



Hugo Meynell School Newsletter 'Aiming High; Supporting Dreams'

Friday 4th December 2020

Telephone: 01630 67 22 87

www.hugomeynell.co.uk

Email: office@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk

littleowls@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk

School Menu for w/c Monday 7th December is 'Week 2'

Attendance and Lates



| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| School Target 2020/2021: | 97% |
| Attendance This Week | 96.49% |
| Attendance Year to date: | 97.26% |
| Lates: | 0 |



Covid Update

As the second lockdown has now ended, Loggerheads and most of the surrounding areas are classed as **Covid Tier 3 - Very High Alert**. Please find attached a government/NHS poster which we have been asked to share with families detailing the restrictions of tier 3.

As we approach the last two weeks of term, we are urging all families to be extra vigilant in following the government's advice regarding Hands-Face-Space and in adhering to the rules on the attached poster. We hope to avoid any infections within our school community that would lead to children or staff having to self-isolate at home over the holiday period and appreciate your support with this.



Adverse Weather

As the weather has started to turn colder, we would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers what to do in adverse weather conditions. Should the school need to close due to heavy snowfall a text will be sent to all parents via the school text messaging service. School closure information can also be found at <https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/sln/schoolclosures/>.



Lockdown Challenge – Loggerheads to Lapland

Thank you to everyone who completed our Loggerheads to Lapland challenge. There is still time to return your sponsorship forms to school so that we can tally up all the miles to see if we've reached our goal. Please remember to add your donations to ParentPay as unfortunately we cannot accept cash in school. All children who have taken part will receive a medal next week, when we will also announce the competition winners.

Christmas Cards

A reminder that if children would like to send cards to their classmates please send these into their class **before Wednesday 9th December**. Any cards received by this date will be given out to the children on Wednesday 16th December to allow time for quarantine.



'Old Skool' Special Menu

AiP will be serving a special traditional school menu on **Wednesday 9th December**. Dishes will include meat and potato pie, cheese slice (with pastry top), jacket potato served with baked beans, carrots, peas and gravy followed by chocolate crunch and peppermint custard or rice pudding for dessert. A school dinner costs £2.15 per child other than those pupils in Reception and KS1.

Christmas Jumper Day

We are holding our Christmas Jumper Day in school on **Friday 11th December**. Children can wear jeans, trousers, jogging bottoms, leggings or skirts to complement their festive jumpers. If your child does not have a Christmas jumper then they can come to school wearing festive colours.



Christmas Treat

We have arranged for Santa's reindeer, as well as Trixie the elf, to visit school on **Friday 11th December** as a special treat for the children. This visit will take place outside so please ensure your child brings a suitable outdoor coat to school and wears appropriate footwear.



Congratulations to this week's winners!

Year 1 Neo Swinnerton & Charlotte Coulon
 Year 3 Ily Buhaniuc & Ollie Hollins
 Year 5 Daniel Hegarty & Kaisan Zaman

Year 2 Jasper Parkes & Minnie Davenhill
 Year 4 Jayden Birch & Lacey Barnett
 Year 6 Sophie Whalley & Harry Garnett



Parent Governor

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Rebecca Tyrrell has been elected as our new Parent Governor. From a teaching background herself, Mrs Tyrrell brings a wealth of experience to the role and we are looking forward to her joining us.



Little Owls

We have spaces available in Little Owls for both morning and afternoon sessions. If you would like to book any sessions for your child please email littleowls@hugomeynell.staffs.sch.uk or contact the school office.

In addition to lots of games, toys to play with and books to read, the craft activities for next week are:

- Monday** – Origami Santa **Tuesday** – Gift Tags **Wednesday** – 3D Sleigh
Thursday – Christmas Paper Chain **Friday** – Hanging Decorations

PTFA Christmas Gift Stall

The popular PTFA Christmas gift stalls will take place on **Wednesday 9th & Thursday 10th December**, where there will be lots of lovely gifts to choose from, ranging from 50p to £5. Things will be a little different this year as there are a number of measures that have been put in place to make everything Covid-safe. A letter with further details has been emailed to parents earlier this week. If you would like your child to purchase gifts please ensure that payment has been received on ParentPay no later than **Monday 7th December**. **Unfortunately we will not be able to accept any payments after this date.**



Community

Fordhall Farm

Please see the attached poster for details about the Christmas activities that are taking place at Fordhall Farm.

Messages from the Classrooms

Nursery

It is definitely starting to look and feel like Christmas in Nursery this week. On Tuesday morning, the children arrived to find a gigantic box in the classroom. The children had lots of good ideas about what could possibly be in it. There was a letter from a friendly elf called Edward, who had delivered us a Christmas tree with bags of baubles and lights. Edward also sent us an Advent calendar with a tiny note in the first pocket telling us to look for a wrapped surprise. The children found the parcel and were excited to see a book about the first Christmas story and a small Baby Jesus toy. Each day, the children are excited to see if Edward has left a tiny letter and instructions and each day Edward has not disappointed us. It has been a magical week in Nursery and surprisingly calm.

Reception

This week, Reception have continued to be amazing by learning at home. They have been doing all things 'sticky' as they followed the adventures of Stickman. The children have made stick families, painted stick men, played hide and seek with Stickman and made maps for Stickman to find his way home. In Maths, sticks have been collected, sorted, measured and ordered in from longest to shortest. Baths, sinks and blocks have been splashed in as they have explored floating and sinking, having watched Stickman float along the river. Lots of letters, cards and pictures have been written and made for family that live far away and lots of stories by Julia Donaldson have been shared. Mrs Shore and Mrs Stirland cannot wait to see the children again back at school on Monday. We have missed you lots but have loved sharing your learning with your parents through photos and videos. See you all soon!

Year 1

What a busy week we have had in Year 1! This week, Year 1 made predictions about the mischief that Nibbles might cause in Julia Donaldson's story of the Gruffalo. They developed their use of adjectives and also turned into Nibbles! As Nibbles, they created a diary entry about the different books he had nibbled into. They used all of their skills to write some super sentences. They also discovered that Miss Patterson didn't receive her desired presents last year because she didn't use adjectives to describe the items on her list. As a result, the children made sure that they used fantastic adjectives when writing their letters to Santa. Sparkly jumpers, little crocodiles, a big, brown bear and a red Lamborghini were on some of their lists! In Maths, the children used the vocabulary 'greater than' and 'less than' to compare amounts. They also listened to subtraction stories and made their own stories to go with a picture. In Art, the class recorded various patterns with a pencil and a pen. After, they created their own black ink patterns and used them to create a festive card. Their artistic skills were evident in RE as they used fine paintbrushes to create a small angel.

Year 2

This week, Year 2 have been tackling some very tricky calculations in Maths, including column subtraction of two-digit numbers. They have also been challenging themselves with some problem solving involving missing numbers. In English, the children have planned and have started to write their reports about owls using facts that they have researched over the last few weeks. Some children have chosen their own subheadings and are hoping to add some fun facts to their reports. They are fast becoming experts on owls! In Design Technology, the children have really enjoyed learning about wheels and axles and all had the opportunity to make a model of a vehicle, in order to investigate how wheels work. They then decided to try out their models by having races in the classroom.

Year 3

What another busy week it has been in Year 3! In Maths, the class have started to use the formal written method for multiplication. They have completed the three main steps when answering a question and used their times tables knowledge, which they have improved by completing monster multiplication three times a week. Well done, there is definite improvement with their quick recall. During English, the children have written a letter as Tom from 'The Winter's Child'. They have used paragraphs when changing the subject, explained what activities they have completed in the snow, as well as who they have met along the way. The letters were very well written and they have all used the skills they have learnt throughout the term. The class have started to explore similes to describe a winter setting from the book and have started to use subordinating conjunctions to extend the meaning of their sentences.

As part of our Design and Technology learning, the children have started to develop their expertise in sewing. They have learned how to thread a needle and use running stitch and back stitch on a sample of binca. If you have a hole in your sock, you now know who to ask to mend it! As part of the PSHE curriculum, the class have imagined that they have been given £20 for their birthday and have been asked to think about what they could do with the money. There was a wide variety of answers, with some children spending every penny (and more!) and others who decided they would save some or give some to charity. During Science, the children have identified ways they can protect themselves in the sun. They have designed a leaflet to share with other people about how to stay safe. We have started to complete our termly challenges this week and everyone has approached them with a positive attitude; we are all very proud of them.

Year 4

This week, Year 4 have produced some excellent written work that described a scene. They used a range of verbs, expanded noun phrases and subordinating conjunctions to vary their sentences and to keep the reader gripped. The class have been revisiting pronouns this week and used these effectively for possession in their writing as well as in the correct tense. In Maths, the children have been measuring perimeter of various shapes on a grid and effectively used a ruler to measure accurately. In D&T this week, the class have finalised their sandwich design, drawn and labelled their ingredients and written a plan of how to make it step by step. This is what they will follow when they make their sandwich and when they come to evaluate their finished product. In RE the children continued to learn about Hanukkah and have written invitations to Mrs Gleave to invite her to their party next week. In PSHE, the children have been discussing the effects of smoking and how this can affect your health. The children were very knowledgeable about the health conditions related to smoking and showed great maturity whilst discussing this topic. They then went on and designed some fantastic posters to inform and deter people from smoking. Another fantastic week in Year 4. Well done!

Messages from the Classrooms (cont...)

Year 5

This week in Maths, Year 5 have looked at the formula for finding the area of rectilinear shapes. They also used this knowledge to find some missing lengths and create some shapes of their own with a given area. They went on to find the area of compound and irregular shapes. In English, the children have planned, written and edited their own traditional tale. They enjoyed creating their characters and plotting the demise of the bad character. Year 5 have rounded off their Science topic this week with an assessment and some great discussion about all the learning that has taken place over this term. We have had great fun decorating the classroom and landing ready for the festive season! In History, the children have continued to look at the Great Railway, and this week they looked at its advantages and disadvantages. In RE, the class compared the Holy Book to the Quran.

Year 6

Year 6 have had a busy week this week, trying to get their head around some tricky fraction work. They have practised adding and subtracting pairs of fractions and mixed numbers and have almost cracked even the most tricky calculations. In English, we have identified extended noun phrases and learned how to use them for precision in our writing. We have written a diary in the role of Lydia, a character from our class text, exploring her thoughts and feelings through role play to help us. In History, we have begun our own group projects, using sources to find out what life was really like for evacuees during the war. During our DT lesson, the children have practised their woodwork skills and worked in groups to create stable structures using various materials. In RE, the class used the Bible to explore their favourite proverbs and they investigated the different types of literature found in the Bible.

**Until next week,
Mrs Gleave**



Autumn Term 2020 Diary Dates – Parent Copy (Updates in Red)

| Date | Event |
|---------------------------|---|
| December | |
| Tuesday 8 th | PTFA Christmas Gift Stall |
| Wednesday 9 th | PTFA Christmas Gift Stall |
| Friday 11 th | Christmas Jumper Day Reindeer & Elf visit |
| Thursday 17 th | School Christmas Dinner |
| Friday 18 th | School closes for Christmas |
| January | |
| Monday 4 th | Inset Day |
| Tuesday 5 th | School re-opens for the first half of the Spring Term |