels should be used. Toilets, including seats and handles, as well as door handles, wash basins and other frequently touched surfaces should be cleaned and disinfected frequently.
- If symptoms do not resolve after 48 hours or if you are concerned please contact your GP by phone or contact the NHS non-emergency number 111. We would like to thank you for your help with this. I have included a norovirus factsheet which you may also find useful and these are also available from the office.

Wet play games.....

If you know anyone that maybe having a 'pre' Christmas clear out and are getting rid of any suitable indoor games, we would be grateful for any donations! Thank you.



If your child would like to purchase a poppy or additional items such as snap bands, bracelets and button tags (these are priced at £1 per item) to show their support to The Poppy Appeal they will be sold at break times until Friday 8th November. Many Thanks



PARENT FORUM NOTES

Just over 20 parents and carers attended our parent forum this time. Mrs Carmichael shared the school's key priorities for this academic year and our planned actions to meet these targets. These priorities are improving attainment of disadvantaged pupils; improving outcomes in maths and reading and developing teaching of a broad and balanced curriculum. The discussion was then opened up to attendees and agenda items suggested by parents via Dojo.

Positive feedback

- Parent recognised that there was a positive use of Dojo
- One parent spoke about how they felt the school was a happy place to be.
- One parent felt it was positive that more information was shared with parents regarding topics and outcomes

Queries

One parents raised concerns that KS1 spellings were not being tested and wanted clarification about the impact of the new way of teaching spelling.

Mrs Carmichael explained the research behind pupils exploring spelling rules and focusing on the application of spelling knowledge in their writing rather than rote learning of a few words. She also explained that internal data is showing that spelling attainment is improving. Mrs Carmichael shared that further tweaks to spelling homework which are being implemented.

One parent raised the continued loss of INSET week and questioned whether it could be considered to be reintroduced as it was beneficial to family time/holidays

This is a Trust decision and Karen Holmes, our Trust School Improvement Partner, will raise this issue at a Trust meeting with the CEO, Stuart Renshaw.

One parent raised their concerns about the new reading books which have been purchased in Key Stage One.

Mrs Carmichael clarified that the RWI books will be sent home to promote fluency, a library book to promote a love for reading and an ORT book to support children to apply phonic knowledge whilst offering challenge and developing other reading skills. Miss Jane will be sending home further information to provide further clarification about this.

One parent raised the Year 5/6 trip to London as she was concerned that the inclusion of y6 children was unfair

Mrs Carmichael confirmed that 38 children were currently signed up to attend, over 30 are year 5 pupils. A few year 6 children are attending as they did not get the chance last year. The current year 5 children will get the chance to do the year 6 activity residential next year.

One parent raised a concern about the use of TV in class and wanted further clarification about this.

Miss Jane confirmed that films or TV programmes may have been watched should the class have won the Popcorn party as an attendance reward. Film clips are also sometimes used as a stimulus for writing. Miss Jane also explained that due to recent poor weather, TV may have been offered as one of the choices when it is too wet to go outside at breaktimes.

One parent raised the issue of a lack of soap in KS1 toilets

DC has checked the soap in the KS1 toilets and will raise this matter with our cleaning company.

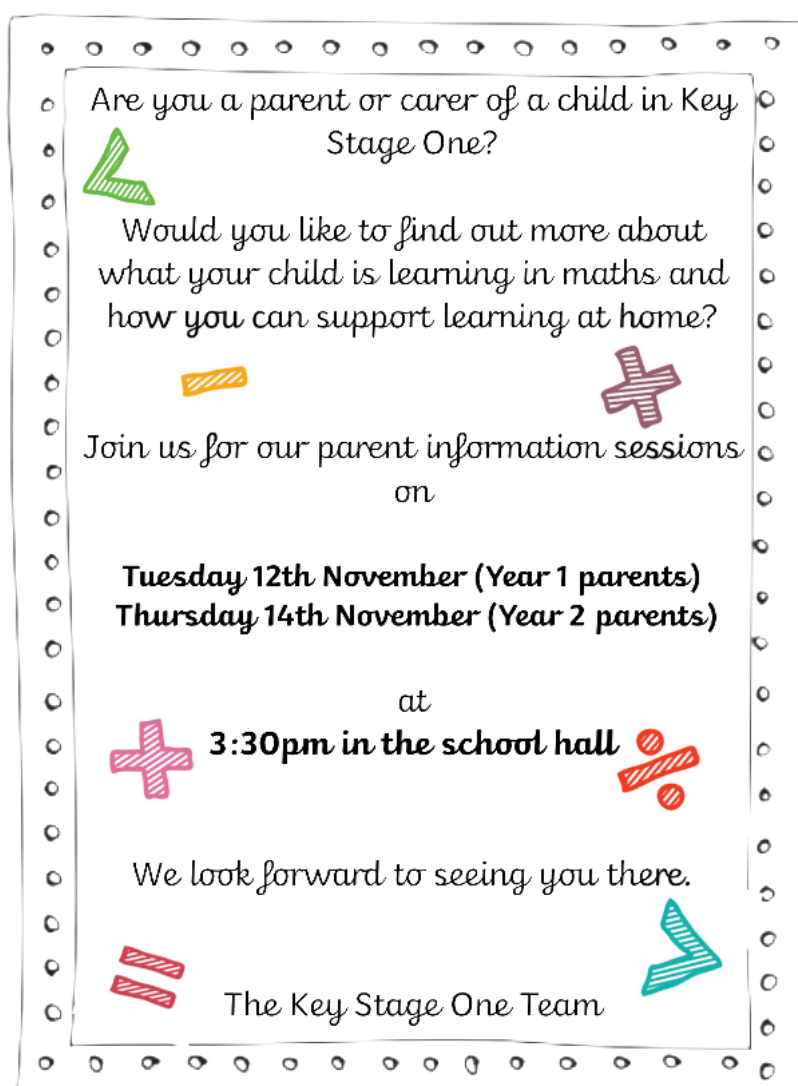
One parent questioned whether children who had met the National Curriculum need to continue accessing lessons

DC explained that this could incur cost implications and expressed that for some children, this was an opportunity which would be missed as it contributes to weekly PE hours. In addition, staffing alternative activities during this time could be tricky. However, it would be worthwhile checking provision for higher ability swimmers and if they can be offered something different or more challenging during their regular swim sessions. We will look into this.

One parent questioned the homework expectations

Our homework policy states that the youngest children should be reading for approximately ten minutes a day and we maintain that this is very important. We also recognise that it can be challenging to balance with home life. We would therefore suggest to prioritise reading if homework is becoming a battleground! Homework is set to consolidate work in school and we do feel it is beneficial but do not want it to be a time of stress at home.

Mrs Carmichael's presentation on our key priorities will be available on the Parent Information tab on our website should you wish to take a look





www.studio4dance.com



Classes for
All Ages

Based at
Cornwall College
St Austell

