

# Crockham Hill C.E. Primary School

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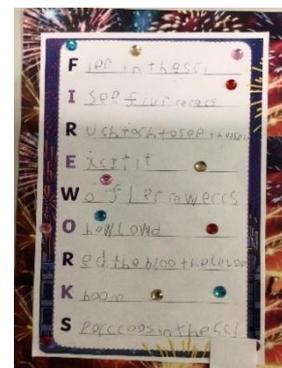
22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023

## Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Acorns

It's been a chilly start in Acorns, as we have been immersing ourselves in our new topic 'Antartica'. We have been painting landscapes (It's all-white!) and thinking about what we would need if we went on a trip there. We have also really enjoyed learning about the wildlife that lives in the Antarctic, particularly Emperor Penguins. At the beginning of the term, we had fun painting firework pictures and our Year 1 Acorns wrote some wonderful acrostic poems.



### Bluebells

This term in Geography, we have been learning all about the continent Antarctica. We have learnt that it is the coldest place on Earth and the home of Emperor Penguins. We have also learnt that polar bears do NOT live in Antarctica but rather in the Arctic, although our resident polar bear, Mr Fluffles, likes to sneak his way in. We are also very proud of how we can name all of the 7 continents and 5 oceans.



### Conkers



In Conkers, it is our turn to go to Forest School and we have enjoyed going every Wednesday afternoon (even in the rain)! At Forest School, we have loved looking for the signs of Autumn, running through the beautiful orange leaves and wading carefully through the stream. We have learnt a lot about the weather, due to the recent storms, and the impact that has on our woodland area. We have also thought about the animals that live in our woodland area and how they are preparing for winter.

## Dandelions

Dandelion Class demonstrated superb confidence and subject knowledge when they performed their class assembly on the Stone Age to the whole school and lots of parents. The assembly transported us back in time thousands of years, as we discovered what life was like during the Stone Age. We met a few intriguing characters along the way and witnessed everyday activities such as hunting, cooking, trading, foraging, cave painting and making jewellery – Stone Age style!



## Elders

As the celebs have entered the jungle, so have Elders as they dived into their topic all about the geographical features of the Americas and the Amazon rainforest. We have been reading Katherine Rundell's 'The Explorer', all about a group of children who find themselves stranded in the Amazon rainforest, and putting our world geography to the test by researching locations in contrasting climate zones. Last week, the children produced fascinating non-chronological reports about the animals of the rainforest. They spent the week carefully researching their chosen species, then wrote their reports with amazing facts and intriguing information to engage their readers.

## News, Updates and Reminders

### Sporting News

This term we had some Year 3 & 4 pupils take part in a hockey tournament. They played incredibly well and we were very proud of their sportsmanship.

Next week, we have a girls' football match at Knole Academy – we wish them the best of luck.

### School Uniform

Please ensure that children are dressed in appropriate school uniform – including a shirt, tie and footwear in accordance with our dress code (**no boots or flashing lights on footwear please**).

### Forest School

After a wet and soggy session last week, this week the sun was shining and Natalia had some fantastic activities for Conkers to try, learning all about the fungi of the forest. The children were split into two groups and whilst one group enjoyed some free time, the other group read a story about the life cycle of fungi around the cosy campfire. They then used a bow saw to cut a section from a log, which was used as a plinth for their fungi sculpture. The sculpture was moulded from clay and attached to the plinth. The groups swapped over, so everyone had the opportunities to do both activities and we ended up with a fantastic array of fungi of all shapes and sizes - just like in the forest! Well done Conkers - a great forest school session.

### Safeguarding

I just wanted to take this opportunity to remind you all that our door is always open and if there are any changes to your circumstances or anything that might affect your children, please do not hesitate to come and speak to us about it. We are able to offer support in many cases and are always willing to listen. Your children come first and the more we know, the better we can support them.

## Key Dates Autumn 2

Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	EYFS/KS1 – Music performance/activities led by Sevenoaks School
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fair Hand in- Handmade and preloved/unwanted gifts School Uniform 10am – Prospective Parents' meeting
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Girls' Football tournament (KS2 x 7 girls)
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	KS2 – Music performance/activities led by Sevenoaks School 7:30 – 9:30 pm – wreath making in school
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Christmas Fair Hand-in – all from previous weeks plus toys Christmas jumper/clothing day as a thank you for fair donations. Christmas Tree Dressing (all children to bring in a named tree decoration from home) Christmas Lunch
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas Fair 12:30pm
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	2:30pm – Reception Nativity
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	2:30pm – KS1 Nativity
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Disco (Year R & KS1 – 5-6pm, KS2 6:30 – 7:30pm)
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Secret Room – presents for adults (pm in the Hall)
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>NO SCHOOL CLUBS LAST WEEK OF TERM</b>
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Pantomime (in school)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Christmas service in Church – 2pm</b> <b>End of Term 2</b>

**Spring 1 - Swimming** starts this term on **Mondays** for Years 3, 4 & 5.

Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January	<b>INSET Day</b>
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	<b>Start of Term 3</b>
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	First swimming lesson for Years 3, 4 and 5
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Census Day
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	Conker's Class Assembly – 2:40pm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Whole school film night
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Young Voices Concert
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Numbers Day - NSPCC
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents' Evening
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Kidzania Trip – Year 3 & 4 Break the Rules Day (donations please) <b>End of Term 3</b>

## Spring 2

Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Start of Term 4</b>
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Sponsored event (details TBC)
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	2pm – Parent council Meeting
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day 5pm - Story time (all children invited)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	British Science Week
Week beginning Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	MANGOs Gift Shop (Mums, Aunties, Nans, Grandmas, Others)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	3:15pm – Year 5 Hindleap warren and 11+ meeting
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	8pm – PTA AGM (venue to be decided)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Bluebells Class Assembly – 2:40pm (Date change)
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	School outdoor area help day (volunteers welcome!)
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Class Photos
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	March Mad Hair Day
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Easter Church Service – 2pm</b> <b>End of Term 4</b>

## Summer 1

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>Start of term 5 (summer Uniform – optional)</b>
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Own Clothes Day for May Fair donations.
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Mayfair
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs Week
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> May	Hindleap Warren – Year 5 Residential
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Hindleap Warren – Year 5
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Census Day
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> – 23 <sup>th</sup> May	Bikeability (Year 6)
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Reculver Trip – Year 3 & Year 4
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>End of Term 5</b>

## Summer 2

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	<b>Start of Term 6</b>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Fathers' days gift/bag hand in at drop off KS1 & KS2 Sports Day
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	FUDGE Gift Shop Open (Fathers, Uncles, Dads, Grandads, Everyone else)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Back-up Sports Day
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	Cumulus (Year 6 Residential)

Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Acorn's Parent Assembly – 2:40pm
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 School Journey Cumulus Tented Village
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 District Sports (provisional date)
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6/KS2 production <b>(TBC)</b>
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Prize Giving <b>(TBC)</b>
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Leavers Church Service – 2pm</b> <b>End of Term 6</b>
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>INSET DAY</b>
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	<b>INSET DAY</b>

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Higgs