

Langley Fitzurse Church of England Primary School



Newsletter



Newsletter

Thursday 16th December 2021

"Amaze, Excite, Inspire"

What a strange year!

As we very nearly finish for the Christmas break, I look back on the last year. And what a year it has been! A year of being together, being apart, making new friends and saying farewell. It has been a year of such change. Throughout this, the Langley Fitzurse school community has remained firm, fast, supportive and together. For this I thank each and everyone of you—children, parents, staff, governors and the Kington Langley community.

The children are at the heart of the decisions we make, and reading the class end of term newsletters I see, and I hope you agree, this is absolutely true. Regardless of what category we are in from a COVID perspective, the children have had fantastic learning opportunities, and it makes me so proud to see how each day, they grow—acquire new knowledge, learn how to work together, know more about themselves.

I hope that next year will be a little more consistent. But if it isn't, we will work through this together.

I wish you all a very happy, safe and restful Christmas.

Karen Winterburn

Executive Headteacher

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you so much for your generosity—we have raised a brilliant £114.50 for Save the Children!

Carols at the Gate

In a slight alteration to the information on a previous letter, Chameleon & Phoenix Classes will be singing together at the school gate tomorrow from 2.45pm.

Thank you PTA!

Our wonderful PTA deserve a big round of applause for their fundraising efforts this term! The Hamper Draw, Cake Raffle and Smarties Tubes have raised an incredible £1,500 for school projects. Thank you so much!

School Swimming

A heads up that Chameleon Class will be swimming on Friday afternoons during Term 3, starting (Covid allowing) on Fri 7 January. Phoenix Class will be swimming on Friday afternoons during Term 4.

Values in Action



This term we focused on the value of RESPECT

'Let us help each other to love others and do good' Hebrews 10:24

We started by reflecting on Respect - valuing one another, because we are each made in the image of God. The Worship Council planned and led worship around valuing and celebrating our differences. Each one of us is God's masterpiece!

Now we are in the season of Advent, preparing for Christmas. The traditional colour in church for Advent is purple, a royal colour, mostly worn by kings and rulers. Purple reminds us that the birth of Jesus was a royal arrival. Even though Jesus came into the world humbly as a baby, Christians believe Jesus is 'God with us' and we celebrate all that Jesus brings to our lives.

Jesus, you came to be light in our darkness.

You came to be peace in our conflicts.

You came to be joy in our sadness,

And to bring your love in our lives.

We celebrate your birth.

Thank you for your saving grace.

Amen.



Hercules Class End of Newsletter Autumn Term 2

Topic – Long, long ago

Welcome to our class end of term newsletter. Everyone has been so busy with their learning—I have been so impressed with their sentence writing and Maths understanding as all the children have all grown in confidence with our new schemes. Here's our completed display from our space learning last term, our new mud kitchen and new class sign.



We kicked started our term in the classroom with some history based learning about Bonfire Night and Guy Fawkes - sequencing the story and creating firework drawings, and writing posters inspired by our virtual visit from the Wiltshire Fire Brigade who taught us about fire safety. Remembrance Day focused on the amazing jobs and roles that animals did in the First and Second World War s— creating purple poppies, medals and writing a 'Did you know' statement about the animal roles within the wars. We then had a letter to say that certain people were banned from playtimes to get us thinking about segregation and Rosa Park's role in Black Rights ordering dates and creating our own timeline in the classroom. We finished the term by story mapping the Nativity Story and using adjectives to describe the characters, writing shopping lists and recipes after making gingerbread garlands for the Christmas tree.



We have also started Field and Forest at our new site behind the church and have enjoyed regular hot chocolate and biscuits, alongside leaf fights, leaf crowns, bug safaris and tree climbing. The children have loved getting out and watch the amazing fairy ring of mushrooms grow more every week and have been fantastically grown up about respectful and responsible around the fungi.



Thanks for all your parental support and hard work in supporting your children in their second term. Have a wonderfully relaxing Christmas break, you have all deserved it! All the best from the Hercules Team

End of Autumn term 2, 2021, Pegasus Class

Pegasus Class started this term by learning about Guy Fawkes and The Gunpowder Plot in order to understand the reason for celebrating this time of the year. The children did some wonderful writing about the historic facts but also created sense poems and chalk art about Bonfire Night. We have been working hard to improve our writing by adding adjectives and adverbs!

We were very excited to see our new class plaque fixed to the wall outside our classroom, especially since we all helped to carve it.

Before starting to practise our Nativity Play we focused on a story called 'Charlie and the Great Fire of London'. During this time we had a virtual visit from Wiltshire Fire Service to learn how to stay safe in case of a fire and how to prevent it happening. We learned about the importance of the Stop, Drop and Roll rule.

Of course we have been working in Maths as well, using our new Maths No Problem Scheme to improve additions, subtractions, multiplications and divisions (Y2), as well as problem solving using these calculations. In phonics the children continue to develop their spelling skills with the use of Sounds-Write.

We all participated in Remembrance Day and created poppy collages for our windows.

The last few weeks were strongly marked by rehearsals for 'Bethlehem's buzzing'! And it did! The children did 2 wonderful performances and half a dress rehearsal (it started to rain!) and really lived up to the challenges of doing it outside, Covid, tummy bugs, etc. They made me very proud!



PHOENIX CLASS END OF TERM 2 NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

Time has flown! Christmas is nearly upon us already.

In Phoenix over Term 2, we have continued to show a positive attitude towards our learning and have embraced the topic of Crime and Punishment with relish.

The children really enjoyed discovering the gruesome details of how criminals were dealt with over different time periods. At the start of term, we learnt about the Gunpowder plot, and how Guy Fawkes planned to blow up parliament. Of course, this didn't go to plan and Mr Fawkes was sentenced to be hung, drawn and quartered. While this form of punishment is obviously barbaric, it certainly whetted the children's appetites for learning about these practices over the years. We have gone on to study crime and punishment in Roman Britain, Anglo-Saxon times, the Tudor reign, and what it was like to be in a Victorian prison. Dick Turpin was a further study, as we looked at different sources of historical information to help our class form our opinions of him.

Following the whole-class reading of The Iron Man in Term 1, the children were really keen to experience The Iron Woman, Ted Hughes' sequel. It has been fantastic! The children loved the incredible and supernatural events and amazing descriptions in the story and we were hooked from day 1. Also studied, as part of our English lessons, was The Magic Finger by Roald Dahl – another great story with a moral stance. We planned and wrote our own versions of this classic children's book featuring the Gregg family not hunting ducks this time, but chopping down trees, dropping litter or playing music too loudly. The class really enjoyed having the family in their story being 'taught a lesson' and being made to change their ways.

Some of the other learning in Phoenix has included: investigating how heavier objects take more force to move along, and finding out the best material for a car to travel along; why the trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – is important to Christians, and why some people are baptised; dribbling and passing a football confidently and accurately in PE; and studying some of the artwork of L.S. Lowry finishing with creating our own artwork in his style. Phew!

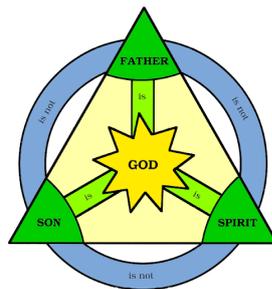
I hope the children have a well-deserved Christmas break and we'll see you all bright and fresh in 2022.

Best wishes

Mr Osler



pillory



The Magic Finger



CHAMELEON CLASS END OF TERM 2 NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another fantastic term for us in Chameleon class.

We started the term off with a virtual fire safety visit, where we learned the common causes of fires and how to avoid starting a fire. The children enjoyed becoming fire investigation experts!

In English, the children enjoyed 'The True Story of the Three Little Pigs' and wrote newspaper reports using reporter style language. The children learned how to use design tools on Word to make them look just like newspapers too – hopefully they brought a copy home for you to see!



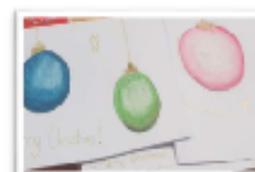
This term, Chameleons took part in the remembrance service as well as being responsible for selling poppies. They did a super job! Our thanks to Reverend Richard Priest for leading a very moving service where the children showed our school value of respect beautifully.

Our topic of 'Crime and Punishment' has been extremely interesting (if a little gruesome) and I think we all feel pleased not to live during the Tudor, Saxon, Roman or Greek times! Your Chameleon children should be able to tell you all about the unfair Anglo-Saxon trials, severe Tudor punishments, or how Greek punishments involved animals...

In other lessons, the children have learned to control their balances carefully in gymnastics, to create platform games using code in Scratch, investigated different forces, and created some excellent artwork in the style of Lowry, using just the five colours that Lowry used. Some of our fabulous footballers enjoyed participating in a tournament in Corsham, where they again showed respect brilliantly and were a real credit to you. Even the bus driver was impressed!



Towards the end of term, Christmas spirit has definitely been high in Chameleon class with paper chains galore, carol singing and gorgeous watercolour Christmas cards – not to mention the amazing stories of elf antics we hear each morning!



Thank you parents and carers as always for supporting with homework, reading at home, cheering on your Times Tables Rockstars champions (I will beat them one day...) and to all involved in the fantastic Christmas and cake raffles.

We hope you have a restful Christmas break and will see you next term, ready to start our new topic of 'Healthy Humans'. A huge thank you for the very kind gifts and cards. 😊

Mrs Webster & Mrs Flynn