



Headteacher: Mrs Deborah Wood

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish.



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Newsletter 19 – 31st January 2020

We commit ourselves to ambitious targets at home and at school

Diary Dates

Y1 and 2 WOW Event - Phonics

Year R WOW Event

Year 3 WOW Event – Maths focus

Safer Internet Day

Y5 & 6 WOW 2 – Mayan Curriculum & Safer Internet Day (E-safety recap)

Last Day of Term

FoCP Spring Disco

Y6 Life Skills visit has been rearranged for 13th July 2020

W/C Monday 3rd Feb 1.00-1.30pm

Monday 3rd Feb @ 9.00am

Wednesday 5th Feb @ 2.45pm

Tues 11th Feb

Tues 11th Feb 8:50-10.00am (after drop off)

Friday 14th February

Friday 20th March 6.00-7.30pm

Term Dates 2019-20:

Term 3 Mon 6th January – Fri 14th February;

Term 4 Tues 25th February – Fri – 3rd April;

Term 5 Mon 20th April – Fri 22nd May;

Term 6 Mon 1st June – Fri 17th July

INSET DAYS 2019-20: Mon 24th February, Mon 20th July

Headteacher's News

At Courtney, we are ambitious for our children in the core subjects, but we also value the knowledge and skills they develop through the foundation subjects. Our week has been a rich mix; there are just a few examples below.

In order for RE to be taught in depth, in the fourth week of every term the whole school has RE week. This means that RE is taught every day. We find that this really enhances the discussions and debates as the children are building on their previous day's learning which is still fresh in their memories. Further down this newsletter, you will find a poem written by Sycamore Class which is the end product of their RE unit.

We are always keen to provide the children with as many first-hand experiences as we can and were fortunate this week to have a visit from an expert astronomer, Ian James from Bristol Astronomical Society. He gave a talk to Years 1 and 2 and then to Years 5 and 6 showing them his magnifying equipment and sharing his knowledge of the solar system (in relation to Mayan civilisation for the older children). Thank you to Ian for giving up his time for us.

Our weekly staff training meeting this week was a very relaxed affair as Mrs Nicholls, our own Art expert, led training on painting techniques as part of the teachers' professional development. It was a mixed ability class, as all our classes are, but everyone felt that they had made progress in their learning!

I thought it appropriate to end this news section observing this momentous day which, whatever side of the political divide you are, marks the end of the UK's membership of the European Union after 47 years. Have a good weekend everyone.

D Wood

This week's Crown Values Certificates awarded to:

Year R Cherry: Maximilian Z

Year 1 Oak: Lucia B

Year 2 Ash: Lily B

Year 3 Lime: Jacob F

Year 4 Maple: Jessica C

Year 5 Sycamore: Ruby G-M

Year 6 Cedar: Oscar E

Attendance Total 95.8%

YR Cherry 94.5%

Y1 Oak 95.8%

Y2 Ash 94.9%

Y3 Lime 97.0%

Y4 Maple 98.8%

Y5 Sycamore 93.5%

Y6 Cedar 96.6%



Reading Certificates

Lily-Mae M, Logan P, Haydn C, Madison P-W, Elsie-May L, Emily C, Ben R, Lily C, Kane F, Ellis P, Eva R, Brody C-H, Jessica G, Carson H, Harry J, Charley D, Piper Mc, Edie A, Freya M, Caitlyn J, William C, Nevaeh E, Isis C, Demi-Leigh G, Oliver S, Bella-Rose P, Ava S, Grace S, Oliver P, Brandon B, Aliana G, Ivie-Leigh E, Josh G, Dani C



Multiplication Masters

Ruby H, Skyla P, Madison H, Ellie N



Sports News

Friday saw Courtney FC play a competitive football match against Barrs Court. It was an incredible game from start to finish. At half time we were 4-2 down, we had a team talk about fighting to the end and giving it everything. This proved a valuable talk, with only 2 minutes to go we scored a third goal, then with just 14 seconds remaining Haydn C took the ball on his right foot and delivered it in the bottom right hand of the goal.

All the team brought different skills and showed Courtney crown values to push on and gain a draw. I had an email from Barrs Court Head of Sport, to say how much they enjoyed the match and the Barrs Court team and adults watching were impressed with both teams' sportsmanship.

As always, thank you to all parents that came to watch and support us. We have already achieved so much in this sporting year and we will continue to push sport at Courtney. Well done everyone, Mr Smith

Team

Kieshia B, Bethany B, Tom W, Oscar W, Haydn C, Sam K, Oliver A, Liam C, Brandon B, Joe G



Attendance Matters

Thank you to those of you who strive to get your child into school and on time each and every day. Occasionally, life throws an unexpected curve ball, which means absence cannot be avoided; working together, we can minimise any disruption.

At the moment, we have 8% of our school population who have **below 90%** attendance. This means that they have already **missed at least 1/2 a day of school a week**. Many of these children are those who have taken a week's unauthorised holiday and then had other days off due to the normal range of illness.

Absence from school results in gaps in their learning, often a decline in the child's confidence in the classroom and the need to use teaching assistant time for 'catch up'.

For precisely this reason, we do not authorise holidays in term time.

Support is always available if you need it, often from Sue Matthews our Family Link Worker.

If you go over the five days unauthorised absence within the following 7 weeks, we will send your details to South Gloucestershire and you may be fined £60 per pupil per adult. (The school does not get any of the money.)

Year 1 and 2 WOW Event

Year 1 and 2's WOW event this term will be an opportunity for parents and carers to come and watch how phonics is taught in KS1. During the week commencing the 3rd February, parents are invited to watch our phonics lesson from 1:00 until 1:30. There will be a sign up sheet available for the Monday, Wednesday and Thursday of that week outside the doors at pick up next week. There will space for 7/8 adults per day. We are looking forward to seeing you all.

Miss Ford and Miss Inman



Library

Remember our school library is open every Thursday straight after school.

Last night this is what happened...

A book was chosen, a recipe followed, gingerbread men were produced.

An inspiration to others!

Joint Poem from Year 5

Based on Corinthians 13:4-7

Love is bright, love is powerful.

It does not fade, it does not offend, it is not selfish.

It does not disappear, it is not self-conscious,

It is not easily hurtful, it keeps memories.

Love does not invite evil but brings truth.

It always stays with you,

Always nurtures, always inspires, always flourishes.

Sycamore Class ❤️

Gardening Club



Our new Gardening club have been spending the last few weeks clearing, weeding and preparing the soil.

This week they have been creating a new rockery area.



Friends of Courtney Primary

If you work for a beauty salon (or know someone who does), we would be very grateful for any donations of beauty treatment vouchers such as a manicure, facial or cut and blow dry etc. that could be used for our Mother's Day Raffle. We would also welcome any unwanted gifts that may be suitable.



Friends of Courtney Primary School have a new Facebook page to keep you up to date on all the latest events happening, please like us at @focpcourtney

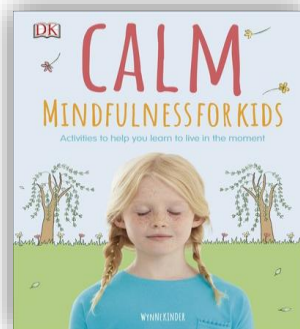
School meals – please tell us what you think!

We are looking at ways that we can continue to improve the food that we offer. We would like to know what you think and what might encourage pupils have to have meals more often. We would be really grateful if you could take 5 minutes to complete the 9 questions via the link below. Please do complete it even if your child doesn't have school meals. Thank you for your time.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2R5MK9H>

Mindfulness

This book has lots of helpful activities for children that might need that extra bit of help to calm down. It is available in Lidl for only £3.00.



Homework Club

Miss Park's Homework Club is going well so far.

A reminder that, for KS2 children, anyone not completing homework or reading 3x a week will go to this club on Friday lunchtimes between 12 and 12.30.

There will still be the chance to eat and to get some fresh air and a run round.

From time to time there may be exceptional circumstances when unexpected or unusual home circumstances make it difficult to complete homework. Please do contact your child's teacher if this is the case and temporary adjustments can be made.

OoSC

The following activities will be taking in place in club each week:

Monday - Junk modelling masterpieces!

Wednesday – Arts and craft workshop

Thursday – Cooking creativity



The extremely popular **Film night** will be returning on Friday 14th February with the new **Lion King**. Book your places now as this tends to sell out!

OoSC are also happy to enable any children in club to do their homework any day of the week.

Spare small fridge?

We are looking for a small fridge to replace an old one on it's last legs. Does anyone have one they could donate? Thank you !

Recruiting – Clerk to Governors

Courtney Primary School is seeking to appoint a Clerk to commence duties with effect from 25 February 2020. The holder of office will be required to liaise with the Head Teacher and Chair of Governors / Committees in order to set an appropriate agenda. They will then be required to take detailed, accurate minutes and type them up.

We are looking for someone who:

- Has experience as an administrator
- Is IT literate
- Is well organised
- Has good communication skills
- Is able to take accurate minutes at meetings
- Is able to maintain impartiality and handle confidential minutes
- Is able to attend training sessions during evenings and daytime
- Is capable of advising Governors on changes and updates in legislation and other requirements.

You should be reliable and have a flexible approach. Previous clerking experience is desirable though not essential as training and support will be available.

Start Date: 25th February 2020

Fee: £1,200 - £1,400 per annum (subject to experience)

Position: Part-Time Casual Office Holder Position

Hours: Variable. It is based on 13 meetings (6 Full Governing Body meetings, 4 Resources Committee Meetings and 3 Curriculum meetings) per year. The majority of these meetings are held at 7pm in the evening. All meetings take place in term time.

Closing date: **7th February 2020, 12pm**

Interviews: Week commencing 10th February.

For more information on how to apply, please look at the Recruitment page of our website.

Community News

Connecting Kingswood

FEEL GOOD FEBRUARY FAIR

BRING THE FAMILY
15th Feb
1-4pm

ALL FREE

Yoga
Crafts
Refreshments
Petting Corner
Facepainting
Fun Performances
Art activities
Reflexology
Quizzes

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