

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish.



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Newsletter 5 – 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

We respect the rights of others through understanding similarities and differences.

#### **Headteacher's News**

Dear Parents/carers

It is exciting (and crazy) to be counting down for Christmas with advent already having begun. For those celebrating, children have been excited to share the adventures of Elf on the Shelf, what they have received in their advent calander and their Christmas cards. Friends Of Courtney Primary (FoCP) have been in school today wearing their festive jumpers and hats helping our children with the Big Christmas Wrap. The children have excitedly been beavering away to wrapping your gifts, unsure if they can wait to give it to you. A HUGE thank you to our FOCP team and volunteers for brightening a drizzly afternoon involving flu jabs and rain. What a success!

### **Performances**

Christmas is always a magical time for children and here at Courtney we are working hard to ensure that all of the planned events can go ahead. Guidance has been shared to suggest that Christmas events can and should go ahead. We believe it is important that our children have an opportunity to celebrate the things they are working so hard for. We will ofcourse be reviewing this on a daily basis based on the number of confirmed cases and the risks involved. This may mean, however that events could be cancelled at short notice should we need to. We believe however through the detailed risk assessment, procedures in place and your continued support, we will be able to continue in a positive way. As they say, 'The show must go on'.

### **Sickness**

In the event of staff sickness, we are unfortunately not able to communicate durations, return dates or reasons for staff being ill under confidentiality laws. We are seeking HR advice as to how we can keep you updated as to what is happening in school due to any sickness however, and appreciate your support and patience with this. We recognise change is hard for our children and where possible always endeavour to maintain high quality consistency with any agency staff. We know of schools who have had to close year groups due to lack of staff and supply agency staff and are fortunate to have not needed to do that thus far.

#### Layers/windows

We have been reviewing our risk assessments and will be ventilating spaces using windows only in the first instance. We are encouraging children from Monday to **wear long sleeve black/white or grey tops (where possible) under their school T shirt and school jumper to keep them warm.** We use CO2 monitors which are used to identify good or poor ventilation to help reduce the spread of coronavirus. In the event that good ventilation or better has been identified some windows may be closed. In the event that readings show ventilation is poor, then doors will be opened.



### <u>Newsletter</u>

Please see below for details about what **year 5** have been learning. It is wonderful to hear about anti-bullying week and the idea that we are all supported by one system. We at Courtney believe that whilst weeks like 'anti-bullying' week are helpful, they cannot simply be contained to one week and should permeate all of the curriculum.

We appreciate your continued support.

**Year 6** have shared with us details of how the 'Courtney Currency' works and what the children and adults think about it and also some information on Healthy eating and what can be included in their packed lunch.

This image was recently shared with me and I wanted to share with you all. Working with children, there is much more laughter during the day than when all of our children go home. I hope this weekend as you keep active and engage with the outdoors that you also laugh more with your child/ren. Let's be six again!

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Keep smiling, keep shining!

Kind regards, Georgina Scott Six year olds laugh an average of 300 times a day. Adults only laugh 15-100 times a day. BESIX AGAIN.

tinybuddha.com



### Written by: Zena G (Y6)

## Sarah V (Y6)

This term we have introduced a new system called Courtney Currency. Our new system is for upper key stage two.



# **Courtney Currency**

## What is Courtney Currency?

Courtney Currency is a new system where you can earn and lose virtual money. Upper Key Stage 2 really enjoy this system as they get a prize (agreed by the class) if they are successful. Children need to earn a total of 2500 CC (Courtney Currency) by the end of term in order to achieve the prize. This system was introduced to help children understand how the real world works.

## How does it work?

So we've tried to make this new behaviour structure fairly simple for the children and if we continue this we will continue to help the children's independence for secondary school. You can contribute to a class role such as banker, journalist, library leader, music room monitor and classroom assistant. In any lesson you can gain money, but on the same note, you

can also lose it. You can get fined by bending your book, lack of effort and being off task. As well as fines you can also get bonuses by 100% on spelling test, going above and beyond and finishing a reading book.

We interviewed some children and staff and they said this:

## Zaila H (Y6)

"I like the Courtney currency because its helps children develop life skills. I would give it 9/10 because you get more privacy. I prefer it to the tree". William F (Y6)



"I like Courtney Currency because if someone is bad it goes away the next day. Another reason I like the system is because we have a price at the end. I would rate it 9/10 but they could improve the cost of fines."

## Lily C (Y5)

"Yes, I like the Courtney currency because it is interesting and teaches children life skills and how life works."

## Peter M (Y5)

"I like the Courtney currency as it's like real life. I would rate it an 8/10 because we get a big prize at the end. I prefer Courtney currency because you get more involved."

### Miss Tarbard (Y5 Teacher)

"I like Courtney currency as it gives children experience and important life skills. It gives more ownership and independence to the children. I think it's better for the older children as it gives them motivation and gives the younger children something to look up to."

## Mr Dowlman (Y6 Teacher)

"I like Courtney Currency because the quieter kids get noticed as much at the louder kids. I like the system as it helps fairness and children get more involved."

## Healthy Eating

Healthy eating is as important to us as it is to you and we want to encourage healthier eating at our school.

## What should your children be eating?

We believe that children should have a balanced diet. At any age you should always have a filling balanced meal as you can only go 2 weeks without any food. At school try to have a range of school dinners or you could bring in healthy packed lunches.





What should be in a pack lunch? In your children's pack lunch, you should have:

Some sort of main item: Fruit and vegetables of some sort Instead of crisps why not try potatoes (bam bam ching) A snack like a cereal bar or maybe a chocolate

## What a teacher thinks?

We interviewed our Year 6 teacher Mrs Parker (who has a degree in nutrients) and here's what she said.

"I believe that children should have a range of food to have good health. There are 19 hours between breakfast and dinner.so if your children don't eat between them they will have a loss of motivation and won't be able to learn well. For snack there need to be power, energy and nutrients to the body to run properly. Your children should have: fruit, slice of toast or low sugar cereal bars."

Thanks for reading! If you have any

questions, please email the school. We hope this letter helps you understand a bit more about what's going on in our Courtney Community and our lunchtime break. Have a good day and we hope you stay updated with our Courtney Newsletter.



### News from Year 5

## **Outdoor learning and anti-bullying week**

This week, for anti-bullying week, we have been thinking about kindness in our actions and how our values can have a huge impact on our acceptance of others.

Our book, The Boy at the Back of the Class, is all about acceptance and understanding of different backgrounds, cultures, home lives and developing friendship through all of this.

We took this book and our ideas on anti-bullying week and decided to create our own civilisations in the outdoor environment. We thought about our values and the rules we would enforce and why. Some excellent values included:

- Being eco-friendly
- Respect to each other and nature
- Be what you want to be
- Everyone is welcome, we are a safe place for all
- Respect what you have
- People have a good life here and we will help them to live that

These were some of our civilisations:



Mia, Ivee and Elliot



Millie, Maisie and Renee

Here is what Millie, Maisie and Renee had to say:

"We did this because it's anti-bullying week and we are looking at different religions and cultures and how we are all supported by one system. We used sticks, stones, wood, gravel and leaves. We used a worm and we gave it a supportive home.

Our civilisation had a park with a swing, a slide, a bigger slide, a pinecone hill and a tent. Our rules included:

- No animal abuse
- Only be friends with someone you trust 100%
- No littering
- Only kind, nice people"



### **Diary Events**

EYFS/KS1 Nativity EYFS/KS1 Nativity Christmas Dinner Carols at Courtney Carols at Courtney Break Up

### Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December @ 2.00pm & 5.00pm Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December @ 5.00pm Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December @ 6.00pm Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December @ 6.00pm Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

### This week's Crown Values Certificates awarded to:

Year 1 Oak: Kara L, Jenson W and Theo H Year 2 Ash: Henry B and Oakleigh H Year 3 Lime: Freddie S, Harley-Ray H and Lily C Year 4 Maple: Lillia B, Isis C and Ava S Year 5 Sycamore: Ellis P, Bradley L, Iyla-Rae S and Millie C Year 6 Cedar: Will F, Poppie H and Summer F



### **Reading Certificates**

Raif B, Maximilian B, Erin F, Betsy B, Amelia W, Finley R, Tobiasz K Amber T, Darcey F, Millie B, Zach H, Katy D, Maya G, Ella B, Zoe H, Ellie L, Kara L, Mason J, Ellie L, George B, Amelia LP, Jenson W, Leia-Louise P, Mitchell E, Jessica C, Jasmine P, Alex P Mia F, Maisie-Anne CW, Jacob F, Jess G, Megan A, Cory H, Eva R, Jessica G, Daria K, Elsie-May L, Harrison E Lily-Mai M, Jazaa J, Lily B, Madison H, Jessica L, Isabel H, Kallum G, Ava S Evie E, Lily C, Kamila K, Jasmine B, Penny EG, Hayden H, Kai M, Kinga S, Hubert K, Megan L, Fletcher A, Holly H, William C, Iliana B, Emily C, Charley D Henry B, Evanna L, Scarlett M, Jack C, Lili B, Elsie J, Nancy H, Isabel S, Aliana G, Maisie J

#### Parking

Please **DO NOT** park on the Zig Zag markings under any circumstances.

### **Out of School Club**

Plan for week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> December:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Festive Bingo and Paper Chains	Gingerbread biscuit making	Percy Pig Christmas crispy cakes and giant handprint wreath	Christmas Party with games and pizza

It is important that all children are booked into club prior to them attending as there is a limit on the number of children able to attend. You can book either via the Arbor system or by calling the Office.



### **FOCP** News

Apologies for the delay, but Friends of Courtney Primary would like to update you on the money raised from our previous events.

The Halloween Balloon race raised £64.85 and The Dare to be Different day raised £172.70. A great success!

Well done everyone for taking part & congratulations to the winner of the Halloween Virtual Balloon race hamper!

We would also like to say a HUGE THANK YOU for your overwhelming generosity of items received for the Christmas hampers! All your wonderful donations have made 6 fantastic Christmas hampers that will be up for grabs! Winners will be announced on Tuesday 14th December once the raffle has been drawn. A special thank you to the family (Y5) who donated a separate pre-made hamper.

Raffle tickets are still available from the school office.



All your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks FOCP.

### **Mental Health Website**

Mental Health charity Place2Be have launched a new website for parents of children aged 4-11years. <u>https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/</u>

The Parenting Smart site is completely free to use and access, full of tips and advice on a range of topics including transition to secondary school, meltdowns, and sleep difficulties.









F.A.O. Louise Belton Courtney Primary School Courtney Road Bristol BS15 9RD

19 November 2021

Dear Louise Belton and Courtney Primary School,

Thank you for your very generous Harvest donation to our South and East Bristol Foodbank. Demand for food parcels has increased by 103% since the pandemic started and has continued to rise. Your donation will enable us to meet this increasing need, and ensure that we can keep helping those who need us in the up-coming months.

You have helped clients like this one:

"The meals and essential items which Food Bank have provided for me when I had no one else to turn to, is only part of how Food Bank helped me. They took the time to compassionately and sincerely take a genuine concern in my personal problems."

If you are local to South & East Bristol, food items can still be donated in supermarkets. A list of collecting supermarkets can be found here: https://eastbristol.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/.

It is very important to us to connect with our supporters regularly; to keep you informed about how we are helping homeless and marginalised people, to share client stories, to advertise events and job vacancies, and to ensure you know how you can make a difference to client's lives through volunteering, donating, and praying. You can sign up to one, two, or all three of our various charity communications via our website.

Many thanks once again for your support at this time.

Andy Irwin

Foodbank Manager andy.irwin@inhope.uk



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