

Newsletter

11th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your children enjoyed a fun and safe Bonfire Night and/or Diwali.

Today is Remembrance Day, and I visited nursery to share a simple video clip with them at 11am. Children have enjoyed making poppies and many classes wrote poems and pieces linked to this.

In assembly this week, we remembered the service and sacrifice of all those who lost their lives fighting then or in more recent wars and shared some stories from two residents at The Star and Garter.



We were therefore honoured to share some of our remembrance poppies and writing with those living there.

Autumn is certainly with us and the children have now adjusted to the clocks going back! This is also a time of sniffles and we do have cases of Covid, mainly in Year 6. This does not seem to be increasing, thanks to the diligence of the staff and the children themselves but in the main due to parents being aware of symptoms, testing regularly and seeking PCR tests when needed. Also timely communications to the school enable us to alert cleaners as to where to deep clean etc. Please continue to test and to be mindful of symptoms.

Last week our month of Friendship began. Our Antibullying Workshops were engaging but purposeful (in general we focus on 'friendship' rather than overusing the term 'bullying').



Across our Ember Learning trust (ELT) schools, the children focussed on The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr Morris Lessmore, a librarian. Our visiting sculptor, worked with all ELT School children in Year 2 and Year 6, focussing on the theme of FLIGHT and both our written work and sculptures excelled after our 'deep dive' into the book! Some examples of this work are now in the school's entrance foyer.

Enrichment and The Arts are important to us at CPS, so we are saddened that Mrs Knuckey intends to pursue her second career as a wedding photographer full time. Thankfully, she will not leave until after Christmas, but I am sure you would all agree that she has had a huge impact in the short time she has been with us. We will endeavour to employ another specialist to replace her asap!

We would like to thank the Co-op for providing funding and Mr Edwards who volunteered to help our caretaker, Luis to build our new Woodland Learning Zone shelter. Although we want the children to explore this zone in all weathers, this shelter enables safe tool use and will also be used for group gatherings as needed. Here, the children are creating decorations for the woodland area from materials they have found on site.



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We had our PA AGM this week and we are delighted that Emma will continue as Chair with Ruth as Treasurer and Jen as Secretary. We discussed the PA's successful fundraising despite Covid and upcoming events, we shared a pool update as well as discussing funding various items and projects across the school. Look out for the next PA newsletter and rustle up a Quiz Team if you can!

Last week, our children had the opportunity to share and celebrate their learning with you in our 'Pop-Ins'. Talking to children the following day showed me how much they value this opportunity. Parents were impressed with their children's learning and also said this gave them a valuable insight prior to Parent Consultations and enjoyed the time they could spend talking about successes to date. Further Pop-Ins will be arranged throughout the year on different days.

Dogs; we love our furry friends, particularly our Reading Dog. As a Surrey school, no 'unauthorised dogs' are allowed on our premises ie beyond the carpark gates. I have also been asked by a concerned parent to request that dogs do not block these gates as it can be unsettling for some children and adults who are less confident around dogs. Many thanks for your understanding.



Pool Update:

Please see attached photo to show the pool's current status. The area of the Changing Rooms was cleared and levelled and the installation of the new drainage began this week. Once this has been completed the precast beam and block flooring to that area will be laid.

Guinea Pigs

It is lovely to see that our new baby guinea pig is gaining confidence: here he is enjoying a carrot breakfast with Freya!

If you would like to look after the guinea pigs one weekend or during the school holidays please contact Mrs Kosbab in the office at gill.kosbab@claygate.surrey.sch.uk.



Christmas Bazaar Update

The Christmas Bazaar is now only 4 weeks away! This event is one of the PA's biggest fundraisers for the school and can only be a success with the support of the parents and children. This **Christmas Raffle is ONLINE**, there are over 30 fantastic prizes to be won, so don't miss out. Click on the link below to register and purchase your tickets. Make sure to check your junk mail. Take a look at the flyer attached to this weeks newsletter for the full list of prizes.

[Enter Raffle to Win CPS Christmas Bazaar Raffle Hosted By Helen Hatton](#)

Keep an eye out over the next few weeks for **BOOK, TOY and JAM JAR** donations. **Mufti day** for Chocolate and Bottle tombola has been set for **Thursday 2nd December**. See Flyer attached for more information. Thank you for your support.

The Christmas Bazaar Team

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Volunteers

Thank you to all those parents who have contacted Mrs Ali to express interest in volunteering opportunities. The window for expressing interest has now closed and we have enough volunteers.

Mrs Ali will be in touch in due course to share details of the safeguarding training for volunteers.

Many thanks for your support, we really appreciate it.

CLAYGATE RECREATION GROUND TRUST

are seeking a new

CLAYGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE TRUSTEE

to represent the school and help manage and run the new Claygate Pavilion and recreation ground.

They are looking for an enthusiastic volunteer who has good admin skills. The Trust require individuals with a range of skill sets so if you have any of the following skills:

Event management, horticulture, graphic design, bookkeeping, building maintenance, fundraising, ground maintenance, charity governance, general management, business skills or other relevant skills,

Then please email the CRGT at admin@claygaterecreationgroundtrust.org.uk

Many thanks Helen Maguire (Chairman)

Doodle Maths and Doodle English

This week's top Doodlers are:

Top KS1 Maths Doodler– Sam (Oak)



Top KS2 Maths Doodler – Max (Sycamore)



Top English Doodler – Emily (Hawthorn)



Congratulations to all of you!

Pedestrian Safety, Autumn 2021 campaign - Drive SMART

This Autumn Drive SMART, Surrey Safer Roads Partnership will be launching a new campaign to provide education and engagement on the importance of pedestrian safety across the county. Recent data has shown that, in Surrey, pedestrian casualties make up to 9% of all casualties in the county. Although these numbers are lower than those seen in other areas on the country, Drive SMART believe that pedestrians in Surrey require a dedicated campaign, engaging with the most affected age groups and those travelling at “peak” times, to remind them of the safety precautions that can keep themselves and others safer on the road, particularly during the darker evenings.

This campaign will be focused on engagement with pedestrians – raising awareness of their vulnerabilities and ways in which to keep safe on the roads – and drivers, to educate them on their role in keeping these road users safe, in particular around school-zones and residential areas.

This dedicated campaign will run from Monday 1st November to Sunday 19th December, with the desired outcomes being:

- ☐ Drivers are more considerate to the dangers posed to pedestrians by unsafe driving practices and are encouraged to improve their driving habits to help this cause in keeping these vulnerable road users safe.
- ☐ For pedestrians in Surrey to feel safer using the roads, especially around school-zones and residential areas with the help of reflective devices/clothing, using designated crossings, removing distractions etc. and for this to then be reflected in the data from this Autumn/Winter period.

10–14-year-olds were the highest age band between 2018-20 to be represented in the data. School age pedestrians travelling to and from school is clearly a risk and the overwhelming majority for vehicle type interacting with the pedestrian casualties (79%) is cars. Therefore, tactics deployed throughout this campaign will aim to target drivers, schools, children and parents/guardians with cohesive key-messages and themes represented through radio airtime, bus advertisements and social media posts.

Please also keep an eye out for posts on the Drive SMART socials, Facebook: [@DriveSmartSurrey](#) and Twitter: [@SurreySRP](#)



CPSPA Quiz Night – 25th November

Don't forget to sign up for the Quiz Night – it's only 2 weeks away! There are limited tickets available so secure your tickets early to avoid missing out!

Friends of Claygate Primary School

Please see the attached letter from the Friends of Claygate Primary School and consider making regular payments if you are able.

School Photos

Please don't forget the school photos are being taken on Tuesday and Wednesday next week. Please make sure all children are in full uniform. Thank you.