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# NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well. What a week we have had with exciting learning opportunities being had by both children throughout the school and the Senior Leadership Team.

This week our Reception children took part in their first school trip with each class visiting Queen Elizabeth County Park as part of their 'Into the Woods' theme. Having had the pleasure of going with Potter class and having a taster of what all the children would undertake, I am delighted to say that all three trips were a massive success, the children were impeccably well behaved, had a lot of fun exploring the woods looking at all the different colours, textures and materials they could find and then creating their own piece of Andy Goldsworthy inspired Art out of nature.

Back in school, Year 4 had their Anglo-Saxon day, which was great fun. It involved dressing up, learning about the Anglo-Saxons and taking part in a variety of activities to kick start their new topic. On Friday we supported Children in Need and the Senior Leadership Team had a visit from the governments Ed-Tech Demonstrator programme with a view that Copnor Primary School becomes one of 10 schools within Portsmouth that will be classed a Flagship School for use of technology within the classroom to support and enhance learning. This is a very exciting opportunity for us, given that 12 months ago, technology, the number of and use of devices was very limited. The vision for how we are developing our curriculum and using technology to lead and enhance is something that I know will really help to motivate and engage all learners and ensure new learning takes place so that children really enjoy the activities in school.

## Attendance

Unfortunately, with COVID still very much present in society and this year the seasonal coughs and colds returning compared to last year, it is really important that all absences are reported to us before 9.30am for each day of the absence either by voicemail or email to [attendance@copnorprimary.co.uk](mailto:attendance@copnorprimary.co.uk). This is so that we can ensure that all children are accounted for as part of schools safeguarding procedures. Any unreported absences are recorded as unauthorised.

Once you have left a voicemail or emailed then please wait to be contacted back if we need to. Please note that you do not need to ring in again to the office unless the information has changed as first thing in the morning is one of the busiest times for the Admin Team. Mrs Bailey's 1st duty is to check the children who have arrived on site and following that start on the absent children. This means that outgoing calls will start from 10am onwards.

Due to other illnesses that are circulating it is really important that observing the Public Health England advice to stay away from school is followed if a child has had D&V to reduce the risk of passing infection to others as we currently have a bug going round. We have had challenges from parents about the rules and we have also had parents send children in and then go off radar, do not answer calls and we have had to keep the child in school. This has then led to members of staff becoming ill and needing to have time off.

Please note that if the school cannot get hold of priority contact one, we will then work our way through the contacts that are held on file if it is necessary as there could be a serious issue that we need to inform you about.

## **Inset Day – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

A reminder that next Friday (26<sup>th</sup> November) the school is closed to all children for INSET Day 2. The school will reopen on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Advance notice**

### **Christmas Panto**

Oh no it is isn't, Oh yes it is!!! This year, once again due to COVID the staff are unable to put on a staff panto due to the risks of bubbling classes and year groups over the next few weeks. In order that the children do not miss out on the laughs of Mr Richardson dressing up as a dame, I have decided to treat the school to a visiting theatre company on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December who will perform Snow White. The panto will take place over two showings (morning and afternoon) in order that we can safely allow the children to watch it, should any class or year group be bubbled next week, whilst they will not be able to go into the hall to watch Snow White, we will stream it live to their classroom so that no one misses out. There is no charge for the children to attend this, this is my treat to them all for being amazing.

### **School Christmas Fayre**

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December we will be holding our school Christmas Fayre. Further details and arrangements will be sent out next week.

### **Calendar of events for the remainder of term**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Year Group / Class</b>	<b>Event</b>
November		
26 <sup>th</sup> November	All	INSET Day
30 <sup>th</sup> November	All	Christmas Decoration Day
December		
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	All	Christmas Panto – Snow White
7 <sup>th</sup> December	All	Rocky Steady Concert
10 <sup>th</sup> December		Open Morning for New Starters in EYFS / Year 3 September 2022
10 <sup>th</sup> December	All	Christmas Fayre 3:15 – 5pm
13 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS	Nativity to Potter Parents – 2pm
14 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS	Nativity to Donaldson Parents – 2pm
15 <sup>th</sup> December	All	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner
15 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS	Nativity to Bright Parents – 2pm
17 <sup>th</sup> December	All	Last day of term*
17 <sup>th</sup> December	All	Afternoon Christmas Parties
January		
4 <sup>th</sup> January	All	Spring Term starts

\* School ends at normal time (3:15pm) on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December for the Christmas Holidays. The school will reopen on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

## Golden Child

I am delighted to share the names of this week's Golden Children, they are:

Year Group	Class	Golden Child
1	Banksy	Albie
	Goldsworthy	Max
	Riley	Mia
2	Asher-Smith	Oscar
	Farah	George
	Simmonds	Tobias
3	Adele	Zoey
	Elton	Freddie
	Sheeran	Thomas
4	Brunel	Emilia
	Callaghan	Buddy
	Dickens	Finley
5	Dyson	Amelia
	Gilbert	Yannis
	Newton	Anniyah
6	Attenborough	
	Churchill	Scarlett
	Pankhurst	Lexi
	Shakespeare	Maisie

They all were chosen as someone who is knows shows how to keep themselves and others safe.

As we do not have permission for every child's name to feature in the newsletter, over the past few weeks where a child has been awarded Golden Child and we do not have permission, we have given them the name Bob or Bobbet. This child knew that they were recognised and felt proud they were included even if their actual name was not stated. Unfortunately, it has come to my attention that last week few children have used this in a very unkind way and started name calling which has caused distress which is the last thing we ever wanted and will not tolerate. In order to stop this, from now on, if we do not have permission for a child's name to appear in the newsletter, this class will be left blank.

I hope that you have a restful weekend, recharge the batteries, take care and keep yourselves safe and I very much look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning for a four-day week.

Matt Johnson  
Headteacher