

THE SCOOP

Issue 3 Friday 6th November

Focus on: TRUST



St James'

Church of England
Primary School

Week 9: 6th November

Sun 8th Remembrance Sunday
PTA will announce winner of PUMPKIN
COMPETITION this week

Week 10: 9th November

Parents' Evening Sessions: 3:30-5:30pm
Tue 10th, Wed 11th, Thu 12th For Y1, Y2 & Y3
Wed 11th Remembrance Day – event com-
memorated at school today
Fri 13th Children in Need – non-school
uniform for £1 dona-
tion + PTA Bag2School textile collection
8:30am – side porch

Week 11: 16th November

Mon 16th Start of Anti bullying Week -
wear odd socks to school today to launch
the week + Reception Nursery Rhyme
Week
Parents' Evening Sessions: 3:30-5:30pm
Tue 17th, Wed 18th, Thu 19th For Y4,5, & 6
Thu 19th Class 13 assembly (remote)
Fri 20th PTA Newsletter+ PTA Non-school
uniform £1 donation

Week 12: 23rd November

RECEPTION Parents' Evening Sessions:
3:30-5:30pm Tue 24th, Wed 25th, Thur 26th
Wed 25th Class 14 assembly (remote)
Fri 27th PTA Popcorn Club for Y1/2 Bubble
3-5pm CANCELLED

Week 13: 30th November

Mon 30th St Andrew's day + Life Educa-
tion Inflatable at school for PSHCE les-
sons in the tent! All week class by class +
Y2 Phonic Screening Check (which was
due to be taken in June 2020) tbc
Tues 1st Advent starts
Thu 3rd Class 3 assembly (remote)
Fri 4th PTA Popcorn Club for Y3/4 Bubble
3-5pm + School Newsletter
Sun 6th St Nicholas' Day



NOVEMBER

Well, here we go again as a further national lockdown has started. Importantly our school will remain open for all children and we will continue to focus a huge amount of attention on maintaining Covid safety. We continue to follow our risk assessment for all parts of school life and continue to clean thoroughly and often. Whilst it is not possible for children to remember to socially distance (acknowledged by the government) we are maintaining bubbles at all times, preventing mixing and staff are employing safer working practices between themselves. We are proud to say that school attendance is very high, higher than this time last year as you, as parents, are ensuring that your children attends. This allows us to work diligently with the children to address gaps in learning and any specific needs the children have. Whilst school looks and feels different the children are enjoying their time together and with their teachers. We are actively supporting their mental health and well-being and have continued to ensure that they are getting a broad and balanced curriculum, paying close attention to physical exercise outdoors and team sports in our class bubbles.

The new guidance can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>. This guidance highlights the importance of keeping everyone safe, with families remaining at home for the next four weeks to drive down the R rate. Can I urge parents to support this by:

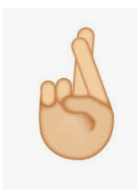
- Continuing to support our Risk Assessment by following our staggered drop off and collection times
- Maintain a 2m distance from others whilst waiting and wear a mask at these times, particularly as many of our grandparents collect or those in jobs that make them more susceptible to catching Covid (working on Covid wards or as GP, Nurses, teachers, TAs, police or fire services)
- Refrain from collecting other children if possible or congregating at the brook or park for the next four weeks
- Encourage children to wash hands frequently
- REPORT to school ANY COVID TESTS that you have requested for your family so that we can keep up to date with the likely bubble infection as we maintain our own school track and trace system and stay alert to symptoms and isolate accordingly
- Continue to communicate with school via email and telephone to avoid face to face contact

Together we can try to prevent school bubbles from going down and keep our school community safe.

REMOTE PARENTS' EVENINGS

Parents' evenings will be remote this term! This is simple to use and with a limit of six staff attending should hopefully work well. We have moved parents' evening for Y4,5,6 to ensure our school bandwidth can sustain the meetings. Please follow the guidance sent, be on time for your meeting and hopefully all will be well. The staff have tested the system and all seems to work but we have yet to do the real thing with many parents at the same time.

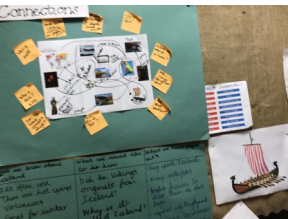
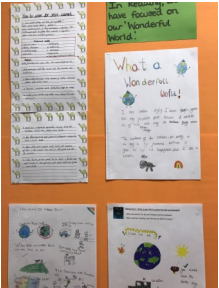
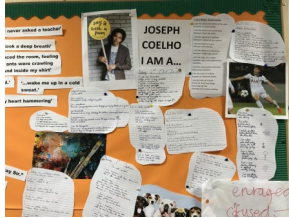
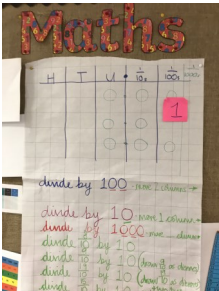
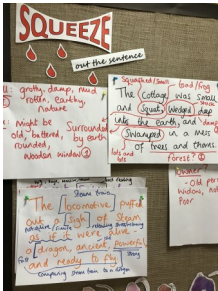
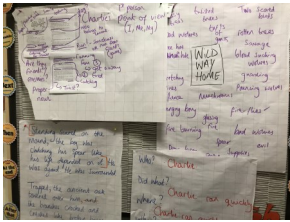
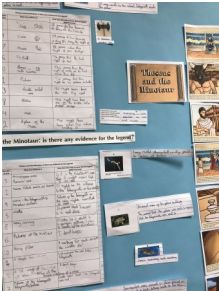
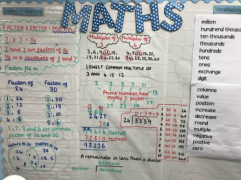
Thank you in advance for your support.



Lisa Harford—Headteacher

A busy few weeks at school!

We thought it would be great to show you what the children have been up to through our classroom displays across the school.



New Reading Books and Approaches

We have updated our Reading Scheme and approaches with financial support from the PTA. Many of you and the children themselves have said that they enjoy the new books. We have also updated our phonics tracker and reading trackers so that we can address and teach any misconceptions and gaps in learning. The important element is reading, reading and even more reading and in school we actively encourage the children re-reading passages and books and discussing words, meaning characters and plot. Please get your child to re-read the books sent home and discuss them, this 'rehearsal' supports their confidence and ability to tackle unknown words that they meet. It's a strategy teachers use all of the time!



As this new term begins, we would like to congratulate Alexandra Shannon, in Year 5, on successfully being chosen to take part in the [Church of England's National Younger Leadership group](#).

This group will be hosted by the Archbishop of York and will become an important part of shaping the Vision and Strategy of the Church of England as it continues to move through the 21st Century.

Alex will be joining a team of a 100 primary school children from across the country, their first assignment being 'What kind of church you would like to see.' We are so excited to be a part of this movement and the opportunity for Alex to be part of something very special.

If you are feeling the cold - put on an extra layer.



We are currently following the government guidelines to mitigate against risk. This involves keeping all doors and windows open to allow air to circulate. School is therefore not the warmest of places and some of the children, particularly those that turn up in just a school t-shirt are getting cold. Please make sure your child is dressed for a colder than usual school environment. Vest, school jumper and coats, warm socks and hoodies, joggers if it's a PE day would help to keep them warm. Guidance from both the government and Gloucestershire County Council continue to require as higher level of ventilation as possible and as much time outdoors!

We are definitely making use of their wellies!



From the office

Please remember if you have to drop off something or speak to one of the admin team :

- 1 family at a time in the office area
- Sanitise your hands and wear a mask when waiting to speak to one of us in the office
- Do not come to the school if you have any symptoms

If your child rides a bicycle or a scooter, please supervise them when riding on the road adjacent to school.

Andy Goddard and Susie Page are our new Parent Governors. They will serve a 4 year term starting 3rd November 2020. We look forward to working with you both. Thank you to all the candidates. Look out for another Parent Election later this academic year.

Please help us by...

Labelling everything!

With children wearing their PE kit to school every week it would be helpful if parents could spend two minutes checking that their child's hoodies/sweatshirts, in particular, have their name written on them. This is the lost property that we collected from lunchtime today that wasn't named—we delivered all named clothes, water bottles, pots back to their owners!

The job is taking a lot of time—please help us by naming everything!

All unnamed lost property is being given to the PTA every few weeks.

Anything without a name is being left of the far gate/fence for parents to collect—this includes smaller jumpers too that could belong to younger pupils.



Not Bringing Dogs into the Carpark!

With our use of the far gate for drop-off and collection of junior pupils we have noticed a larger number of dogs in this area. Please could you refrain from bringing them into the carpark. We have a number of children and adults that are scared of dogs and whilst we love seeing them, appreciate that they may cause anxiety to others.

Tape over earrings before coming to school

We have a no earring policy at school because they pose a risk to children's health and safety during PE, playtimes and lunchtimes and when using a number of our resources, particularly our EYFS and Y1 outdoor areas. If at all possible, please refrain from having your child's ears pierced. If they are pierced we would like them covered for their entire time in school. Please ensure that your child's ears are covered with tape if they have earrings in. Staff will remind you of this. Thank you

Inconsiderate Parking and Driving

Parking enforcement continue to monitor the roads around the school and stated recently:

“We visited on the 12th, 13th and 19th October, one vehicle was observed parked on Rowena Cade Avenue, the driver moved the vehicle when asked to do so. we also attended Merestones Drive, two Penalty Charge Notices were issued at this location. All officers that have visited have said that their presence prevented poor parking.”



As a school we are becoming increasingly frustrated by **parents' poor driving skills** and views on safety, particularly as it is our own school community they are putting in danger! We have asked time and time again for parents to park lawfully and to refrain from obstructing driveways or other cars! **Please can our school community get behind this please... Parking Enforcement urge you to email in directly to Highways:**

Vehicles causing and obstruction, preventing emergency access, parking on the pavement or blocking driveways are parking illegally. Report these instances to 101@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk. Parking on zigzag lines, double yellow lines etc please make a parking enforcement request to: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/e-forms/parking-enforcement-requests/>

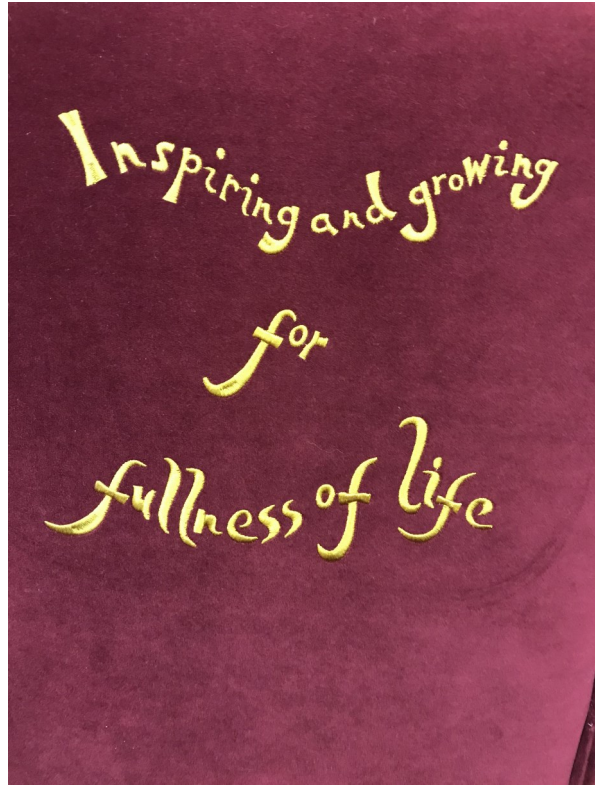
Competition Time!

Calling all artists! Mrs. Sutch will be sending home some information about two art competitions via Teams. Please log in to your child's Teams account to view them.

1. Christmas Card Design for Alex Chalk
2. Kindness at Christmas for The Queens Hotel



A poster for a Christmas competition. The background is purple with white snowflake patterns. At the top left, there is a logo for "QUEENS" and a logo for "NCLB". The title "Kindness at Christmas" is written in a purple font. Below the title, there is text that reads: "The Queen's Hotel and NCLB invite you to think about 'Kindness at Christmas'." and "During this festive season, how do we show our friends and family that we're thinking of them? What could we do to make them smile or help them out?". There is a drawing of a penguin wearing a Santa hat. Below this, there is text that reads: "Draw us a picture on the back of this sheet of a way someone could express kindness at Christmas or over the holiday period. It could be giving presents, spending time with family, sending a special card to a friend, leaving little snacks for Rudolph or anything else you can think of. Make sure your picture is this way up (portrait)". At the bottom, there is text that reads: "The winning pictures will be revealed on the side of The Queen's Hotel throughout December on a very special Christmas advent calendar projection. Winners and their families will also be invited to have afternoon tea at the hotel - what a treat!". At the bottom right, there is a small box with text that reads: "Terms and conditions: Only one entry per child. Pictures must be PORTRAIT and within the white section on the reverse. Winners will be chosen by the Queen's Hotel. Winners will be announced by 20th November. No cash alternative for prizes can be offered. Afternoon tea will be provided for the winner + 3 guests, at least one of whom must be a responsible adult. Dates will be dependent on lockdown restrictions at the time." At the bottom left, there is a drawing of several wrapped gifts.



Thank you!

To our lovely family who donated our new worship chair! It is currently sat in the office and will move to the hall when we are able to return to 'normal', a beautiful chair—we are overwhelmed by your generosity.

Thank you to Reverend Nick and Ginnie and John from the Open The Book Team for supporting our worships this term. Open The Book will stop for the next four weeks but should return in December. Nick will continue to zoom virtually into our classrooms every other Thursday!

The Church community would love to hear from you so if you have some spare time draw them a picture, write them a letter or make them a card and bring it to school. Any gifts will be quarantined at school before being delivered to Rev Nick for distribution.

Thank you for everyone who has already sent them a card or picture, they loved them!