



Headteacher: Miss Georgina Scott

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish.



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Newsletter 17 – 22nd January 2021

We commit ourselves to be resilient and persistent when working towards ambitious targets.

Headteacher's News

Good afternoon parents and carers,

Thank you to all who have completed our parental survey regarding our remote learning provision, we hope our current changes have helped reduce some of the home pressures whilst still maintaining a high quality of education. If you are yet to complete, please do take the time to fill in as all feedback will help inform our future actions regarding our remote learning offer.

We are already half way through term 3 and what a start to 2021 it has been.

This morning's frosty start resulted in many staff de-icing their cars inside and out (depending on the age of the car!) but the views across Bristol from the school were beautiful!



I have had the pleasure of getting to know some of our children and parents and am starting to master names and faces, please still bear with me while I get to know you all. I am hoping, over the next couple of weeks, to be able to say hello and meet some of our remotely working families via live and pre-recorded videos.

Whilst it is sad we are currently unable to resume normality both in the world and in school, we are all missing the whole of the Courtney community. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,
Georgina Scott

Kingswood Voice : Courtney Crown Trail

Look out for a mention of Courtney in the next Kingswood Voice. The paper has taken in interest in the FoCP's upcoming Crown Trail (see below).

We are looking forward to hearing about and seeing photos of everyone's trails and crowns!



Lateral Flow Testing (LFT)

You may have heard that primary schools are going to have the opportunity to test staff using Lateral Flow Devices (LFD). We are currently awaiting our delivery of LFD and those staff who choose to take part will begin testing once they have arrived.

We thought it would be useful to just set some context to testing for you and the difference between LFT and PCR in terms of the types of tests and what they actually do.

The lateral flow tests (LFT) are used in people who don't have symptoms using a cartridge in a similar way to a pregnancy test. These tests are trying to find people who have no symptoms but are infectious. This type of test is very good at identifying people who have lots of the virus, and are infectious on the day, but isn't as good at finding the virus in people who aren't infectious yet (i.e. early in the infection), so they are a kind of spot check test.

The Polymerase chain reaction or PCR tests are laboratory processed and better at finding very small amounts of the virus, especially early in infection, so these are used primarily in people who have symptoms and can be booked through the NHS website.

If staff have a positive LFT they will be asked to isolate, along with their bubble if they have been in contact with within 48h prior to the test, and to book a confirmatory PCR test as soon as possible.

Anyone who takes a LFT with a negative result will continue to follow national guidance including the hands, face, space rules. A negative test will only show that they may not have been carrying the virus in the moment they took the test, but anyone could contract the virus at any point so it is essential the same approach is followed to protect them, their family and anyone they may come into contact with, whilst continuing to minimise the occasions where they come into contact with others.

We will update you on this process once LFD have arrived.

Free Wifi

BT has a number of free Wi-Fi voucher codes available for schools to distribute to pupils aged 16 or under who don't currently have adequate access to internet connectivity at home.

They are allocating vouchers in proportion to the number of pupils at a school who are eligible for free school meals.

Please contact the school if you are eligible for free school meals and require a voucher code.

Home Learning Provision Survey

In case you missed it, here is the link to our home learning provision. Please could you complete it by 12pm on Tuesday 26th January.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W2663XR>

Thank you!

Virtual school library

We are conscious that reading for pleasure in this time is not just good for the mental health and well-being but also educationally. The Oak Academy has launched a Virtual School Library with free reading and activities from the National Literacy Trust, please see link below.

[Virtual School Library | Oak Academy \(thenational.academy\)](https://www.thenational.academy/virtual-school-library)

Home Learning Support

Mr Green has created a fantastic Home Learning Guide which gives step by step advice on how to access the learning and meeting platforms that we are using. We do hope this helps you and your children.

Internet Safety & Pupil Acceptable Use Agreements

We are aware of how much more we are all working online at the moment. There are many positive benefits including the fantastic learning partnership we can achieve between school and families. However, we want to make sure our pupils remain safe.

We have sent out Pupil Acceptable Use Agreements today by email. If you have not received one, please contact the office. Please could you take the time to read through this with your child and discuss its guidance.

We will be looking at internet safety in more detail during the week commencing 8th February to tie in with Internet Safety Day. Keep an eye out for more resources and support!



The Road to Tokyo

Schools in the local area have come together with an aim to virtually reach Tokyo by Friday 23rd July (when the Olympics are due to start!)

The Road to Tokyo is an opportunity for individuals and families to stay active over the lockdown period. The Challenge can be completed in the following ways:

- Cycle
- Run
- Walk
- Or your own imaginative way!

The children in school are already working their way towards the distance but we need your help! When you are out with your family for exercise, record the distance (in miles) that you travel and then please let Miss Tarbard know through her class email misstarbardsycamore@gmail.com. You can let her know as often as you'd like, you may like to build up as many miles as possible and let her know just before half term



Children's Mental Health Week is taking place on 1-7 February 2021. On Friday 5th February, whether your child is in school or at home, they will be encouraged to **Dress to Express** – wear a colourful outfit to express yourself during the week.



For more information or for some simple ways you can encourage your child to express themselves, please visit <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>.

If you are able to, please donate £2 to Place2Be via this link, but this is only voluntary:

<https://donate.place2be.org.uk/>

FOCP Courtney Crown Trail



We have started organising our *Courtney Crown Trail* which will use the What3Words app. We hope to have it up and running by Saturday 6th Feb but please watch this space!

Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to be part of the trail so far. We are still looking for volunteers who would be happy to put up a poster in their window and have their What3Words location on our trail map. Once we know how many houses/locations will be included in the trail, we will provide more details (hopefully next week).

If you would be happy to put up a poster and be included in the trail, please email chairfocp@gmail.com and include your What3Words location by **12pm on Saturday 23rd January**. To find a What3Words location, you can download the app or find a location on the website : <https://what3words.com/>. The What3Words location should be as close to the window (where you will display the poster) as possible and it should be visible from a public footpath. If you would like to be included in the trail, but need help identifying your What3Words location, please let us know and we will be happy to help.

For those unable to volunteer, but who would like to follow the trail, we will include the details in the next couple of weeks.

FOCP Social Media

Please follow our "Courtney FOCP" page on Facebook (search for @focpcourtney) or @CourtneyFocp on Twitter