

Forest Academy News

Keeping you up to date!

Friday 9th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,



It was lovely to welcome back our Key Stage One bubble this week. The school was noticeably more quiet without them! The staggered start and finish to the day and the bubble system will remain in place until the end of the summer term on **Friday 23rd July**.

Following the tragic incident in which a 16-year old boy died, we were asked to be involved in giving a message of hope and togetherness to support to our community. We were visited yesterday by Lou from the Freedom Together Project and Zoie and Kate from the Singing Mamas Choir. They worked with our children in years 4 and 6 and have recorded a song which we will post on our website.

CORE VALUES

Our core value for this half term is **RESILIENCE**. Resilience is being able to bounce back from stress, challenge, tragedy, trauma, or adversity. When children are resilient, they are braver, more curious, more adaptable, and more able to extend their reach into the world. Resilience is something that can be nurtured in all children. A major reason why it is so important to develop resilience in children is that pressure, difficulty, and frustration are facts of daily life, not just an occasional event or incident. Becoming more resilient at dealing with daily struggles can help them to deal with big problems that may come along.

"Building resilience in children is not about making them tough. Resilience is the ability to recover from difficulties and manage how you feel."

ATTENDANCE

| Class | 7 th June | 14 th June | 21 st June | 28 th June |
|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Reception Ash | 98.95% | 98.90% | 98.03% | N/A |
| Y1 Cherry | 93.06% | 93.48% | 97.77% | N/A |
| Y2 Elm | 99.34% | 95.00% | 99.59% | N/A |
| Y3 Holly | 94.05% | 98.57% | 98.33% | 82.86% |
| Y3 Lime | 98.05% | 93.68% | 98.81% | 98.10% |
| Y4 Oak | 95.94% | 95.16% | 93.95% | 90.82% |
| Y5 Pine | 96.46% | 97.00% | 95.00% | 98.00% |
| Y5 Poplar | 99.05% | 99.05% | 98.77% | 96.00% |
| Y6 Rowan | 95.00% | 95.22% | 95.92% | 91.60% |
| Y6 Willow | 96.73% | 98.29% | 97.73% | 95.83% |
| Whole School | 96.56% | 95.48% | 97.26% | 93.61% |

There is a strong link between good school attendance and achieving good results for children. Children who frequently miss school may fall behind in their work which may affect their future prospects. If your child is between 5 and 16 years old and is a registered pupil at a school, it is your legal responsibility to make sure that your child has a suitable education either by regular school attendance or otherwise. Parental support is vital in ensuring that children achieve well in education. We will work together with parents and carers to support our children to attend school on time, every day and to be successful. Regular attendance will ensure that your child feels confident, up to date with learning, and up to date with their circle of friends.

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THIS WEEK'S LEARNING

RECEPTION – ASH CLASS

This week in Ash class the children have been composing a letter to the Central Croydon MP Sarah Jones. After the visit to Millers Pond, the children have been brainstorming and sharing ideas about how Millers Pond can be improved. Working together the adults modelled the writing of the letter and the children could recall the features from previous lessons. In



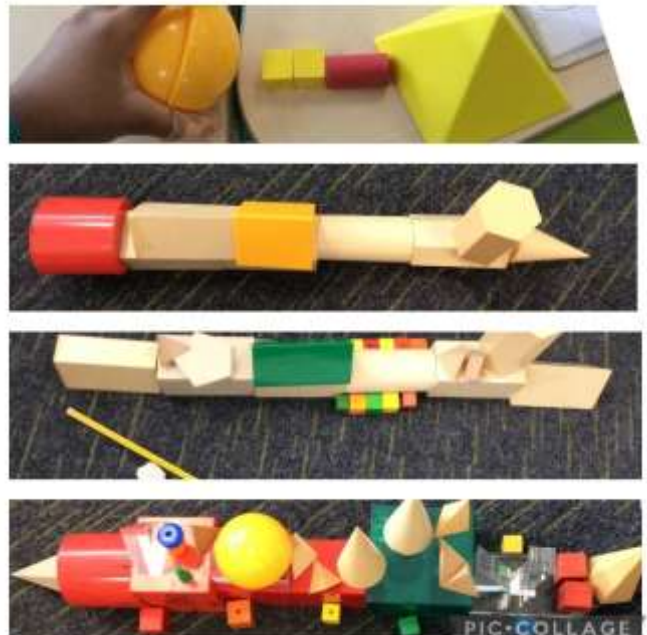
maths they have been learning about sharing, sharing equally and sharing unequally. For their Arts Fortnight project, Ash class has been investigating the theme of environment, parks, and green spaces. They have explored creating art through sun paper art. They have also worked collaboratively and created a group project in their interpretation of a meadow on canvas. Each child contributed to the painting done on the canvas making it a true team effort in the creation of their art display “Embracing Nature.”

YEAR ONE – CHERRY CLASS

This week year 1 have been revising 2D and 3D shapes. They have been sorting shapes by describing their properties and exploring patterns involving shape, size and colours. They have created 3D models and begun describing position and direction using the vocabulary of top, bottom, above, below, and in between. The children have been giving instructions to each other using vocabulary such as left, right, forwards, and backwards.

In English, this week the children have continued exploring *Dear Greenpeace* by Simon James. Through role play, they have empathised with the main character Emily or with Greenpeace, deliberating whether a whale could ever be sighted in a pond, and why this is not possible. They have come up with questions they would love to find out more information on and have taken notes through researching to find the answers.

In Global Curriculum lessons the children have discussed the most effective strategies to reduce waste, and who they might go to for help. They have also explored how everyone can all try to reduce food waste, as this also has a great impact on climate change.



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YEAR TWO – ELM CLASS

During maths lessons this week, Year 2 have been reviewing money. The teachers were very impressed with how much they could remember from home learning. Then, using plastic coins to help them, they made the same amount of money using different coins. The children had to think carefully about what coins they would select and work systematically to record these. In RE, the children have started to explore one of the world's religions, which is Sikhism. This week they learnt about the Story of Guru Nanak. The children enjoyed collaborating to retell and act out the story. Then they considered how Guru Nanak shared his purpose in life and reflected on what they think their purpose in life is. In science, Year 2 have begun their new topic looking at different materials. They looked at different objects and considered different ways to sort them. After that, they identified that one way of sorting them was by the material that they had been made from. They considered what would happen if a coat was made of wood. They all agreed that they would get wet and it would be very uncomfortable! Lastly, Year 2 went to see the art outcome from the Arts Fortnight and were really impressed with the whole school display to celebrate and appreciate our Forest community!



YEAR THREE – LIME AND HOLLY CLASS

This week in maths the children have been learning all about shapes. They were asked to reflect on their current knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes. They then discussed the properties of shapes and what make them similar or different. The children really enjoyed reviewing the topic. Many children were familiar with quadrilateral shapes, and they wanted to learn more about the shapes that have more than 4 sides. They loved talking about pentagons, hexagons, octagons and even decagons! The children deepened their knowledge of 3D shapes, discussing the different properties of 3D shapes and where they can be found them in the environment. The children also worked together to answer reasoning questions about shapes, and it was great to watch them collaborate and express their ideas to each other.



YEAR FOUR – OAK CLASS



This week Year four have been revising how to find equivalent fractions and convert improper fractions into mixed numbers in Maths. In English, they have been generating rhetorical questions and quotes for their persuasive speech and have begun to plan their final outcome. In science, we have been looking at the functions of different types of animal and human teeth and finding similarities and differences between them. In French we have been revising greetings and useful phrases in preparation for our French day next week. For our curriculum lessons, we have been learning about different dietary requirements within our class and exploring different sustainable recipes that we could make to meet ensure everyone could eat them.

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YEAR FIVE – PINE AND POPLAR CLASS



This week the children focused on improving the quality of their work by incorporating semi-colons, inverted commas to punctuate speech and figurative language in their writing. They discussed why writers use figurative language in their work and the impact it has on the reader. In reading, the children analysed a poem about war and the terrible consequences of it- especially on children. They used their reading skill of clarifying to work out tricky vocabulary within the text.

In science the children identified the similarities and differences between animals and plants in different climates. They then produced a fact file of their favourite

plant and animal indigenous to temperate and tropical climates. In maths the children continued to use their knowledge of times tables facts to find fractions of amounts. Researching historical figures was the focus of the global curriculum work this week. The children enjoyed exploring the lives of pioneers from the Windrush Generation and reflected on the incredible contributions and impact they have had on post war Britain.

YEAR SIX – ROWAN AND WILLOW CLASS

This week year 6 have begun writing their persuasive leaflet about Forest Academy. They have created sentences using persuasive devices and added extra information to their writing by using relative clauses. It has been wonderful to hear the children's thoughts on what would entice prospective parents to send their child to our school. Highlights included our global curriculum, outdoor learning opportunities and our core values. In maths, they have continued to build on their knowledge of fractions by multiplying fractions and dividing fractions using the keep, change and flip method. As their confidence has grown, they have been able to take on the role of the teacher by modelling their learning to their peers. In whole class reading the children have explored the non-fiction text 'The Wonder Garden'. They have clarified the meaning of unknown words such as: foliage, coexistence, dappled and terrain. They have also evaluated the organisation of the text by analyzing the layout of the text and the images used. In art they have completed their final stencil designs in preparation for spray painting next week. The children took part in a learning gallery where they evaluated and commented on their classmates' designs. We cannot wait to see their final project outcomes!



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CROYDON LIBRARIES SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



This year's summer reading challenge runs from Saturday 10 July until Saturday 11 September 2021. Children, aged 4-11, can sign up at their local library and receive a Wild World Heroes collector poster to get them started.

They need to read at least six books to complete the challenge, but they can set their own personal reading goal instead. Croydon Libraries offer a wide choice of books, eBooks and audiobooks to borrow.

There are special stickers to collect once they have finished reading a book, which can be added to their collector poster. Children can also join the Challenge online, find out more by visiting wildworldheroes.org.uk

All you need to access [Croydon Libraries digital library](#) is your library card, if you don't have one [join here](#) now for instant access.

WHAT AGE CAN A CHILD BE LEFT HOME ALONE?

This is a question that is often raised. Learning to be independent is an important part of growing up for children. With the summer holidays fast approaching and Year 6 moving on to secondary school in September, it is important to understand what needs to be considered when making the decision to leave children alone at home. Every child is different, so it is important to build up children's independence at their pace, ensuring that they feel confident and safe. A child who is not old enough or who does not feel comfortable should never be left home alone. If this is the case, it is best to investigate childcare options that might work for your family. The NSPCC has some useful advice on helping your child to become more independent [here](#). While there is no legal age a child can be left home alone, it is against the law to leave a child alone if it puts them at risk.

| CLASS | LEARNING STAR |
|--------------|---------------|
| Ash Class | Destiny-Skye |
| Cherry Class | Elisa |
| Elm Class | Esmae |
| Holly Class | Nicole |
| Lime Class | Emeka |
| Oak Class | Faith |
| Pine Class | Dylan |
| Poplar Class | Jessica P. |
| Rowan Class | Graciano |
| Willow Class | Sara |

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COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

We would like to hear your views about how we communicate with you and ideas for workshops and or/events you feel it would be useful for us to organize. You can complete the survey [here](#).




Have a great weekend!

From Mrs Oldfield, Mrs Wray and all the staff



Happy Birthday wishes to:

| | |
|--|--------------|
|  Riley | Poplar Class |
|  Maizah | Oak Class |
|  Sonia | Ash Class |

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Support and Advice

These are very challenging times for everyone, but there is a lot of help available. Below you will find the contact details of a number of organisations to go to if you need help or advice:

- For help with welfare rights advice, call the council's free advice line on 0800 731 5920 to speak to an advisor or email welfare.rights@croydon.gov.uk.
- [Discretionary Housing Payments](#) may be available for a limited time to top up housing-related benefits to cover housing costs such as rent
- You may be able to claim a [discretionary reduction in council tax](#)- visit Croydon Council website to find out if you qualify
- There are three food stops with community partners in New Addington, Selsdon and Thornton Heath, where eligible residents can get £20 worth of food and groceries for £3.50 per week. For information email anita.konczack@croydon.gov.uk
- Gas and electricity prepayment meters during COVID-19. Contact your energy suppliers, to discuss options to ensure your supply is not interrupted. Visit this website for further information:
<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-and-your-energy-supply>
- The council's Gateway service has now closed.
- Croydon Council have a [COVID-19 web page](#) which will be updated daily with any changes to services.
- Help for anyone experiencing or at risk of domestic abuse - Croydon Family Justice Centre
020 8688 0100 or email fjc@croydon.gov.uk

If you have concerns about a child (or their families) welfare, contact Croydon Council's

Single Point of Contact (SPOC)

Telephone: 020 8726 6400

Out of hours: 020 8726 6400 (ask for out of hours team)

Email: childreferrals@croydon.gov.uk

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 – 16:00

NSPCC

Tel: 0808 800 5000

Email: help@nspcc.org.uk

You may remain anonymous if you wish.

If you think a child is at risk of immediate harm telephone 999