

# Newsletter Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

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## Information for Parents



I hope everyone is well and not struggling too much from when the clocks went back! Well COVID finally got me and I tested positive the first Monday of half term! What a few weeks I have had with tonsillitis, colds and covid - no more now - please!

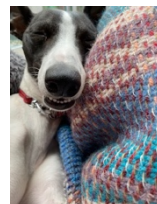
We are delighted that our Russell House Ofsted report has now gone public and you will be receiving a copy today. It is absolutely fabulous and I want to say a huge congratulations to everyone concerned.

We have taken delivery of lots of CO2 monitors. These are in classes and let staff know when to ventilate the room more. However, we are ventilating rooms when pupils go out to play or leave the classroom for other lessons. We are keeping the classrooms at a temperature where it is comfortable to work in and they will not require extra layers.

I have taken the decision to allow families to send in Christmas card and presents (although staff would rather you spend your money on your family). If pupils are bringing cards and presents home, we will leave it to parents to decide if they want to quarantine them or not. Just remember good hand hygiene - lots of hand washing.

I am also delighted to say that Elaine (our new School Business Manager) has secured a very special Christmas tree for us from a pupil I used to teach when I was the Deputy Head of Sladen Middle School (Ben - Hodge Hill Nursery). Keep your eye on the sixth form balcony for when it arrives.

Molly update! With both my husband and I self-isolating, Molly didn't do any hard ground walking (just played in the garden) and when she was taken to the vets Monday for her postponed operation, the vet said her paw had cleared up and would no longer need an operation. Phew!



## BBC Children In Need Day:



On **Friday 19th November**, as a whole school, we will be supporting BBC Children in Need Day by fundraising for the charity. This year, we are inviting all children (and staff too!) to wear their pyjamas or Pudsey themed attire for the whole of the school day for a £1 donation. We will be completing a National live-streamed Joe Wickes challenge in our classes, completing a Pudsey trail around school and will also be taking part in numerous other class-based events. Please pass on the £1 donation to your child's class teacher or class team and we are sure to have a wonderful fun-filled day whilst doing something helpful for a wonderful cause.



## YEW Class

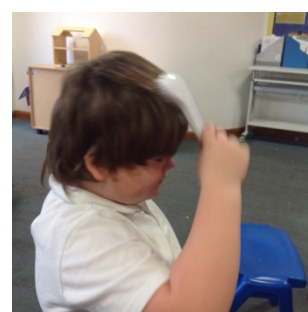
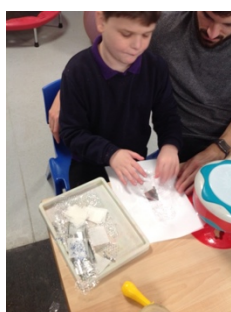


YEW class are really enjoying our new topic "Superheroes"! We have been turning ourselves into superheroes and thinking about what our super powers might be. We have made our own superhero masks and have been busy saving the day! We have also enjoyed looking at some new stories all about superheroes. So far we have enjoyed "Supertato" and "10 Little Superheroes". Can you spot who is behind the superhero disguises?



## HAZEL Class

We have been making snowflakes this week for our winter wonderland theme, and looking at hair brushing in independence.



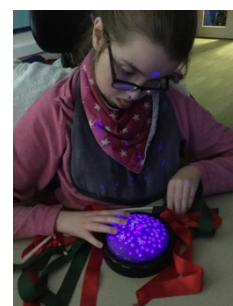
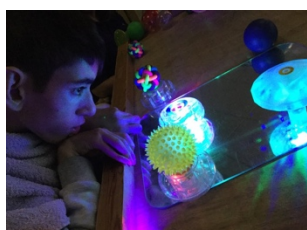
## ACORNS – Reception

On Friday 5th November ACORNS Reception Class were learning all about fireworks. We watched Fireworks on the interactive board, did firework crafts, lots of firework construction, explored sensory baskets with firework props and made sparkler biscuits!! It's fair to say that in Acorns, we love fireworks!



## CEDAR Class

CEDAR Class have been doing some super reaching, manipulating and visual tracking in out Sensory and Physical sessions this week! Everyone loved the lights!

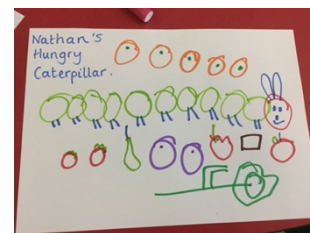




## OAK Class

OAK Class have launched our Food Glorious Food Topic with the story of the Hungry Caterpillar. They have enjoyed exploring the story props, mark making what we could see in the story and counting the fruit and completing simple puzzles.

We also developed our independence and emerging cooking skills by making our own bowls of cereal and tasting these, using jugs to pour and eating independently with a spoon.



Oak Class have also been learning how to safely use a saw to cut wood at Forest school. Over the coming weeks we will be drilling and decorating the wood we cut to make Christmas decorations.



## PINE Class

Pine Class have welcomed a new student called Maddison, she was very excited to start her new school and already enjoys her new classroom and is making new friends.





## POPLAR Class

This week in POPLAR Class the children have been making Thaumatroopes in our animation topic. The children really enjoyed this and were really good at following the instructions to make their animation. The children also enjoyed making animations of their names and then presenting them to the class.



## HOLLY Class

HOLLY Class TA Martin has created this amazing papier mache octopus for our 'under the sea' display board - well done Martin!



## SIXTH FORM News

Class 12K really enjoyed going shopping back to Tesco and developing their independent living skills. This week we made sausage and mash, with a lemon drizzle cake for dessert.

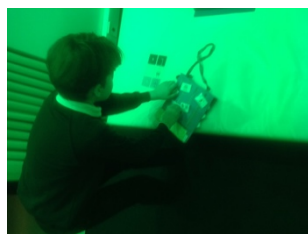


With COP26 being in the headlines Sixth Form are busy recycling in their Self Development Fashion lesson. We are currently in need of white / light coloured T-shirts and jumpers. The jumpers we are recycling into Unisex Beanie Hats as modelled below. **If you have T-shirts or jumpers that you could donate please send them into school addressed to 12K.**



## BEECH

This week BEECH Class have enjoyed exploring in soft play following instructions and learning verbs, they have been developing using their PECS and ALD's in the light room and making marks in textures and looking at books.



## RUSSELL HOUSE News



Jonathan is student of the week this week for getting involved when PC Sharp came to visit us. Also, on Thursday some of the students took a wreath we made down to the memorial down at Britons park to say thank you to all our fallen soldiers.



NOVEMBER 2021	
15	Year 1 hearing tests in school
16, 18 & 19	Relevant Sixth Form Students - NCS, Phase 2 (in school)
17	6th Form Coffee Morning – <b>POSTPONED</b> (Apologies)
22 - 26	Relevant Sixth Form Students – NCS, Phase 3 (in school)
23	Orthoptic visit for Reception Age children.
26	School Photos – Sorry, we are not inviting Parents in for Family photos this year.

*Please note, some of these event dates and details may change.*

**Please remember to keep the school office updated with any change of address, contact details etc, thank you.**