



St Lawrence Church of England Primary School

Newsletter November 2020

Welcome to the November edition of our school newsletter. I can't quite believe that we are already approaching December and all that the end of this term brings. It has been a pleasure to see how hard the children have continued to work and the progress that they have been making. I thoroughly enjoy Friday mornings when I get to hear about all of the wonderful work the children have been doing and the Stars of the Week that are celebrated. There certainly are a lot of children working incredibly hard.

As we continue to be in a period of national restrictions, we are continuing to follow the guidelines for schools and are really pleased that schools remain open. This is not without its challenges and there are times when staff may not be able to be in school as they are isolating or waiting for test results. We are doing everything that we can to make sure that the education of your children is not disrupted and I continue to be forever grateful to both staff and parents for their continued support during these challenging times.

Despite COVID restrictions, this half term has been busy with many exciting learning opportunities for the children. I hope you enjoy reading about these in this newsletter.

Our value this half term is Trust

We work hard at St Lawrence to ensure that all children understand that they can trust in other people and the adults in school. We also teach them that to be trustworthy is a very powerful attribute to have. This half term we have talked about what trust looks like and how we can demonstrate trustworthiness. We have built this into our restorative justice principles and the children know that we trust them to make the right kinds of choices.

Children in Need 2020

On Friday 13th November, we helped to raise much needed funds for BBC Children in Need. Thank you to everyone who came to school wearing something spotty. We raised £131.80.



Attendance

Attendance plays such an important role in the progress that children make at school and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the school community. Every Friday we award attendance certificates to year groups that have achieved 100% attendance during that week. I am pleased to report that not a week has gone by where we have not awarded a certificate but more brilliantly; I am pleased to announce that our school attendance currently stands at 97% compared with the national attendance figure of 92%. Well done everyone.

Remembrance

On 11th November 2020, St Lawrence Primary School paused in order to remember all of those who have died and suffered so that we might live the lives that we have today. We held a two minute silence across the school and visited the memorial in the village to help us to recognise the importance of remembrance and the sacrifices made by so many in times of conflict and war.



Church News

St Lawrence Church hasn't been able to hold services since lockdown 2.0 was introduced and as yet we do not know what December will bring. The church however can be opened for private prayer. The church are in the process of organising its christmas calendar, but we can confirm that Christmas Eve mass is arranged for 7:30pm.



Christmas

A little reminder that if you have not already returned your slip to say your child is able to be filmed for the Christmas productions, to send it back as soon as possible. If we do not receive the slip, your child will not be able to be featured on the video. Videos will be made available to parents during the final week of term.

Parent Questionnaire and Communication

Thank you to all those parents who took the time to complete the parent questionnaire. It is a valuable way of collecting your views about how we are doing here in school. Following the questionnaire, I would like to remind you that if ever you have any concerns about school, please speak to either Mrs Bush or Mrs Morris who will be happy to address any issues you may have (or receive any positive comments).

Clear lines of communication are really important and I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the key people in school that you can talk to should you have any concerns or need anything clarifying.

Who Can I Speak to?

Safeguarding: DSL – Mrs Bush
Deputy DSL – Mrs Cromey- Hawke

SENDCo: Mrs Cromey-Hawke

Attendance / Absence: Mrs Blackburn

Behaviour: 1. Class Teacher
2. Behaviour Lead – Mrs Morris

Bullying: 1. Class Teacher
2. Anti-Bullying Champion – Mrs Morris

As always, teachers are happy to speak to parents for quick messages outside the classroom door in the morning, however, if the message is about school pick-up arrangements, please let Mrs Blackburn know instead, and she will pass the message on to the class teacher. If your conversation requires more time, please phone the school office and arrange to speak to the class teacher after school.

Should you need to speak with me, please make an appointment with Mrs Blackburn in the school office.

Odd Socks Day and Anti-Bullying Week

This week, we are proud to have supported Anti-Bullying Week where the children have participated in a range of activities to raise awareness of bullying and celebrate diversity.

On Monday, many children came to school wearing odd socks...what a sight to see!



If ever you are concerned about bullying, please speak with a member of staff as soon as possible so that we can address any arising issues.

Diwali Day

As part of our RE lessons this term, we have been learning about the Hindu festival of Diwali. The children thoroughly enjoyed the activities on offer including making Diya lamps, designing Mehndi patterns and trying traditional foods.



Dates For Your Diary Autumn Term 2020 – 2021



Due to COVID-19, it has been necessary to make some changes to our scheduled dates for Christmas activities.

Unfortunately, we are unable to hold any live nativity plays and carol services this year. However, we will be creating some videos that will be shared with Parents and Carers during the last week of term.

Mon 16 th – Fri 20 th Nov	Anti Bullying Week
Fri 11 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Mon 14 th Dec	Years 4, 5 and 6 Virtual Reality Experience
Wed 16 th Dec	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 18 th December	School finishes for Christmas Break
Christmas Holidays	
Monday 4 th January	Staff Training Day – School closed to pupils
Tuesday 5 th January	Pupils return to School