

HUISH EPISCOPI PRIMARY NEWS



From Minecraft to
Mud Kitchens!



From the Head of School:

Winter is here and we are hoping all the nasty germs and bugs that have been passing around the school will now disappear! On that note, please ensure the children have a warm coat (hat and gloves) for playtimes and suitable clothing for outdoor PE.

We are incredibly excited that we came second in the Bags of Help Scheme and will now start working on plans to develop our Outdoor Learning provision. A huge thank you to everyone who supported us and well done to Mrs Susie Score and all those who worked so hard to develop the bid. We are incredibly grateful to the team at Tesco who continue to support the school in so many ways.

We will be singing outside Tesco on Wednesday, 13 December between 9.30am-10.30am— all money raised will be used to purchase new books for the children to read.

In our continued bid to develop a passion for reading in all our pupils, the children have been visiting Langport library. It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm and excitement generated by such a wide range of books and we would encourage all families to make use of this fabulous resource. The library will do their best to get books in if they are not already there.

And finally, there's a buzzword around school – 'courage' has hit Huish Episcopi Primary School and every day we see evidence of more and more children pushing themselves out of their comfort zones and being prepared to have a go. Well done children and keep up the hard work. (Mrs Dennis)

Staff News

As parents of Aller Class already know, **Miss Wicks** has been away for several weeks due to ill health and has since taken the tough decision to resign so will be leaving us this term. We have been

very lucky to have secured the services of a long term supply teacher, **Miss Elodie Carson**, who will be teaching Aller pupils until Christmas. The recruitment process is underway to appoint a permanent teacher from January and we will, of course, update you as soon as we have more information. (Mrs Barraclough)

School News

Children in Need

We should like to thank all the parents/carers and pupils for donating £290.41 to Children in Need.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Yesterday, we were told that our school community had raised a fantastic £175.56 for the Appeal. This is the most we have raised for many years. A huge thank you to all of you who donated. Special thanks to our Year 6 'Poppy Sellers'—**Sam, Erin & Kyla**— who made this possible by standing in the playground in all weathers with the trays of poppies, wristbands, reflectors, friendship bracelets & snap bands.

Tesco Bags of Help

As Mrs Dennis' has already mentioned, we have just heard that the school came second in the Bags of Help scheme which means we shall be receiving £2,000.00 towards our outdoor learning and Forest School project! We are so excited and should like to thank all of you who put those blue tokens in the school's box in Tesco, Langport during September and October. We are so grateful and should also like to thank Neil, Dawn and the community team at the store for their continued support. (Mrs Score)

Christmas Jumper Day - 15 December

On Friday, 15 December, Mrs Pengelly is again inviting all pupils and staff to wear a Christmas jumper to school in return for a £1.00 donation to Save the Children where every pound raised can really help save children's lives. If you don't have a

Christmas jumper then wear a silly top or daft woollie by decorating a normal top with Christmas tinsel etc! 'Go on! Make the World Better with a Sweater.' (Mrs Pengelly)

Christmas Lunch—19 December

On Tuesday, 19 December we shall be having our annual Christmas Lunch for **ALL** pupils. There will be roast turkey and all the trimmings followed by chocolate Yule log or a mince pie (or fruit/yoghurt) with a vegetarian option of brie & cranberry parcels. The lunch will be given to **all** the children in Parrett, Aller and Sedgemoor as they are entitled to Universal Free School Meals. It will also be given to those children in Northmoor, Isle and Kingsmoor who are entitled to free school meals. We should like to encourage all other children to order a meal (£2.50) so please look out for the order forms which will come home in your child's book bag early next week. Any queries please see Mrs Sams in the School Office.

Christmas Carol Service—21 December

We should like to invite all parents/carers/family members to our annual Carol Service which will be held in St Mary's Church, Huish Episcopi on the last day of term, **Thursday, 21 December** starting at **11.15am**. The service will last no longer than 45 mins-one hour when the children and staff will walk back to school. Term will finish at 3.30pm as normal that afternoon.

Class News

Parrett, Aller & Sedgemoor Class News

Letters went out yesterday, along with costume requirements, about their forthcoming Nativity Performances on 12 & 13 December.

Parrett Class

The children have enjoyed exploring the new mud kitchen. They have been using some fantastic mathematical language and creating potions in imaginative play! (Miss Cardwell)



Aller Class News

Aller Class have been exploring the animal kingdom and learning how to group animals by their features. They are now particularly good at identifying mammals. They have been enjoying our class book 'Dear Greenpeace' and writing their own letters to Arthur the Whale, who was spotted swimming in the school pond! Arthur was so impressed with their written skills that he made a special visit to the class.

(Miss Carson)

Isle Class News

Isle Class are still focussing on the fiction book, Flotsam, and have been using similes to enhance their writing. In the classroom, they have created a simile display which consists of sea creatures that have been caught in a fishing net. They are using these ideas within their writing. In addition, they are working hard on their reading comprehension skills of skimming, scanning and deducing to answers questions on their different texts.



AND (!) Isle Class have undertaken the 100 word challenge competition. They have had to write a very short story about their favourite toy in 100 words. This has been quite challenging and they have had to edit and re-edit to get their stories down to 100 words. (Mr Clements)

Kingsmoor Class News

As part of their transition programme for moving up to secondary school next September, our Year 6 pupils will be visited by Mrs Robinson from Huish Academy next Friday, 8 December. During March or April, the pupils will also be invited to a 'Treasure Hunt' at the Academy after school on a Thursday (actual date to be confirmed) to enable them to get to know the school. On Wednesday, 4 July 2018, all Year 6 pupils will be invited to an Induction Day at the secondary school (invitation letters will follow in the Summer Term) so please note the date in your diaries.

Minecraft Club

Our twelve members of the Minecraft Club have been busy creating and have taken part in a quick build task. We should like to congratulate



Emma-Jane who completed her quick build task of a penguin and came an incredible second out of 152 schools taking part. Well done! See Emma-Jane's penguin on page 1. (Mr Welch)

Sports News

Afterschool Clubs

Afterschool Clubs have been very well attended this term with children having a go at football, gymnastics, dodgeball and running. The most popular club has been dodgeball which all the

children have thoroughly enjoyed.

The letter about After School Clubs for the Spring Term 2018 will be issued in the first week of term with clubs starting w/c 15 January 2018. (Mrs Ramwell)

Sports News

This term has seen many children represent their school in several different sports. The children have shown a real determination to do well and improve, as well as being fantastic team members. They have taken part in football, cross country, indoor athletics and badminton. Well done to everyone who has represented the school so far! (Mrs Ramwell)

Basketball Taster Session

Huish Academy is holding a Basketball Taster Session for any interested pupils in Years 5 and 6 on Friday, 8 December 2017 from 4.00-6.00pm. You will need to take your child if they want to go.

Safeguarding

Pedestrian Crossing

We have been very concerned about the bad driving of some of the car drivers in Langport recently, as we are aware that many do not stop at the crossing when members of the school community are waiting to cross. Please ensure that cars have come to a complete stop before you and your children start to walk across, for your own safety. We have spoken to our local police officers asking them to monitor the crossing and hope this will educate the drivers about being safer around the crossing.

SAFEGUARDING

Don't think
"What if I'm wrong"
Think...
"What if I am right"

If you have any concerns about a pupil you should report this to a member of staff immediately.

If you feel a pupil is at risk or a subject of abuse you must contact the Designated Safeguarding Leads immediately.



Designated Safeguarding Lead:

Mrs Zoe Dennis (photo R)

Deputy DSL:

Mrs Joan Meredith (photo L)



**Safeguarding & Child Protection
Governor:**
Mrs Lou Ward

PFA News

Activities coming up include:

12 & 13 Dec: PFA's annual raffle at the Nativity Performances; please bring along some pennies!

19 Dec: Santa's Grotto during Christmas Party time in the afternoon.

25 Jan: Northmoor Class School Uniform Sale.

22 Feb: Sedgemoor Class Toy Sale

22 Mar: Aller Class Soft Toy Sale

26 Apr: Parrett Class Cake Sale

Look out for further details in the next newsletter or join their FB page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/884897964932912/>

To contact the PFA in general please contact Emma Cook on 07927 398277 or via email:

emmamark34@hotmail.co.uk.

Community Notices

Langport Area Refugee Action (LARA)

LARA is collecting essential supplies for refugees: clothes, bedding, toiletries and baby items, even tents, torches, rucksacks etc as long as they are in good condition. Please take your donations to The Angel, Bow Street, Langport between 10.00am-3.00pm Wednesday-Saturday. Donations are taken every week to RAFT (Refugee Aid From Taunton) to be sent out to refugees abroad. Thank you.

Carymoor Environmental Trust

Sun 10 Dec 1.30pm-3.30pm **Green Christmas Crafts:** an afternoon of festive creativity; Wed 3 & Thurs 4 Jan 9.00am-4.00pm: Go **WILD @Carymoor!:** enjoy outdoor adventures, woodland crafts, campfires, winter conservation tasks and much, much more; Fri 5 Jan 10.00am-12 noon **Mad about Mammals!:** join our Future Field Naturalist Club and discover more about British mammals! Charges apply.

Booking essential: 01963 351350 or e-mail education@carymoor.org.uk; www.carymoor.org.uk

Langport Community Christmas Lunch

On Christmas Day, Monday 25 December, a small group of local folk will be offering a traditional Christmas lunch and good company to anyone who may be spending Christmas Day on their own. Transport will be available if needed. Please ring to book (or if you can offer help on the day) by contacting Jo Stradling on 01458 252388 or email jostrads@yahoo.com.

Diary Dates: (Updates in red)

Monday, 4 December: Parrett Class visiting Langport Library; 9.30am.

Thursday, 7 December: Isle Class (9.30am) & Sedgemoor Class (11.00am) visiting Langport Library.

Friday, 8 December: Mrs Robinson, Huish Academy visiting Year 6 pupils.

Monday, 11 December: 'Wind in the Willows' production; Image Theatre; morning; School Hall; all pupils.

Tuesday, 12 December: KS1 (Parrett, Aller & Sedgemoor) Nativity Performance; 2.00pm; School Hall.

Wednesday, 13 December: Carols at Tesco, Langport; all classes singing to raise funds for Literacy; 9.30am-10.30am.

Wednesday, 13 December: KS1 (Parrett, Aller & Sedgemoor) Nativity Performance; 6.00pm; School Hall.

Friday, 15 December: Christmas Jumper Day!

Monday, 18 December: Isle Class Carol Singing at Portcullis House; 1.45pm-3.00pm.

Tuesday, 19 December: Whole School Christmas Lunch; School Hall; pm class parties with the PFA's Santa's Grotto.

Thursday, 21 December: Carol Service, St Mary's Church, Huish Episcopi; **service starts at 11.15am (pupils to return to school afterwards for rest of the day);** Term Ends at 3.30 pm.

Spring Term 2018:

Monday, 8 January 2018: Term Starts.

Thursday, 25 January: PFA Northmoor Class School Uniform Sale.

Tuesday, 6 February: Safer Internet Day.

Friday, 9 February: INSET (Staff Training Day) - no children in school please!

w/c 12 February: Half Term.

Thursday, 22 February: PFA Sedgemoor Class Toy Sale.

Wednesday, 1 March: World Book Day

w/c 5 March: 'Book People' Book Fair this week.

Friday, 16 March: KS2 Showcase Performance, Huish Academy Auditorium; evening (more details to follow).

w/c 19 March: Sport Relief Week.

Monday, 19 & Wednesday, 21 March: Parents' Consultation Evenings; 4.00pm-7.00pm.

Thursday, 22 March: Wessex Water Assembly.

Thursday, 22 March: PFA Aller Class Soft Toy Sale.

Friday, 23 March: Term Ends at 3.30pm.

Summer Term 2018:

Monday, 9 April: Term Starts

Thursday, 12 April: Tempest Photography; Class Photos.

Thursday, 26 April: PFA Parrett Class Cake Sale.

Monday, 7 May: Bank Holiday (school closed).

Monday, 14 May: Aller Class Trip to Gore Farm, Trent.

w/c 28 May: Half Term.

Friday, 22 June: Levels Academy Trust Olympic Sports Day, Yeovil Athletics Arena.

Wednesday, 4 July: Year 6 Induction Day at Huish Academy.

Friday, 20 July: Term Ends

Sports Match Dates 2018:

Thursday, 18 January: Cross Country; Huish Academy 2.00-3.00pm.

Monday, 22 January: Hockey Taster Festival; Huish Academy; 4.00pm-6.00pm.

Tuesday, 6 February: Basketball Competition; Huish Academy; 4.00pm-5.30pm.

More dates to follow.

After School Clubs:

Mondays: Football Club with Mr Akers (4 Dec until 4.15pm) for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. **Lego Club** with Miss Cardwell (4 Dec) for Years 1 & 2. **Chess Club** with Mr Clements & Mrs Ramwell (all term; lunchtime) for Isle Class.

Homework Club with Mr Welch.

Tuesdays: Dodgeball with Mrs Ramwell (5 Dec) for Years 4, 5 & 6.

Homework Club with Mr Welch.

Wednesdays: Gymnastics with Premier Sports (6 Dec) for Years 3, 4, & 5.

Homework Club with Miss Whelan.

Thursdays: Running with Mrs Ramwell (7 Dec) for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Computing with Mr Stevens (all term; lunchtime) for Years 1 & 2.

Year 6 SATs Maths Booster Session with Mrs Spencer (all term; 3.30pm-4.30pm).

Fridays: There are not any clubs on a Friday.

All clubs run from 3.30pm until 4.30pm unless otherwise stated. Please contact Mrs Ramwell.

Autumn Term Free Reading Fridays:

15 December.

2017-2018 INSET Days:

Friday, 9 February 2018; Monday, 23 & Tuesday, 24 July 2018.

Next Issues of this Newsletter:

15 Dec 2017; 19 Jan, 2 Feb, 23 Feb, 9 Mar 7 23 Mar 2018



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