

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish.

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Newsletter 23 – *12thMarch 2021* We understand how to lead physically and mentally healthy lives.

Headteacher's News

Good afternoon parents and carers,

What a delightful start to normality!

It has been lovely welcoming the children back into school. It has been eagerly awaited by all of the staff and the children have settled in brilliantly. This is my first newsletter with all children in attendance and it has been wonderful to see the school in action. I have had the pleasure of supporting the Y1 bubble and have mastered quite a few names now although I still have a long way to go!

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who are remaining socially distanced at pick up and drop off, wearing masks (unless exempt) and regularly washing hands to keep us all safe. An updated risk assessment will be added to the website shortly when we have finalised some details in the appendices.

The first two days were particularly special with our 'coffee style' morning of buns, squash and a catch up followed by an extremely thoughtful gift from our Friends of Courtney Primary School (FoCP). The bracelets with a wish were received fantastically by ALL children and staff. Many of our older children initially thought they did not want one but would take one for a parent to give but could later be found tying around their own wrists underneath the table. These bracelets have united us all in conversations over choices and reasoning behind it (I think when we lose/break them although wishes will come true, will be greatly missed). THANK YOU to FoCP and specifically Rachel Andrews for such a meaningful gesture.

We had extended our World Book day competitions and the results are in! A huge well done and congratulations to our winners for their entries! We would also like to commend every entry made as the competition was tough this year!

For the perfect potatoes

EYFS Ellie KS1 Tahlia LKS2 Bradley UKS2 Amy

Crown Value certificates will be starting next week. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Keep smiling, keep shining!

Kind regards, Georgina Scott

For the beautiful book covers

EYFS Zach KS1 Isabel LKS2 Brody UKS2 Harry



Reading Certificates

Will F, Dominik Z, Sarah V, Harry J, Caiden H, Kamil S, Carson H, Molly M, Marcel Z, Laila H, Lilly B, Jessica L, Oliver S, Ellie N, Lily-Mai M, Isabel H



Multiplication Masters

Molly M, Sarah V

Online Safety

Children at Courtney Primary School regularly use the Internet as part of their learning. In school, we have regular esafety activities and lessons to remind children of the importance of keeping themselves and others safe online.

At home, sometimes children can be given unsupervised access to the Internet. This, potentially, allows them to access all kinds of society (both good and bad) and bring them virtually into their homes.

Here are some tips and useful links to help you to keep your children safe online:

Explore e-safety sites– There are lots of links to useful e-safety sites for children at the bottom of this page. Why not browse through them with your children?

Keep your computer in a shared area – Talk to your child about what they are doing online and, if possible, set up your computer in a shared area at home so that you can all share in the wonderful sites that are available online.

Regularly checking their phone/tablet – Regularly checking your child's phone or tablet helps monitor their activities on devices that are often kept private.

Facebook / Instagram / TikTok / Snapchat etc– Many of these sites have a minimum age limit of 13, so pupils should not be using them.

YouTube- It is important to ensure parent restrictions are in place as YouTube is an online platform – owned by Google – where anyone can upload & watch video content. All different types of information, advice & entertainment are uploaded & billions of people tune in to watch, rate & comment on it. As a parent, it's important you understand exactly what content your children might be seeing.

Some helpful websites;

- Kidsmart (www.kidsmart.org.uk) An award-winning internet safety programme for children.
- Know IT All (www.childnet.com/resources/kia) lots of useful advice for keeping yourselves and your children safe on the Internet.
- ChildLine (www.childline.org.uk) 0800 1111 for immediate support Information on relationships, rights and other issues faced by young people.
- Think U Know (www.thinkuknow.co.uk) This site contains internet safety advice for those aged from 5 to 16, along with parents and teachers, this site is produced by CEOP (the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre).

Out of School Club (OoSC)

Breakfast and After School club will resume again from this coming Monday, Monday 15th March. You can book your child's place on Arbor as before. Or for one off bookings, you can ring the school office.

For a variety of reasons our normal OoSC staff are a little light on the ground. Fortunately some of our well-loved members of School Staff are stepping in. Consequently, you may see any of the following members of staff in Breakfast or After School Club over the next three weeks:



Mrs Murphy, Ms Cogan, Miss Kervell, Mr Smith, Mrs Hall, Mrs Radford.

Breakfast Club starts at 7.45am and costs £4.00 per child, including breakfast After School Club is from the end of the school day until 5.45pm and costs £5.50 per child including a snack.

Homework

Homework will be restarting from today and will be delivered via Google Classrooms for Years 1 to 6. Paper copies will be available on request.

After School Club are Recruiting!

We are looking for 1 or 2 new After School Club Assistants. Please see details of the post below. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please share. To apply, please complete an application form. These can be downloaded from the recruitment page of the website or the Office can email them.

After School Club Assistant Monday - Friday 3.00pm - 5.55pm c. £6, 117.45 Hay13 point3)

We are looking for an Afterschool Assistant to work Monday - Friday afternoon running our Afterschool Club, continuing the club's growth and development. We are open to individuals who may only be able to work certain days.

We are looking for someone who is enthusiastic and energetic. They should be able to work as part of a team but can also take the initiative and lead others. The successful candidate will also need to be able to develop positive relationships with children, colleagues and parents.

Courtney Primary is a friendly and welcoming school with children who want to learn. We are fortunate to be able to work in a bright, modern building with wonderful grounds and views.

The post is term time only (38 weeks a year) and is currently fixed term as it is dependent on sufficient pupil numbers in the 20/21 academic year. However, the club has been running since 2016 and as much valued part of our school. The aspiration is very much that this role will be extended annually.

We are able to offer 'virtual' visits of the school. Please telephone the school office on 01454 866670 or email office@courtneyps.org.uk to make an appointment to visit.

Closing Date: Wednesday 24th March 2021 Interviews: Tuesday 30th March 2021 Start Date: Monday 19th April 2021

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the safety and welfare of children and young people. All staff and volunteers are expected to share this commitment and all appointments will be subject to appropriate vetting, including an enhanced DBS disclosure check.



CENSUS 2021



We're taking part in Let's Count!

We're delighted to be taking part in Let's Count! the exciting schools programme which helps children learn about the census and why it matters to everyone.

What is Census 2021?

The next oensus is taking place on Sunday 21 March 2021. The oensus is a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. This helps to plan and fund public services in our local area. By spreading the word and taking part in the oensus, you will help make sure our community is counted and gets the services it needs.

You will receive a letter in the post from the Office for National Statistics (ONS). You will then need to fill in the census questionnaire on or before Sunday 21 March 2021.

Find out more about Census 2021 and how to fill in your census questionnaire at www.census.gov.uk.

What is Let's Count!?

The ONS and resources centre, iChild, developed Let's Count! to teach children about the census and make learning fun. The programme has achieved accreditation from Mathematics in Education and Industry (MEI), the National Association for the Teaching of English (NATE) and the Geographical Association.

The lesson plans are designed to teach children both in the classroom or at home. They aim to support our school through Coronavirus (COVID-19), to re-engage children and families in learning and to celebrate our local community.



There are also exolusive video lessons, including a live YouTube lesson from Professor David Olusoga on the subject of 'Equality, representation and the census'.



The lesson plans feature the 'Counter Cats'. These are fun oartoon oharaoters to help with the learning process. Each oat has their favourite subject: Splotch loves art, Doo loves history, Digit loves maths, Soribble loves English and Socut loves geography.



Look out for the Let's Count! leaflets and stickers which your children will bring home.

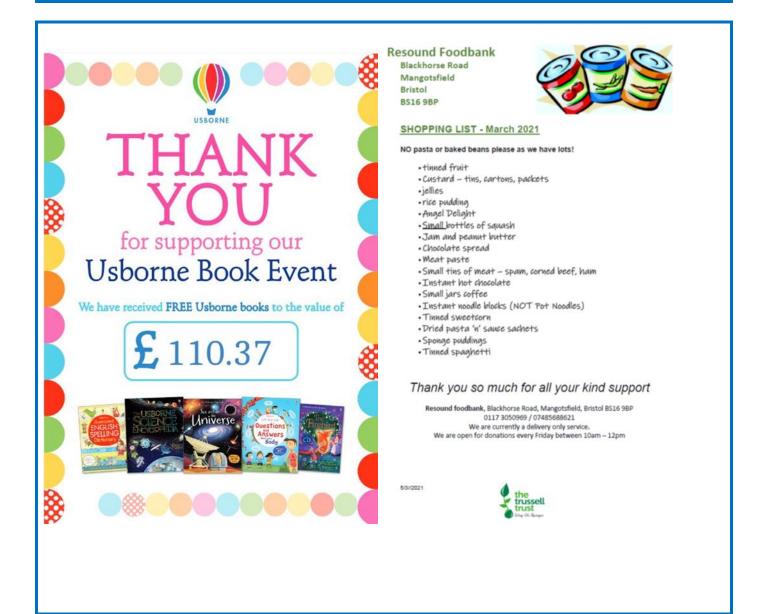
Let's Count! Day

Our Let's Count! Day is on Thursday 18th March.

- EYFS will count a variety of different things across the week, including facts about themselves like eye colour, pets, siblings, etc.
- Y1 and Y2 will be counting the trees in our school grounds.
- Y3 and Y4 will be counting colours during a walk in the school grounds.
- Y5 and Y6 will be collecting and counting litter around the school.

The information gathered will be used to make a display, which we will use to enter the Let's Count! competition. Prizes will be awarded to the best entries, with £1,000 worth of equipment going to the winning school.

Explore Let's Count! at: www.letsoount.org.uk





FoCP News

We hope your children enjoyed receiving their new wish bracelets earlier in the week $\Re \rightleftharpoons \varnothing$.



We can only do this with your help and support in raising funds throughout the year. If you haven't signed up already, perhaps you could support us by creating an Amazon Smile or Easyfundraising account. Both of these methods help raise funds without costing you a penny whilst you do your shopping online.

Amazon Smile

If you shop regularly with amazon, please set up an account at smile.amazon.co.uk. They will donate to FOCP at no extra cost to you. Just follow this link to set up an AmazonSmile account or, if you have one already, link it to Courtney Primary School Parent Teacher Association:

https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1042399-0

Easyfundraising

Thank you to everyone for raising donations for Friends of Courtney Primary with #easyfundraising! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 4,400 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share today. It all adds up over the year!

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/focourtneyprimary/

If you have signed up already, why not enter the Mother's Day Giveaway to help Friends of Courtney Primary WIN a £500 donation! Simply visit the competition page and click any of the listed retailers before midnight on 14th March! Enter now:

http://efraising.org/FsYH4eA8YC

Easter Virtual Balloon Race

We are going to be running another Virtual Balloon Race starting 4th April. Look out for details next week!

FOCP Meeting

Our next meeting will be via Zoom on Thursday 18th March at 7pm. If you would like to attend, please email <u>chairfocp@gmail.com</u> for the details. We will be discussing future events/fundraising ideas.

