



stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 6

5 November 2021

Climate change for our children's future

You can't possibly have missed the press coverage of the COP26 conference and the pledges being made to our children (and us) about how leaders will protect their future. There will have to be much care taken, by all of us to safeguard their future and hold leaders to account to ensure they have the same opportunities we've had.

Having had 'Let's go green' as their major topic last term, the children in Years 4, 5 & 6 have been working hard at upcycling clothes to make sure that they aren't adding unnecessarily to landfill. This really matters to them. This spurs us on. The children's passion for their environment and disgust at the wastefulness of people around the planet is a powerful motivator.

I have met with a designer this week to refresh our EYFS area at the back of the school and the school councilors have been busy designing and putting forward ideas for a new adventure playground to replace our condemned one. Even here, we're considering the environment; is the wood we're using going to be from sustainable sources, is the flooring going to be eco-friendly (sadly not artificial grass as this is plastic), how long will it last? What can be done with what is taken down?

I am sure that the children will guide us further and hold us to account for our choices but we are keen to really live the changes required to secure our children's future.

Emma Jefferies
Headteacher

Coming Up!

Each week in the newsletter, we post the most important dates for the forthcoming term.

NOVEMBER!		
Sat 6 th	10-12	Pre-School open morning
Thurs 11 th	11am	Whole school to mark Remembrance Day; Oldest & youngest & Y6 lay wreath at memorial
Fri 12 th	All day	Children in Need
Sat 13 th	From 09:00	Family photo shoot
Sun 14 th	09:45	Remembrance service in Church (Y6)
Tues 16 th	18:00	Pre-School open evening
Thurs 18 th	All day	Milestones trip for Horsebridge
Fri 19 th	All day	Milestones trip for Redbridge
Thurs 25 th	All day	Mft trip to Ufton Court
Fri 26 th	14:45	Listen 2 Me concert – Y5 parents only
Tues 30 th	All day	Whole school nasal flu vaccination Cfd trip to Ufton Court
DECEMBER		
Fri 3 rd	All day	Xmas jumper day

COVID cases PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

We have had several children off school this week with COVID, having caught it over the holidays. This feels an inevitable part of life at the moment but it's left families feeling a little at sea as to what to do and what to expect. I thought it would be helpful to outline the basics:

- If your child has a +ve PCR, they need to isolate.
- Your wider household do not need to isolate but I would recommend you undertake regular (daily?) free LFT tests as a precaution.
- Your child will need to isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms OR, if asymptomatic, from the date of the +ve PCR test.
- If your child is off with COVID, we will NOT be setting Google classroom work as they are poorly. *However*, families have been in touch to say their child has only been poorly for a couple of days and is then fine (& bored). If this does happen to you, please let us know and we will begin to set work for them on Google classroom. The least they miss of school, the better!

My advice about LFT testing daily is simply that – just advice but it has picked up positive siblings that would otherwise have been in school. If your child is unusually lethargic, has sickness, diarrhea or the common COVID symptoms, please PCR test to be on the safe side.

e-safety learning

This half term began with our new whole school E-safety focus of **Online Relationships**. Children across the school had opportunities to think about how well they know people and if they know people that they communicate with online as well as they do people that they speak to face to face.

Our youngest children learnt about different ways that you can communicate online and shared times that they have done this. The children in years 2 and 3 thought about the concept of trust, what that means and who you can or should trust in different situations.

The older children took this a step further and learnt about ways of being responsible online and trustworthy, particularly when sharing images.

The NSPCC has a wealth of parental advice to help you to guide your children through being safe online

[NSPCC online safety for children](#)

Music in school

IGOR STRAVINSKY

Stravinsky's 'Firebird' piece, written for ballet, is one of BBC's Ten Pieces and we've loved exploring it in assemblies and class this week. We've discovered new instruments we didn't know about and learned how music tells a story.

Piano, guitar and ukulele lessons are well underway as well as Year 5 all learning ukulele with a specialist teacher every Friday.

Children in Years 5 & 6 have begun singing new songs for their O2 visit and today, Mr Seymour, Choir master and Music lead at Romsey Abbey is helping our KS2 children learn carols for Christmas. We're very busy musicians indeed!

REGULAR UPDATES



Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school

FOSS news

Massive well done and thank you to FOSS for the great pumpkin party. They are now looking ahead towards Christmas and putting on some fun fundraising events for the children and our school.

We don't want anyone to miss out on the FOSS events and FOSS are working really hard to raise money to complete 'pot' for all of the children to have a new adventure playground which they're so close to achieving.

CHRISTMAS TREES!

This year FOSS have a limited number of premium Noordman Fir Christmas trees available to school families, 70 to be precise, so if you would like to be the proud owner of one, you will have to be quick!

Sale day is the 4th December 2021 BUT.....

We are offering a discounted price to all who pre-order, so tell your friends and family members! Not only do you get a high quality tree but it's also an opportunity to be a great support to FOSS.

Please fill in the form at this link:

<https://forms.gle/d3xddMsYTrJLnnBV8>

Deadline for pre-orders is the 10th November!!

Fudge update

Fudge has been back in school each day this week and been busy practicing her reading abilities with children across the school.

It's also been some joint learning for Fudge AND the children in Redbridge class to find out how to behave with the school dog in the classroom. It certainly makes the children a little quieter! Mrs Holdich has sent through a cheeky photo of Fudge enjoying a treat the end of a day in school.



Other letters that should have come to you this week:

We are getting back into the swing of being a busy school so please do look out for letters about trips, clubs and other bits.

This week's roundup is:

- Ufton Court trip letter (Years 4-5)
- Milestones trip letter (Years 1-3)
- Pantomime trip (whole school)
- Email about poppy sales (whole school)

REDBRIDGE & HORSEBRIDGE Years 1-3

This week we have been getting back into the swing of things in getting routines established for a productive half term. We have begun work on our new book 'Toys in Space' by Mini Grey and over the next few weeks, we'll be writing about exciting adventures our own toys are going to be embarking upon. Redbridge had a fabulous time creating the spaceship from the story and Horsebridge will be sure to follow in their path next week!

MOTTISFONT & CLATFORD Years 4-6

Finishing off their 'Let's go Green' topic, children in Years 4-6 have been getting creative with old, unwanted clothes; combining, cutting and creating new garments – even those at home having to isolate! Children have learnt how to use a sewing machine and improve their sewing by hand too. Mrs Burnand and Mrs Holden awarded medals this week for their patience with threading needles! Here are some of the outcomes.

SPRAT & WINKLE

It's been bonfire crazy in Sprat & Winkle this week as the children have been exploring firework patterns and poetry about this special time of year. Their topic this term is 'Fire' and I know there are plans afoot for them to each learn how to use the fire steel in forest school and create fires of their own.



Spelling

I'm sure you'll be aware that spellings are changing at Stockbridge. We have slowly launched our new spelling scheme over the last 6 weeks so that the teachers have time to find out the best ways of working it with our children given COVID gaps and we've begun the scheme proper this week.

For children in Year R & Year 1, they will continue with their daily phonics lessons and learn spelling through these.

For children in Years 2-6, we will begin being 'spellbound' by spellings using our new scheme. Every fortnight, your child will be learning a new spelling rule or pattern. They will be challenged by a hypothesis about a spelling rule, for example, 'words ending in '-le' always have a double consonant' – they'll be asked to decide whether they think this is true, false or sometimes true and then set out to investigate and prove their thinking.

They won't be practicing this rule at home or having spelling tests. Instead, we'll be teaching spellings EVERY DAY. This means a hot focus on spellings all of the time – they really do matter.

At home, we would just like them to practice their 'focus five' – these are 5 spellings either from their year group list of words they have misspelled or, from their common misspellings in their day to day work. We do have a few super spellers who rarely make mistakes so we'll be taking more challenging vocabulary linked to their topic to challenge these children too.

In other news...

Clubs update

Due to staff training which is unavoidable, there will be no cooking club with Mrs Cooper on Tuesday 9th November I'm afraid.

On Thursday 11th November (this coming week), Forest School club will be lighting fires and these usually take a bit longer than the hour so we'll be finishing at 4.30pm – 15mins later than usual.

Family photo shoot

Wanting a lovely family photo for grandparents or to commemorate the end of 2021, another unusual year?

Book now to secure a slot on Saturday 13th November to have your family photo taken with our lovely school photographer Judy.

Packages will be available to order in the same way as individual school photos.

Bookings via the school office:
adminoffice@stockbridge.hants.sch.uk

Poppies for sale

It has long been tradition here at Stockbridge that the whole school goes to the war memorial in Stockbridge to commemorate Armistice Day. Last year we were unable to do this fully because of COVID restrictions. This year, Year 6 and the oldest child, Kyle Stephens and youngest child, Harry Stallard, will be laying a wreath at the memorial on Thursday 11th at 11am along with other members of the community. Whilst we don't want to impost 142 children on villagers attending, I am still keen for children to be part of this special day so we will be standing on the school side of the road, opposite the memorial to keep our COVID distance! You are more than welcome to join us for this short but powerful ceremony.

House captains will be selling poppies every day next week, a suggested donation of £1 is appropriate.

Trip costs

Petrol costs and entrance charges have made the national news on a daily basis and have filtered their way down to us here in school.

We try very hard to keep costs for school trips to a maximum of £15 but, in today's climate, this isn't always possible.

Charges for day visits to places are voluntary but clearly, if we don't receive enough funding, we will be unable to go on the trips we plan as we have no separate budget to fund these things. That said, if you are struggling, please do talk to us as we have some options at our disposal to help. Please see Mrs Spayes or Mrs Jefferies in the first instance.

Lunch menu

Shawn has been working hard in the kitchen to reflect the fabulous food culture we have here in the UK and we've seized the moment to have special days and celebrate national food weeks. We've had National Curry Week, bangers and mash to celebrate bonfire day and on 2nd December, we'll be celebrating National Breakfast Day with a cooked breakfast for lunch! We'll also be talking to the children about the traditions around 'stir up Sunday' and creating our own Christmas pudding in school. Menu changes will be published next week.

Hedgehogs

A plea from local residents to watch out for hedgehogs when lighting bonfires or turning your compost heap. This is the time of year when they are often injured as people bed down for the winter.

In case of any casualties, Wiltshire Wildlife Hospital are brilliant and on hand if needed.

The school piano is off to its new home this week – my goodness it's served us well but we've moved into the 21st century with a new electronic one (with headphones!!)



Mottisfont & Clatford children getting stuck into spelling!

