



Godolphin Primary School
'living, learning and laughing together'

Newsletter Issue 16

14/01/2022

Newsletter available on our website

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has certainly been a busy couple of weeks back in school. The children seem to have been busy and enjoyed their learning.

I also hope you have all had a chance to read the Ofsted report that we emailed out on Tuesday? I feel proud and privileged to be the Executive Headteacher of such a great school, and would once again like to thank all our pupils and their families for their continued support, and the staff and Governors for their continued hard work.

I would also like to thank those parents and carers who have contacted me, or spoken to me personally, to pass on their congratulations. Your thanks and kind words is much appreciated.

As always, if you have any queries or concerns at any time, please contact me.

Many thanks, Lucy

Covid-19 Update:

Please can we remind all parents that if your child tests positive with Covid (either following a negative lateral flow test or a PCR test) **you must inform the school**. We then have a duty to write to parents to advise them of a positive case within the school, and confirm that track and trace will be in touch if their child is deemed as a close contact.

We continue with all our additional hygiene measures and protocols in order to minimise the risks. However, if we have 5 cases, or more, confirmed within the school community, the DfE would consider this an outbreak and additional measures would be put in place.

Attendance:

Attendance at school is vital, and the statutory attendance legislation makes it clear that children are expected to attend school every day to ensure they benefit fully from their education. Consequently, we monitor attendance carefully.

Therefore, schools have a legal responsibility to keep parents informed regarding their child's attendance especially in cases where attendance falls below the national expectations. Prior to Covid, we would have regularly contacted parents whose children were falling below this threshold, to better understand the reasons and provide support where necessary.

The Educational Welfare Team has now advised us, that we should return to our pre-Covid attendance procedures. We appreciate that we do have families that have been, and continue to be, affected by Covid, and other illnesses, and this will impact on a child's attendance. We also fully understand that some absences are unavoidable. But, it is important we work together to try to ensure our children have the best possible chance of success whilst at school.

However, we still have a duty to inform parents of situations where attendance is falling below the national average, regardless of the reasons.

Consequently, we will be writing to parents next week whose child(ren) have attendance below the national average. If you do receive a letter, or you wish to discuss anything regarding your child's attendance, please let us know.

Many thanks.

Spare Clothes request:

Please can we have any old spare clothes for accidents - especially age 4/5, 5/6 . We desperately need tights and socks (boys or girls).

Important Diary Dates:

Year 6 Bikeability: Week commencing 17th January

KS2 (Y3,4,5&6) Show (provisional date): Thursday 27th January 2022 (more details overleaf)

Reception Vision Screening: Thursday 3rd February (taking place during school time)

Half-term: Monday 21st–Friday 25th February

2020/21 Inset Days:

- 25th & 26th July 2022

Census Day:

Census Day is next Thursday (20th January). The menu will stay the same (week 3), as pasty's are always a very popular choice.

Changes to the self-isolation period for those who test positive for COVID-19:

From Monday 17 January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to their education or childcare setting immediately on day 6.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).

If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

General reminders:

Diamond Class and ALL Year 2's swimming: Please remember to bring your swimming kit. Preferred payment method is ParentPay.

PE Kit: PE Kits should be in school every day. If you do take it home, please ensure it comes back into school the next day.

Music Lessons: Piano and woodwind (Tuesdays) and guitar (Wednesdays) have started. Please ensure you have your music and instruments.

Outstanding payments: A reminder to pay any outstanding payments for Zircon swimming lessons and cricket club (Y2-6), on ParentPay.

Google Classrooms and remote learning:

Google Classrooms have been set up for all children. Please ensure all children have accepted the invitation and joined their new 2021/22 classrooms.

This is particularly important in case your child has to self-isolate for a period, as we will be using Google Classroom to set any remote learning.

Please contact Mrs Thomas if you require any support in setting accounts up or joining the Google Classroom.

Rugby & Ball Skills Club:

Wednesdays: 3.15-4.30pm (Y3-6)

- 26th January
- 2nd February
- 9th February
- 16th February

- 2nd March
- 9th March
- 16th March
- 23rd March
- 30th March
- 6th April

Please can children bring in separate clothing (instead of PE kit). Football boots are recommended (speak to Mr Snook if you need to borrow a pair). Tracksuits are also a good idea when it is cold and wet!

A note from the School Governors:

We hope that you have all had a chance to read through our recent Ofsted Report. It is a huge achievement to receive such a positive report in the current climate and we hope you are as pleased as we are with the result. At a time when the bar seems to have been set higher than ever, we are delighted by both the overall grade, but also with the detail in the comments provided and the many strengths that were identified at Godolphin.

During the inspection, the inspectors met with members of staff, governors, trustees, parents and pupils as well as observing lessons in progress.

Alongside aiming for progress for each child academically, Godolphin also values the importance of helping the children to become well-balanced adults and responsible citizens. It was lovely to hear from the Ofsted inspectors that the children demonstrated good behaviour, were respectful and that they understood the importance of responsibility, resilience and independence but also that they enjoy school and have positive attitudes to their learning.

Another strength noted was our staff and leaders. Our staff work well together as a team in planning the curriculum and monitoring how children are progressing. As a result, all the staff know each child as an individual which helps build our sense of community. The inspectors commented on the strong relationships between pupils and adults at the school and also with the wider community.

We would like to thank parents who took the time to speak to inspectors or complete the parent survey, we really appreciate your support. We would also like to thank our brilliant children who absolutely did us proud!

The last two years have been exceptionally challenging for schools and this report is testament to all the hard work and dedication our staff team have invested not only in educating, but also in motivating, nurturing and inspiring our children. On behalf of the governors, we would like to say a huge thank-you to all the staff for all they do to provide such a fantastic learning environment for our children.

Emerald Class Update:

The children have come back to school eager to learn lots of new things!

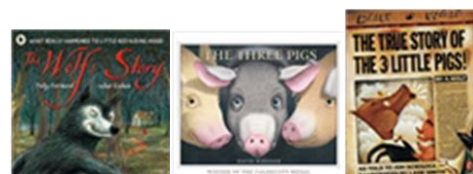
This half term our focus is on shapes and the Beatrix Potter stories. We will also be learning about Florence Nightingale too.

Just to remind you that reading books will be changed on Mondays for Y2's, Wednesday's for Y1's and Friday's for Reception. Please can all children have their choosing books with them on Fridays.

Diamond Class Update:

This term the theme for the Diamond Class is Raiders and Traders. We shall be learning about the Anglo Saxons for the first half term followed by the Vikings (topic web to be found on the website). This week we identified where the Anglo Saxons are on our British History Timeline making connections with historical events that we have previously learned about, such as The Great Fire of London, the Stone Age, and more recently, Mary Anning from the Victorian times.

Our first unit in English this term is Alternative Fairy Tales and we have enjoyed sharing a number of alternative versions written from a different perspective.



Congratulations to Bren, Isla, Elowen, Libby, Maia and Grace for earning their pen licence this week. They have shown **consistency** in their handwriting including; sitting letters on the line with appropriate ascenders and descenders, forming letters accurately in a consistent size, representing and using upper and lower case letters accurately, and using appropriate finger spaces. We hope to award more licences in the coming weeks.

KS2 Show:

We're delighted that we can go ahead with the KS2 Show, which is taking place in The Old Chapel in the village.

However, given the ongoing situation with Covid-19, we are adhering to the current guidance and having to reduce the number of people we can have in the audience to allow for appropriate social distancing between seats. The hall will be fully ventilated (so dress in warm clothes)!

The audience will be expected to wear a face-covering at all times, unless they are exempt.

People will be allocated a seat on a first come, first serve basis. Therefore, please don't arrive early, as you will be informed of your seat number on arrival and guided by staff to your allocated seat.

Please do not attend any performance if you have any Covid-19 symptoms.

Cornwall Public Health team suggest a minimum recommendation of anyone attending a school event to test with a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) in advance.

To allow for social distancing we are limiting **each family to two tickets only.**

There are three performances:

- Thursday 27th January at 1.30pm
- Thursday 27th January at 6.00pm
- Friday 28th January at 10.30am

Your child will be expected to perform in all three shows.

Please can you email Mrs Thomas and specify which show(s) you would like to attend. You can either have one ticket for two different shows, or two tickets for only one of the shows.

Given these extra precautions there will be between 20-40 tickets per show (dependent on whether people book single tickets, or double tickets for a show). Tickets will be allocated on first come, first serve basis. Therefore, if you are able to be flexible, please let us know so we can accommodate as many people as possible.

We will keep you updated on any changes to the guidance which may affect our plans.

Zircon Class Update:

The Zircons have had a busy start to the new term and have been working exceptionally hard.

In English, we have been learning about persuasive writing, focusing on magazine and TV advertisements. The children have really enjoyed writing and recording adverts of their own which they are hoping to share with the other classes to assess how persuasive they are.

Our topic work this term is centered around invaders and settlers, starting with the Anglo-Saxons. This has involved placing significant dates concerning the Anglo-Saxons on a timeline of British history, making connections to prior learning. The class has discussed why invasions are not always unpopular and why settlers are not always welcome.

Over the next few weeks, we shall be learning about Anglo-Saxon invasions, including the routes, kingdoms, ancient roads, warriors and historical sources that we use to understand them.

In PE, the children are receiving street dance and cricket skill lessons from specialist coaches.

Lost cat:

This cat was found in the road on Wednesday 12th January between Godolphin House and the village. Please message Jaz (jasminodell@hotmail.co.uk) if she belongs to you, or someone you know.

