



## Newsletter 8 – January 2022

### *Our value this term is Respect*

Welcome back, Happy New Year and thank you for your kind gifts to the staff.

<p><i>Stars of the Day</i> Week 1 Arthur, Oscar Week 2 Chloe, Connie, Phoebe</p>	<p><i>Diary Dates</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> <li>17<sup>th</sup> January - Swimming Y3&amp;4 starts</li> <li>17<sup>th</sup> January - Y3&amp;4 Gymnastics Festival at Deer Park School 3.45pm</li> <li>18<sup>th</sup> January 3pm Chess Club</li> <li>20<sup>th</sup> January - Forest School R &amp; Y1 starts</li> <li>25<sup>th</sup> January - Life Education visit to school</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> February 3pm Chess Club</li> <li>1<sup>st</sup> February Parents' Consultations</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> February Parents' Consultations</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> February Cross Country Y5&amp;6</li> <li>9<sup>th</sup> February Worship in Church</li> <li>15<sup>th</sup> February Cygnet trip to 'Sharing Shakespeare at Mary Arden's Farm</li> <li>15<sup>th</sup> February 3pm Chess Club</li> <li>16<sup>th</sup> February - Swans' trip to the Corinium Museum</li> </ul>
<p><i>Star of the Week</i></p> <p>Week 1 - James and Mickey focusing on their writing. Week 2 – Emma for her great answers in class and Harry for his focus.</p>	<p><i>School Council</i></p> <p>Well done to the following children who have just been elected to represent their year groups: Y6 Jack, Y5 Millicent, Y4 Ferne, Y3 Harriet, Cygnets Juliette.</p>



### Covid-19 Guidelines January 2022:

Thank you to those who tested their children their children this week. We have got some cases in school at the moment so if you have access to lateral flow tests please test yourself and your children twice a week.

#### Changes to our guidelines -

Due to the increase risk levels at the moment, we are asking all adults to wear facemasks at drop-off and pick up and not to come inside the school building.

We ask that if anyone in your household has tested positive for Covid, or is waiting for the results of a PCR test, please do not send your child into school until the isolation period is complete.

If you have access to lateral flow tests please test yourselves and your children twice a week if you feel comfortable doing this. It is helpful to the school to help contain outbreaks.

For the time being we are endeavouring to keep the Swan and Cygnet class apart at school and using different areas of the playground.

Please could you continue to talk to your children about the importance of washing their hands thoroughly and regularly?

### **Covid Measures:**

- We will continue to:
  - ask pupils to wash their hands on arrival at school and after breaks and at hometime.
  - ventilate the classrooms, but not at expense of necessary warmth, open windows and doors to clear air when room not in use.
  - hold outdoor worship where possible
  - have additional cleaning of high touch areas at lunchtime.
- Face coverings are recommended for staff in crowded spaces, though not required.
- Staff continue to wash hands first thing on arrival at school.
- Symptomatic staff or pupils, and those who record a positive test, will still need to isolate in line with current guidance.
- The Co-Head teachers are required to monitor cases to identify any outbreaks and close contacts. If 5 staff or pupils test positive within a 10 day period or if a member of staff or pupil is admitted to hospital we will seek public health advice and implement additional infection control measures – e.g. additional cleaning, additional ventilation.

Full details can be seen in the Outbreak Management Plan on the website.

### **Covid-19 Symptoms**

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are usually mild, but some people can become very unwell.

- High temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms.

If you have these symptoms you are able to seek testing.

You can ask for a test:

- for yourself, if you have coronavirus symptoms now (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- for someone you live with, if they have coronavirus symptoms

You need to get the test done in the first 5 days of having symptoms.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

### Adhering to Government Guidance

Please adhere to the latest government guidance on socialising and avoiding infection, which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

### Covid-19 Arrangements

If you have any concerns or questions about the new arrangements in school please contact Mrs Simmons ([admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk)), Miss Davies or Mrs McLellan ([head@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk))

## Online learning

We have had to jump back into a mixture of school learning and online learning this week. Well done to all the children this week, you have just got on with it! Please see the links below to help if you need them to get into your Zoom lesson.

<b>RECEPTION</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/98829955682?pwd=dWdPbFZrMlc4dDRDdIFQNU9XK0c0Zz09">https://zoom.us/j/98829955682?pwd=dWdPbFZrMlc4dDRDdIFQNU9XK0c0Zz09</a> Meeting ID: 988 2995 5682 Passcode: 7NGGaJ	<b>YEAR 1 and 2</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/94920865344?pwd=U3pLYW1qOTVTeVUvckM4bzFFbHZFZz09">https://zoom.us/j/94920865344?pwd=U3pLYW1qOTVTeVUvckM4bzFFbHZFZz09</a> Meeting ID: 949 2086 5344 Passcode: rF2Dy1
<b>Y3/4</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96289752207?pwd=dUthdjR2KzY4SUIrVVN6L05Lc3NkUT09">https://zoom.us/j/96289752207?pwd=dUthdjR2KzY4SUIrVVN6L05Lc3NkUT09</a> Meeting ID: 962 8975 2207 Passcode: Ydgd6g	<b>Y5/6</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96456872037?pwd=MUUzaVc0MmJQV2dHWVJRMmpwR0FqZz09">https://zoom.us/j/96456872037?pwd=MUUzaVc0MmJQV2dHWVJRMmpwR0FqZz09</a> Meeting ID: 964 5687 2037 Passcode: T7jjgK
<b>Swans</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/94769263963?pwd=ZkM2YkJlc2RBcEhqZGpqYkUrL2h0OQT09">https://zoom.us/j/94769263963?pwd=ZkM2YkJlc2RBcEhqZGpqYkUrL2h0OQT09</a> Meeting ID: 947 6926 3963 Passcode: d49ip1	
<b>Whole School</b> <a href="https://zoom.us/j/96350362507?pwd=U2Z5cmxCU0RRRFoxWjlURnp2TDN3QT09">https://zoom.us/j/96350362507?pwd=U2Z5cmxCU0RRRFoxWjlURnp2TDN3QT09</a> Meeting ID: 963 5036 2507 Passcode: Sns328	

## Rapunzel

It was great to try out a different pantomime experience at the small but perfectly formed Chipping Norton Theatre. The staff at the theatre looked after us very well and we particularly appreciated the elaborate sets and live music. Not all of us appreciated the soaking we got! A big thank you to the PTA for funding the coach.

## In the Swan Classroom

The pantomime always makes a great start to the year and the Swan class have been looking at the traditions of pantomime and doing some writing related to Rapunzel. Before we go on to look at newspaper reports we have explored some poetry and written some kennings, which fits in well with our current topic, **The Anglo-Saxons**.

We have discussed why the Angles, Jutes and Saxons felt able, and were even invited, to invade Britain once the Romans had left. We can see around us some of their influence in place names which are familiar to us, such as – ford, -ham, -stow. We will go on to look at their lifestyle, religious beliefs and culture, including through our artwork, where we will be designing and making Anglo-Saxon brooches. At the end of term we have a great trip to the

Corinium Museum planned, where we will find out about the grave of an Anglo-Saxon woman that was discovered in Butler's Field in Lechlade, and why she has been nick-named "Mrs Getty"!

In Maths Year 3 are starting with fractions, Year 4 with tables and all are going on to written methods for addition and subtraction. Year 5 are starting with multiplication, Year 6 with fractions and both groups finish the term with work on angles.

For Computing we are exploring algorithms and the coding possibilities available with Scratch software. Y3&4 will be creating a quiz and Y5&6 a game, with a final version relating to our topic. You can check out Scratch on the education website and explore some tutorials at <https://scratch.mit.edu/>

Religious Education looks at how festivals and family life show what matters to Jewish people and we are hoping to have a virtual tour of the synagogue in Cheltenham.

Science for all year groups is Properties of and Changing Materials, carrying out investigations to test the most suitable material for a particular purpose and looking at how materials change when they are mixed, heated and cooled.

PE this term will be dance and athletics.

If you would like to find out more about our topic at home please take a look at these websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zxsbcdm>

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/anglo-saxons/>

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/anglo-saxons>

<https://coriniummuseum.org/discover/collections/featured-objects/anglo-saxon/>

## In the Cygnet Classroom

This term the children are thinking about people that were 'Famous for Five Minutes'. They started by learning about Ernest Shackleton and will move on to Queen Elizabeth I, Queen Victoria and Queen Elizabeth II. The children will also learn about William Shakespeare and a trip has been arranged to Stratford on the 15<sup>th</sup> February. This topic is history based and the children will be learning about timelines.

The children have been focusing on books from different settings. Their first book Fox by Margaret Wild is based in Australia. They have had to describe either the Fox, Magpie or Dog using their wonderful adjectives. In Maths the children have been continuing with their understanding of number up to 3 digit numbers. They have also been learning about subtraction. The year 2s are getting very whizzy at using their number facts to help them. In science we are thinking about different materials and the children have been on a hunt for them around the classroom. They also had to use their senses to find out their properties.



The children found it amazing that some plastic was really soft and others were really hard! In RE the children will be learning about Judaism and how Jewish people live. They will have a zoom lesson from a synagogue in Cheltenham.

## ... and the Nest

Reception very much enjoyed coming back to school, anticipating the trip to the theatre for Rapunzel. There was great excitement and we loved reading the fairy tale and learning about pantomimes, so that we were very ready for dames, jokes, singing and sweets. It was an ideal opportunity to explore height and length, as we built towers and plaited string and chanted the chorus of the witch and prince to unsuspecting Rapunzel.

This week we have been feeling the chill and looking at signs of Winter. We have read about what we can see and what we can feel in information books and have been outside to look for ourselves, taking photographs in the playground and Wildlife Garden. The sun was shining and we have beautiful representations of ice, frost, holly,

evergreens and our wonderful oak tree with bare branches. In Phonics, we have started Set 2 sounds and are delighted to be learning ay, ee, igh and ow as these appear often in our winter sentences in *see*, *feel* and *snow*.

We are having a lot of fun in Maths using dominoes, playing cards and counters to subitise and partition up to number 4. We are also working on number formation, and looking at patterns - as colours and shapes, dabbing paint and ordering cubes. We will be looking at one more and one less in the next few sessions, ready for number 5.

## Maths Update

Thank you to Mrs Dawson for delivering the Maths Update for Parents on-line yesterday. As we have moved to the new Can Do Maths programme this year it is really useful if you can understand it a little and talk with your children about it. The slides from the update meeting will be sent out on the portal.

## Morning Bell

A reminder that the school day starts at 8.40 am, please make sure you arrive in time for the morning bell. School is open from 8.00 am if you need to use breakfast club.

## Chess Club

Remember Chess club is coming up this Tuesday from 3 – 4pm and will run every other week. If you would like your child to stay for this club, please book them in to After School Club on the portal for 1 hour.

**We are still looking for any chess sets that aren't being used at home that we might be able to use, could you please send them into school. Alternatively, please keep an eye out if you are in a charity shop.**

## Accelerated Reader

Please keep encouraging your children to take the quizzes on Accelerated Reader when they have finished a book. It is motivating for them and helps us to see how they are progressing with their reading. Please use the link on the Learning Zone of our website to make sure you are accessing the correct system.

[http://www.southrop.gloucs.sch.uk/learning\\_zone/pupil\\_access\\_only.html](http://www.southrop.gloucs.sch.uk/learning_zone/pupil_access_only.html) You can also use AR Book Finder to identify books that your child might be interested in which are at the right level for them and for which an AR quiz is available. <https://www.arbookfind.co.uk/UserType.aspx?RedirectURL=%2fdefault.aspx>

## Times Tables Rockstars



We understand that a good recall of times tables facts is one of the key building blocks for success in Maths. Because of this we have recently signed up to Times Table Rock Stars to motivate and interest the children in this area of their Maths learning.

Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice. Each week concentrates on a different times table, with a consolidation week for rehearsing the tables that have recently been practised every third week or so.

This format has very successfully boosted times tables recall speed for hundreds of thousands of pupils over the last 8 years in over 16,000 schools worldwide. Ideally it is done on-line, though there is a paper version available. Please get in touch with us if you do not have the necessary equipment for your child to access the website at home.

Logging in to Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) on a regular basis will be part of the homework for all children in Swans and will allow them to earn “coins” which they can then spend their character.

Incorrect answers are always immediately corrected on the screen, so that they start to associate the correct answer to every question.

Code behind the scenes works out which times tables facts each pupil is consistently taking longer to answer and then it gradually starts to present these facts more frequently, until pupils have mastered them. It will also ask related division questions 20% of the time in order to reinforce division facts.

Login details were sent home on Tuesday.

## BeanOlogy

The wellbeing and resilience of all our children is key. We have the opportunity to work with Lizzie from BeanOlogy. Lizzie runs a variety of wellbeing and nurture groups across the Cirencester area. Her role is to encourage children to find resilience in themselves and to find their inner peace. We are hoping to be able to give most of the children the opportunity to enjoy 1 hour a week for 6 weeks at the village all on Thursday afternoon. The first group will start next week. This has been supported by a grant from Friends of Fairford.

*Julia McLellan*

**Mrs J McLellan**

**Co-Head Teachers**

*Megan Davies*

**Miss M Davies**