

The Blue Letter: 20th November 2020



Dear Parents and Carers ,

There is an established link between the home learning environment at all ages and children's performance at school. We aim to be a school where home and parents work together to deliver the best outcomes for our pupils. Your child will come home from school in the next week with a copy of our home-school agreement that we would like you and your child to read and sign, the signed part needs returning to school. It outlines how we aim to work together to support your child in making progress. With this in mind, please can we ask that children have their reading books, word or letter wallets, reading records, book bags etc. in school everyday. We have various adults in school during the week to support children's learning and they need the contents of their book bag to support this. The half termly curriculum letter, outlines how you can support your child at home, this may be by hearing them read, practising spellings or phonics or helping and supporting their homework tasks. Creating a regular routine and encouraging children to set goals, plan, and manage their time, effort and emotions can help children regulate their own learning. As children get older this is often more valuable than direct help with homework. For young children promoting shared book reading as well as activities linked to playing with letters and numbers is well documented to be linked to improved outcomes for children.

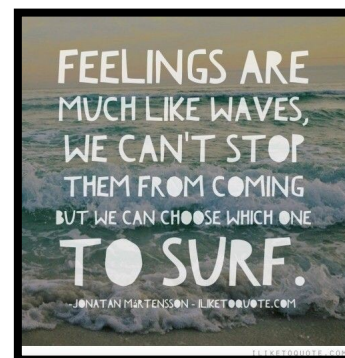
The topic and homework letters for this half term have been uploaded to the school website. They can be found in the curriculum section, on the topic overview page.

You should have received a letter today explaining how this term's parent consultation meetings will work. They are scheduled for Wednesday 2nd and Wednesday 9th December. The login details for Squirrel Class and the instructions for Google Classroom were sent home a couple of weeks ago and the class codes have been emailed.

Year 6 parents, if you have not yet applied for a secondary school place, you can submit a late application before 27th November. This hopefully will ensure you will receive an offer on allocation day on 1 March.

Collective Worship

Next week our worship theme is "How do we make sense of our Feelings?" Emotions, particularly the ones that we consider to be "negative" or difficult – can often be hard to understand. Our bible verse for next week is from Psalm 139: "You know all about me... you know my thoughts before I think them. I am wonderfully and mysteriously made" We might often agree with David the Psalmist when he says that we are 'mysteriously made'! Christians believe that Jesus was fully human and experienced the full range of human emotions – and that means he understands all that they are feeling, too.



Advent Calendar Collection

Like last year Lucas and his Mum are collecting advent calendars for two local women's refuges which helped them in the past. If you would like to donate a calendar, please send them in with your child during next week. Lucas' mum will collect them from the office on Friday 27th November in the afternoon.

Christmas

Given the uncertainty around planning for Christmas, we are aiming to do as much as we can in school to ensure a fun lead up to the end of term.

Christmas Cards

We want children to be able to send Christmas cards to each other in a safe way so have devised the following system. Our Christmas post box will be located on the way to the playground. Children will need to put their cards into the box on the way to playtime each day. The cards will be emptied each day into a box and left before sorting and distributing. Please ensure the children write the name of the child and the class on the envelope to help with the sorting process. The box will be out from Tuesday 1st December and the last day for posting will be Friday 11th December.



Nativity Play

There will be no nativity play this year as I'm sure you can imagine. The children will be preparing a very short performance in their classes, which we will film and hope to share via the website.

Other events

Friday 11th December - Save The Children Christmas Jumper day. A chance to wear a festive jumper/shirt/dress in return for a donation to Save the Children. These can be home decorated with tinsel etc. rather than purchased from a shop. We will be sharing a justgiving link closer to the day.



Monday 14th December - Christmas crafts in classes. The children will spend time creating some fun Christmas craft with their class mates

Tuesday 15th December - Christmas breakfast. Please send your child to school with a special breakfast, it could be as simple as cereal and milk or a warm bacon sandwich. Please remember that we have nut allergies in school though.

Wednesday 16th December - Christmas lunch. If your child requires a vegetarian/ pescatarian/ pork free/ beef free/ pork & beef free Christmas lunch at school and they do not usually eat with Chartwells, please contact westsussexspecialdiets@compass-group.co.uk by **Tuesday 24th November**. If your child has a packed lunch you may wish to make it a special one that day. Please no fizzy drinks.

Thursday 17th December - Christmas Parties in class (own clothes day)

More details will come from your child's teacher.

Friday 18th December - last day of term!



Welcome back Fox Class!

It's great to have Fox Class back with us. They spent Tuesday morning reflecting on their time in isolation and sharing their experiences. They had a carousel of activities which included a yoga challenge, a bean bag challenge, a drawing challenge amongst other things. This helped them settle back into school and learning as a whole class again.



Achievers

Well done to:

Joey, Elisia, Annabelle, Kaiden, Darcey and Lucas
from Squirrel Class



Elodie and Emily from Fox Class

Thomas, Nina, Hazel, Eliza and Maddie from
Owl Class

