



## The Blue Letter: 17th December 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been a great last week of term and the children have really loved being able to join together to take part in some festive activities.

You should have received details of the sports clubs for the spring term. These are hockey on a Monday and Fencing on a Tuesday. These start on Monday 10th or Tuesday 11th January and are booked direct with JC sports. These are open to children in Year One upwards. We are keen to have more clubs available, if you know of a club provider or have a suggestion for a club we might be able to investigate, please do let Mrs Dommett know.

Thank you for your support of our Christmas fair last Friday. We raised an impressive £383.73. Thank you to the organisers and helpers in the PTFA for all their hard work. The PTFA are keen to have more help and support in creating and running events to raise extra funds for schools. If you are able to get involved, do speak to Lucas and Hugo's Mum.

There are a large number of permission slips for swimming that have not been returned. A second letter will be sent home today. **Without a signed permission slip, your child will not be able to go swimming.** Please return the slip, even if you have made arrangements to pay at a later date.

Squirrel Class are looking forward to Miss Bath, a student teacher from Chichester University, joining them for the majority of next term. She will be working alongside Mrs Pendle and Miss Sheikh.

Finally, thank you for your support of the school, this term. We appreciate the efforts you have gone to in keeping your children at home when they have not been well and arranging for testing when needed. At the start of the new year, please continue to be vigilant for symptoms and if in doubt keep your child at home and arrange for a PCR test.

We hope that you all have a lovely Christmas break and are able to meet up with family and friends and enjoy the festive season.

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

### **First Week in January**

Monday 3rd January	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 4th January	1st day of Term Owl Class PE
Wednesday 5th January	Fox Class PE
Thursday 6th January	<b>Swimming for Owl and Fox Class</b> Squirrel Class PE
Friday 17th December	Squirrel Class PE

## **Emotional Support**

***Support throughout winter, Christmas, and the festive holidays - the following message comes from the local education authority.***

While Christmas is a time of celebration, we know that the festive season, the end of term and the start of a new year can also be a difficult time. This is especially so after another tough year for us all, the impact of Covid-19 on those who have lost loved-ones or have been affected in other ways, and the news of the Omicron variant.

Your school is committed to continuing to support you and our entire community during the holidays, especially while you might not be seeing friends and colleagues as you would do when in school.

If you are feeling worried or lonely, reach out and speak to someone close to you. Let them know how you're feeling, there is always someone who wants to listen and talk to you. Sometimes just sharing that thing on your mind can instantly ease some of your worry, you might find a solution to your problem is easier to find by simply sharing it.

If you think someone you know might be feeling this way, get in touch with them. A simple message or call to say 'Hello, how are you feeling?' can make all the difference.

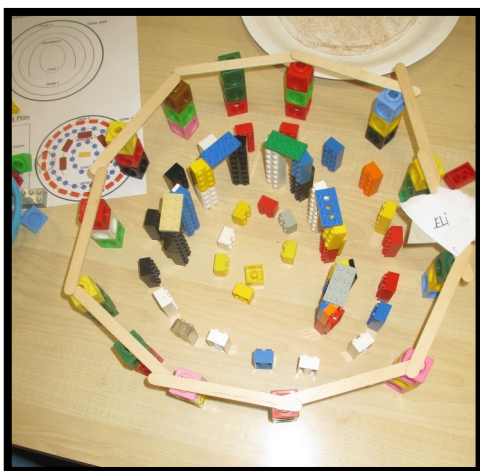
There is a huge amount of guidance and resources available on a range of subjects for young people, parents, carers and school staff. Professional help and support with your mental health and wellbeing continues to be available over the school holidays and beyond for those who need it.

You can find lots of information, support and links to further help online at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/YourMindMatters](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/YourMindMatters)

Getting out and about can also be a great way to keep fit and boost your emotional wellbeing. Visit the [Experience West Sussex](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/ExperienceWestSussex) website for some great West Sussex walks, cycle rides, things to do and places to explore.

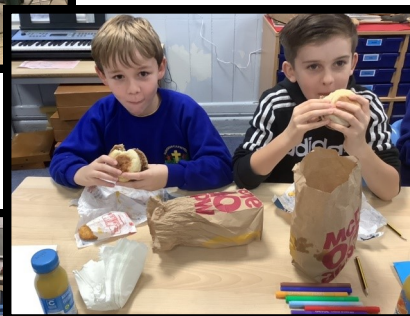
## **Fox Innovate**

Fox Class have been busy trying to recreate Stonehenge in the classroom. They used some interesting building materials!



## Christmas at Boxgrove

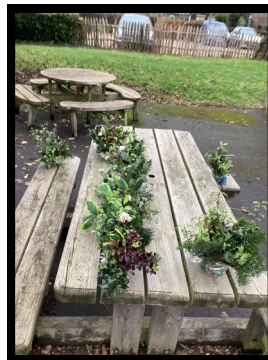
Here are a few photos from this week in school, where the children have completed Christmas craft, sung carols and Christmas songs together, eaten Christmas Breakfast. Owl Class went to the Alms-houses to sing Carols.



Oakley has had a groom ready for Christmas and hopes everyone has a lovely holiday. He is looking forward to catching up with all his Boxgrove friends in 2022!

## Outdoor learning

This week we made Christmas decorations. We made ones to hang on our Christmas tree using wood and wool in a triangle shape or a round piece of wood and drew with felt tip pens. We also used oasis and holly leaves and flowers to make table decorations. We played a game where we were blindfolded and had to guess the tree by feeling it. We boiled water on the fire and made hot chocolate. Eli had a ladybird on his hand which was cleaning itself! - *Eli and Kacy*



This was the last session for year 4.

Outdoor learning for Year 3 starts on Thursday 13th January. They need warm clothes with full length trousers and long sleeve tops as well as a coat and appropriate shoes.



## Achievers

Well done to all our achievers this week:



Squirrel Class: Xanthe, Emily and Mark

Fox Class: Bella, Elsie, Eli and Lucas

Owl Class: Max, Libby, Isabelle, Demi and Leo

