



Weekly Update: 4th December 2020

On Monday of this week, the children learned about St Andrew to mark 'St Andrew's Day'; they learned about his life, his links to Scotland and about the Saltire (St Andrew's cross). This is a special day for us given our close links with St Andrew's church. Reception and Key Stage One pupils have been preparing for their recorded nativity performance and we have all been marking advent through our daily 'acts of kindness' E.g. Pay a compliment to someone today (I wondered why so many children mentioned how lovely my hair was looking!).

COVID UPDATE

Covid out of hours - If you or your child have a COVID positive result, contact the headteacher immediately on alpook@educ.somerset.gov.uk. Leave a contact number in your message and I will respond quickly. Thank you.

Christmas holidays: Schools have been advised that they will not need to have a point of contact for contact tracing purposes from 7 days after the end of term (25 December in most cases) until the end of the holiday period. I will update you again before the end of term.

Assessments/Phonics Screening

Gala class are completing their phonics screening over a period of a week- the children have worked really hard to 'catch-up'. All classes will be completing end of term assessments next week- this will provide us with vital information on children's progress and any gaps we need to fill.

Yesterday the Department for Education announced the following:

Primary assessment

To recognise the challenges that primary schools are facing, primary assessments in summer 2021 will focus on assessments in phonics, English reading and writing, and mathematics. The key stage 1 tests in English reading and mathematics, and the English grammar, punctuation and spelling tests at key stage 1 and 2, will be removed for one year. There will also be no requirement to undertake and report on teacher assessments in science at either key stage. In addition, the introduction of the multiplication tables check will be postponed a further year, whilst still enabling schools to use it on an optional basis.

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We are also enabling schools to take a more flexible approach to the administration of the key stage 2 tests, and the phonics screening check, by extending the original timetable variation windows by a further week until 26 May and 25 June respectively.

Christmas Reminders

Tuesday 9th December: Closing date for colouring competition

Thursday 10th December: Launch of Christingles (Each child to receive items to come home to make a Christingle- suggested donation of £1 for the Children's Society)

Friday 11th December: Christmas Jumper Day (£1 voluntary contribution for Save the Children) and Colouring Competition Winner announcement

Monday 14th December: Christmas Hamper Draw

Week beginning 14th December: 'Elf and Fitness' PE inter-house competition

On-going from 7th December: Recording of the Reception/KS 1 Nativity

Thursday 17th December: Christmas Dinner Day

From Monday, the Curry Rivel Primary Christmas postal system will be in place - please can children remember to write the name and class on each Christmas card envelope. (Deliveries on the last day of term. Cards will be appropriately quarantined before being given to the children.

If you are looking for an on-line Christmas service:

This is a Christingle Service filmed by the Exmoor Youth Project for the schools in Minehead and Exmoor Deanery <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wcyk4Jxn4d4>

The Children's Society are doing a live Christingle service on Sunday Dec 13th here is the Facebook link <https://www.facebook.com/events/2695266214024562/>

Here is a video of a Christingle service by the Rev Dan from St Marys Church Haydock in the Liverpool diocese https://youtu.be/7X5xCc_cBs



Please note that Christmas dinner orders have now been made.

Attendance

94 of our children have 100% attendance this term- fantastic! All parents/carers will be receiving a letter next week summarising pupil attendance.

PE

Mr Bridgeman will be organising an 'Elf and Fitness' inter-house competition during the last week of term. In PE lessons, children are invited to wear an Elf hat (or Christmas hat) and take part in festive inter-house races and challenges.

Winter Doors

Winter Doors is an online festival fundraiser for Mind UK, organised by one of our families. It works like an alternative advent calendar but features one artist at work everyday. The line up is an eclectic mix of family and friends and features well known festival bands and artists, national and local artists, up and coming talent and a special auction of a unique piece of art work created for the festival by Julian Taylor the artist who made the Hillsborough Memorial Sculpture. People working in the arts and events industry have been hit hard by this year's events and so this festival showcases the talent and hardwork within that industry and reminds us of how important the arts are to all our of collective wellbeing and mental strength. Many artists have contributed performances made especially for this festival and all have contributed their time for free in order to support the work Mind does. All are welcome to watch the festival, it's free and donations are welcome.

You can find out more on Facebook @winterdoorsfestival where there is a donate link. You can follow their blog [Winter Doors Festival](#) which also has a link to a 'just giving' page.

Awards

Class Cup

Pippin: Maisy

Maigold: Anna

Gala: Noah

Discovery: Oliver

Camelot: Zach



Blenheim: Billy

Playtime awards

Pippin: Azalea

Maigold: Emily

Gala: Stanley

Discovery: Jasper

Camelot: Katie

Blenheim: Isobelle

Headteacher awards:

Miila (Gala); Sophia E (Camelot); Millie (Maigold)

50 merit awards:

Rosie, Mia Y, Alfie J, Thomas C, Jaylon, Jamie HM

Well-being tip

Advent has begun. Using some post its, pegs or your amazing creativity make yourself an advent calendar of wellbeing! Write yourself a treat for every day, something that you will enjoy and that is achievable, perhaps something you might need a nudge to actually do. Mix up the papers so they come up randomly and really enjoy your mini treat every day as we prepare for Christmas. Encourage friends and family to do the same, produce one for your team to print, cut out and use, check in to see how others are getting on with their treats because they are important.

Have a restful weekend.

Ali Pook

Head Teacher

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