



### **Weekly Update: 22nd October 2021**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had high levels of attendance at our parents' evenings this week- the teachers really enjoyed the chance to talk with you and share their knowledge of your child/ren- I hope you found the meetings useful. If you have missed your meeting, please contact us after half-term and we will be able to arrange an alternative date.

This week the children have had on-line safety lessons, and the younger children enjoyed a special assembly with myself. The younger children have been learning about what to do if something unexpected or upsetting happens whilst they are on-line ('Tell someone!') and the older children learned about reliability on-line, developing their critical thinking skills to question the motives behind what they see. By focusing first on commercial influences (e.g. advertising) it helped them explore trust online and challenged their personal responses when engaging with the wider digital world.

As part of our PSHE curriculum, the local PCSOs met with the children in assembly today to talk about keeping safe at half term, focusing on safety at Halloween. It is really important to us that the pupils hear different voices talking about 'keeping safe'. (As a parent myself, I know my children will often listen better to someone else!).

#### **Swimming**

Blenheim class have completed their last week of swimming lessons- the feedback from the Huish Pool tutors has been really positive; they commented on how organised the school was and that they were impressed with the children both with their behaviour and their progress. Thank you to Tina Geary who has given her time voluntarily to teach one of the groups. Camelot class swimming lessons will start on the 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

#### **Football shin pads**

Many children enjoy lunchtime football in Gala, Discovery, Camelot and Blenheim classes- please can the children who play football keep some shin pads in their school bags so they can be worn for protection.

#### **Attendance**

It has been pleasing to see since I last mentioned 'lates' in this weekly update, the number of pupils arriving late has reduced considerably. Please remember that being late can lead to your child:

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Mrs Ali Pook

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- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons making them fall behind
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day
- Learning bad habits which could affect their employability in the future

The impact of being just a little late can accumulate to a loss in learning time

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 mins	3.4 days
10 mins	6.9 days
15 mins	10.3 days
20 mins	13.8 days
30 mins	20.7 days

**Term-time absence:** Please complete an absence request form if you plan for your child to be absent during the school term. There is no automatic right to absence for a family holiday. Authorisation will depend on whether the application meets the Local Authority 'Exceptional Circumstances' criteria. Permission must be applied for in advance, by a parent with whom the child normally lives. Parents whose children are on a school register have a duty to ensure that their children attend regularly and if they fail to do so they may be guilty of an offence under the Education Act, 1993. You can find our absence request form on our website.

### Shoe Box Appeal

We are joining forces with St Andrew's Church in their Christmas charitable work with the 'Shoebbox Appeal'. Despite the difficulties that they face every day, through poverty, illness, disability, or other disadvantages, receiving a shoebox brings such joy to children and adults in Eastern Europe. If you are interested in filling a Christmas Shoebbox with gifts, please would you download the leaflet with list of items etc. from the Blythswood Care website at: [blythswood.org/shoebboxappeal](http://blythswood.org/shoebboxappeal). We have to use the flat packed shoeboxes provided by the charity- these can be collected from Ginny Smith who can be contacted on 01458 250997. The school can supply these boxes after half term.

I will also make leaflets available to those children who are interested. Your filled boxes can be delivered to school 12<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> November (After the half term break). Please note that this is a completely voluntary activity.

### Peer-to-Peer Abuse

This is a very important part of a document called 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' which is at the heart of our Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy.

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At Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School & Little Pips Nursery:

- We have a zero tolerance approach to all types of abuse. Incidents are taken seriously. These will never be tolerated or passed off as 'banter', 'just having a laugh' or 'part of growing up'.
- Banter and teasing should be acknowledged and recognised as bullying behaviour and may require proportionate intervention.
- We aim to mitigate the risk of contributing to a culture of unacceptable behaviours or a culture that normalises abuse through education and reflective learning.
- Peer-on-peer abuse may reflect equality issues in terms of those who may be targeted are more likely to have protected characteristics.
- Early identification of vulnerability to peer-on-peer abuse is made by reviewing attendance, behaviour, attainment and safeguarding records at least on a termly basis.

There are clear systems in place for pupils to report any abuse knowing their concerns will be treated seriously and respectfully.

Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School & Little Pips Nursery will handle initial reports of abuse by:

- Securing the immediate safety of pupils involved in an incident and sourcing support for other young people affected.
- Listening carefully to the child, being non-judgmental, being clear about boundaries and how the report will be progressed, not asking leading questions and only prompting the child where necessary with open questions - where, when, what, etc.
- ensuring that victims will never be given the impression that they are creating a problem by reporting abuse, sexual violence, or sexual harassment. They will never be made to feel ashamed for making a report.
- Ensuring the child's wishes are taken into consideration in any intervention and any action is taken to ensure safety of the target and other members of the wider peer cohort.
- Not promising confidentiality as it is highly likely that information will need to be shared with others.

We take our responsibilities for keeping our children safe very seriously. If as parents/carers you have any concerns please contact us: Mrs Ali Pook and Miss Hollie Westlake are the Designated Safeguarding Leads for the school and nursery.

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## PTA Fundraiser



**Turn your Childs art into lovely**

**Christmas gifts!!**

The PTA are using 'My Childs Art' this Christmas, and your child can create a fabulous Christmas drawing, which you can then access easily online and order: Christmas cards, Mugs, Tea Towels, Magnets, Keyrings, Coasters and many more items.

There will be a 10% discount online, and the school PTA receive 20% commission on all orders!!

### Important Instructions:

- Use the Artwork sheet provided (don't use other paper as the scanner will not recognise the artwork)
- Parent / Carer to fill in the school name and Childs name clearly in the boxes at the top.
- All drawings must be portrait (not landscape) and within the white space area.
- USE ONLY: FELT TIP PENS, OR PAINT AND BRIGHT COLOURS
- DO NOT USE: GLITTER, PENCILS, COLLAGE, CRAYONS, OR METALLIC PENS
- RETURN COMPLETED DRAWINGS TO SCHOOL

**YOU MUST RETURN YOUR  
CHILDS DRAWING TO  
SCHOOL BY MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup>  
NOVEMBER**

(Unfortunately late drawings  
cannot be included)



## Curry Rival Cycle/Footpath Event- Save the date!

# CURRY RIVAL CYCLE/ FOOTPATH

## Initial Findings

### Village Hall, Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.

Any time from 3.30 - 6.45 pm

- See the different routes under consideration
- Talk to our advisers and the working group
  - Tell us what you think
- Ideas for traffic calming and safety around the village
  - Refreshments available

For more details contact  
Tony Greenaway Tel. 07563900646  
Email: [tgreenaway51@gmail.com](mailto:tgreenaway51@gmail.com)

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## **Awards**

It was wonderful to welcome parents/carers to our celebration assembly today. We are all so proud of the following pupils:

### **Class Cup Awards**

Pippin: Ailsa

Maigold: Darcy J

Gala: Dylan

Discovery: Toby W

Camelot: Teon

Blenheim: Kyron

### **Running Rockstars (Daily Mile)**

Pippin: Liam

Discovery: Ethan

Camelot: Harriet

Blenheim: Jess

### **Lunchtime stars**

Pippin: Jake

Maigold: Bobby

Camelot: Tyler

### **Accelerated Reader Reading Stars:**

Clemmie (Discovery) for gaining 10 points in one week

Jaylon (Blenheim) for achieving 11 quizzes in one week

**Internet Safety Certificate:** Sebastian (Gala)

### **Dates for your diary**

25th- 29th October: Half term

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Monday 1st November: PTA Christmas cards closing date

Friday 5th November: Democracy day

Friday 19th November: Children in Need Non-Uniform (MUFTI) Day

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December: Year 6 SATS information evening for parents

w/b 6th December: Assessment week

Thursday 9th December: Christingle Service TBC

Friday 10th December: Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children/ PTA 'Mall' shopping day

Monday 13th December: Closing date for Christmas colouring competition

Tuesday 14th December (2pm start TBC): Reception, Year 1 and 2 Nativity

Wednesday 15th December (6pm start TBC): Reception, Year 1 and 2 Nativity and PTA Raffle Draw

Thursday 16th December: Christmas Dinner

Friday 17th December: Christmas Carol Service. Last day of term.

Tuesday 4th January: INSET Day

Monday 6th June: Additional Day for the Queen's Jubilee

Monday 25 July: INSET Day

Tuesday 26 July: INSET Day

### Well-being tip of the week

Enjoy the half term break! 2. Hug a tree. Yes, seriously! Give it a go. You can check that nobody is watching! (Recommended by Bill Bailey, last year's winner of Strictly Come Dancing!) At least find a tree and take time to look at it, to listen, to touch the bark, to simply stop and focus your busy mind on the natural world, perhaps say a prayer of thanks and hope for our natural world.

Have a restful half-term.

Ali Pook

Head Teacher

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