

Newsletter

25th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Goodness - December is almost upon us! I hope you have your calendars ready as well as your warm gloves and scarves.

From December 1st, children will be able to post Christmas cards at school to their friends. Please can the envelope include the child's name and either their surname or the initial of their surname as well as their class, ready for our postmasters to deliver them.

Also, Christmas lunch diary dates are ever closer - Thursday December 9th EYFS and KS1 will wear their festive jumpers and hats for their lunch. The following day, Friday December 10th, KS2 children will wear theirs and have their Christmas lunch. Please note that, as in previous years, this is an 'opt out' lunch and all children will be served a Christmas lunch (even if they normally have packed lunch) unless you have informed the school office they don't want it. If your child is in Nursery or KS2 and you do not opt out, your child will be allocated a lunch and a £2.45 charge will be added to your ParentMail lunch account. Staff will support each other's festive lunches so each team may eat with their classes and year groups. This means we will not need any additional volunteers.

Please be aware of notices re tickets for our Christmas performances. The children are enjoying learning songs in their music lessons and through virtual assemblies and are keen to share this with you. We acknowledge that this is not the same as learning and singing songs as a whole community with the teacher in front of you!

Our month of Friendship continues throughout November (but is always one of our school's core values). Our values assembly this week focussed on *prejudice* and *stereotyping*; judging a giant by his appearance and listening to the prejudices of others rather than taking the time (and courage) to judge for ourselves. This also linked to the British Value of *Tolerance*.

Golden Tea has returned!

My favourite times! Meeting up with our lovely children AND sharing sweet treats!

For Golden Tea, Team CPS thought about which children are our 'always' children who have a lot of jam in their hearts, particularly linked to our focus value of Friendship! It was not an easy choice and we have more Golden Teas scheduled soon!



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Across our Ember Learning Trust (ELT) schools, our children participated in **'Children in Need'** last Friday. We all accessorised with something spotty, raising awareness of those with less than us. The children considered our wider role as citizens. By working together across ELT, our children also recognise that together we have a greater impact. Together we raised over £1000! Supporting others through charities is also part of our wellbeing charter. Thank you all for your generosity.

At CPS we use the word CLANG to remind us of the 5 Ways to Wellbeing. Harvest, Odd Socks Day and Children In Need have allowed us to focus on 'Give' (through charitable donations) and 'Connect' (to feel connected with our community).



Fabulous Firefighters!

Both Nursery and Reception children enjoyed our visiting heroes this week! They heard all about being a firefighter, had a go with the hose and 'visited' the fire engine. I was honoured to present the team with a very special jammie dodger sticker and some biscuits to take back to their station!



Club4

The Club4 programme (known nationally as Holiday, Activity and Food Programme) is returning for the Christmas school holidays. This programme is for children in Reception – Year 11 eligible for benefits related free school meals (FSM) or classed as vulnerable. The Club4 programme is hugely beneficial to children and their families – it supports wellbeing and welfare, develops individual social skills and connects families so children are better prepared when they return to school after the school holidays.

Eligible families can book directly with providers through the

[Club4 website.](#)



Foley Road, Claygate, Surrey
T 01372 465348 E office@
www.claygate.surrey.sch.uk



Club4
CLUB FRIENDS FOOD FITNESS
will be back for the holidays!

Are your kids on free school meals?
Surrey County Council's 'Club4' is a children's free holiday activity programme, aimed at children of all ages who are eligible for benefit-related free school meals.

"My little boy loved sweetcorn at the camp and is now asking to try corn on the cob. He enjoyed the activities and the adults were very friendly and responsive to his individual needs."

"Both my daughters had a great time at camp. I couldn't fault anything. They were happy and looked after very well. Yeah the camp was located in a great place to get to easily."

Scan the QR code or visit: www.surreycc.gov.uk/club4holidays/

ACTIVE SURREY SURREY Department for Education

Covid

The drop in temperature is certainly a shock to the system and a sign of winter's rapid approach! We have now received CO2 monitors for classroom use across the school from the government in addition to the ones we already have. This means that our classrooms should be warmer moving forward as staff will be able to use these as a guide to increase / decrease ventilation as needed. That said, our staff team have a vested interest in having a warm but well ventilated classroom. The heating is on throughout the school at a higher setting than pre-Covid so classrooms etc heat again quickly. Of course the main purpose of these monitors is to mitigate against the spread of Covid through poor ventilation. It is wise on chillier days for children to wear a warm vest / underarmour, bring coats etc so they are warm when playing outside too.

We have some children (in Year 3 as well as some across the school) who have tested positive for Covid and others who are waiting for the results of PCR tests.

We feel it is important to inform you so that you are mindful of the symptoms should your child become unwell. We would also like to make you aware that an increasing number of parents have reported that their child/ren tested positive for Covid yet did not have these symptoms. As a staff team we continue to be cautious and avoid close contact, testing daily in 'hot spots' and of course continuing with virtual assemblies etc. The diligence of the staff and the children themselves continues but it is so important all parents are aware of symptoms, testing regularly (twice weekly) and seeking PCR tests when needed.

Children who have symptoms should self-isolate and get a confirmatory polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test. ***They should isolate until they receive their results.*** If a child tests positive, they should continue to self-isolate in line with public health guidance (other members of the household including siblings are no longer required to isolate).

Children who have had a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test, should self-isolate and get a confirmatory polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test even if they have no symptoms.

Children who have a positive PCR test, should continue to self-isolate in line with public health guidance (other members of the household including siblings are no longer required to isolate). If a child's PCR test is negative and if they feel well, they may return to school.

Please inform the School Office if a child tests positive. Timely communications to the school enable us to alert cleaners as to where to deep clean etc. and keep us informed of potential Covid outbreaks.

Celebrating Success!

Congratulations to Jane (Cedar) who achieved an amazing Distinction in her Grade 3 Piano exam last week.

Well done Jane!



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Xmas Bazaar

The Christmas Bazaar is just 1 week away! Thank you for all the book donations, new toy or craft sets and for the Jam Jars filled with sweets. Please keep them coming over the next week. Look out for **cake plates** coming home in your children's bag next week. We will be asking for cake donations for the cake stall which can be dropped to school from Friday 3rd at pick up time. Don't forget **Mufti Day on THURSDAY 2nd December**. The team will be out the front of school to collect your chocolate and bottle donations for Tombola stalls. Final week for the **ONLINE Christmas Raffle!** Click on the link below to register and purchase your tickets.



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

Please see attached flyer for more details.
The Christmas Bazaar Team

Doodle Maths and English

Our top Doodlers this week are:

Top English Doodler – Amelie (Holly)



Top Maths Doodler – Emily (Hawthorn)

Special mention also goes to Jasmine (Hawthorn) who was only a couple of points behind.



Top Doodle Maths Class – Willow

Top Doodle English Class - Chestnut

Congratulations to all of you!

The Family Grapevine

The winter edition of the Family Grapevine [can be found here](#) and has lots of ideas for festive fun!