



Churchstanton Catch-up

Churchstanton
Primary School
Somerset
TA3 7RL

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Newsletter: 5th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This was not the start to this half term that I was hoping for, but as always, Churchstanton Primary will make the best of the situation and will continue to strive to make your child's education as stimulating and as positive as we can, despite local, national and international events. Thank you for supporting us with the COVID "circuit breaker" measures and for respecting our request to wear face-coverings. I am hopeful that we can reduce our restrictions in a couple of weeks and begin to invite you back into school once again. The LA & PHE will review the situation at the end of next week and I will update you as soon as I can.

I was lucky enough to have visited Badger Class at Kilve Court before half term and saw first hand what a difference a well planned residential can have on children's development. Being responsible for themselves and others for a week has certainly encouraged them to be more independent and resilient which is exactly what we want from our learners at Churchstanton Primary School. Our aim of developing **respectful, responsible, resilient, risk-takers** is fully supported by these wonderful experiences. If you would like to view some of the photographs from the trip, please visit our FaceBook page where there is a day by day account of the residential for you to enjoy. Huge thanks must go to Mrs Tildesley for coordinating the visit and to Mrs Archer & Miss Jones who supported the children for the week. It is an exhausting 24/7 task and I am sure it took most of half term for them to recover.

Our new administrative assistant, Miss Soo, has joined us this week and although at the moment you won't be able to meet her face to face, once restrictions have relaxed, please do introduce yourself at the office or on the phone to make her feel welcome. Her working days will be Monday and Wednesday 8.30am-3.30pm and Friday 8.30am until 12.30pm. The School Office will be closed on a Friday afternoon.

Please continue to use the school email box sch.105@educ.somerset.gov.uk for any school enquiries or to notify us of any absences or change in pick up arrangements for your children. In addition, please call the school office on **01823 601354** and leave a message.

The PTA page is full of the many wonderful events we have coming up and we could really do with your active support. Do contact Becca if you feel you can spare some time. If you are taking part in any Bonfire Night celebrations this weekend, do take care and come back to us safely on Monday. Have a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards,

Mrs. C. Halstead



Safeguarding: We take child protection extremely seriously at our school and this is especially important during any school closure. If you have any concerns you can ring Children Social Care on: **0300 123 2224** or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk



Celebration Catch-up

Headteacher Certificates

Hedgehog Class

Madeleine for excellent diary writing - well done!

Sophia for writing a lovely story about a lonely robot - super work!

Squirrel Class

Riley for designing a creative robot including a working electric circuit - amazing work!

Freya for showing an excellent attitude to all her learning - superb!

Badger Class

The whole of Badger Class for being responsible, respectful, resilient, risk-takers at Kilve Court! Brilliant!



Congratulations to all of Badger Class who were exceptional at Kilve Court before half term. They behaved so well that staff commented on their respectful and responsible attitude as well as their resilience and perseverance, which makes us all very proud of them as superb ambassadors for the school. Well done!

House Points (so far this School year)....

Fantastic effort! Keep working hard for your team!



Blackdowns	522
Brendons	469
Mendips	528
Quantocks	529





Classroom Catch-up



Hedgehog Class

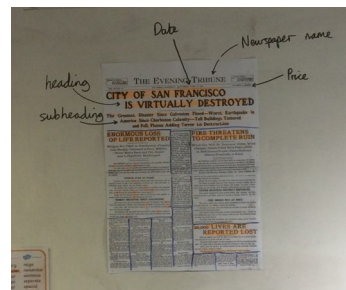
Hedgehog Class have returned to school this week with renewed enthusiasm for learning. The children have enjoyed listening to our new story 'There's a Tiger in my Garden' by Lizzy Stewart. They have drawn imaginary gardens and made dragonflies. We have been learning how Hindus celebrate Diwali at this time of year. We have made puppets and designed Diwali cards.

In RSHE we have been leaning about COP 26 and how we can all make a difference to climate change. The children designed posters to share their ideas.



Squirrel Class

It has been a very positive start to this new half term with lots of exciting topics to explore. Squirrel class are discovering facts about earthquakes with a writing focus on the 1906 San Francisco earthquake which devastated over 80% of the city. We are creating newspaper articles to explain these events to a wider audience.



In our art, we are looking at Andy Warhol and how the culture of 'Pop Art' lead to interesting artistic designs using printing. Plenty of pictures to follow.

In forest school, the children are looking into climate change and COP 26 to dig deeper into the issues around global warming and what we as people can do to help.

Badger Class

This week, Badger Class have been learning all about Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) as we launched our new Geography topic about Mexico. They have been learning all about the reasons behind the festival as well as how it is actually celebrated. They have designed their very own sugar skulls and are working on some information writing, ready for our class display.



Notices and reminders:



ETC Closure

Just a reminder that **ETC** will be closed for the afternoon of **Wednesday 17th November** to facilitate staff training. However, Breakfast Club is still available on that day as usual.

Hot School Lunches — reminder!

Please ensure that lunches are booked, and paid for if applicable, by no later than **Sunday 7th November** for the week commencing 29th November, and **Sunday 14th** for week commencing **6th December**. If you do not book a meal, we cannot provide one for your child and a packed lunch must be provided.



If you are experiencing any difficulties with ParentPay, please contact Hazel in the office for support via email on hburt@educ.somerset.gov.uk Thank you.

Parents Consultations Evenings

Due to COVID restrictions having to be reintroduced, Parent Consultation Meetings will now be held via telephone on the following days:

Hedgehog Class - Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th November

Badger Class - Wednesday 10th November

Squirrel Class - Thursday 11th November

You should have received a time slot this week from your child's class teacher on the days listed above. If you have not received one as yet, do contact the school office and they will follow this up for you.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Unfortunately, due to COVID, we will not be able to sell poppies to you this year for this very important appeal. However, I do know that Churchstanton Shop has them for you to buy and to make a donation if you wish.

We will still hold our own very special commemorations in School on November 11th to remember those that gave our lives in conflict for our country. If your child can wear a poppy on that day, that would be greatly appreciated.



Welly Boots!

Please could all Hedgehog Class make sure they have a **named** pair of wellies in school at all times. Playtimes will often be held in the forest so it is important the children have the correct footwear. Thank you.

Class Photos

Just a reminder for all children to have smart uniforms and tidy hair for the school photographs on **Tuesday 9th November**.

Due to the current COVID restrictions in the schools, it is not possible for pre-school children to be included within the photographs. Siblings will be photographed together.





Forest School



As you know, Churchstanton places Forest School & Outdoor Learning at the heart of our curriculum and Mrs Adams is very skilled at linking other areas of learning to her sessions. This term the children have created Mayan Art and produced some beautiful Clay Owls, using textured items from the forest, as well as preparing the garden for some autumn planting.





Sporting Catch-up



Cross Country

Congratulations to Isaac, Matilda & Dylan, who have been invited to take part in the Golden Mile cross country event run by Premier Sports. We are very proud of them and know they will represent the school brilliantly at this event. Good luck!

SASP Leadership Academy

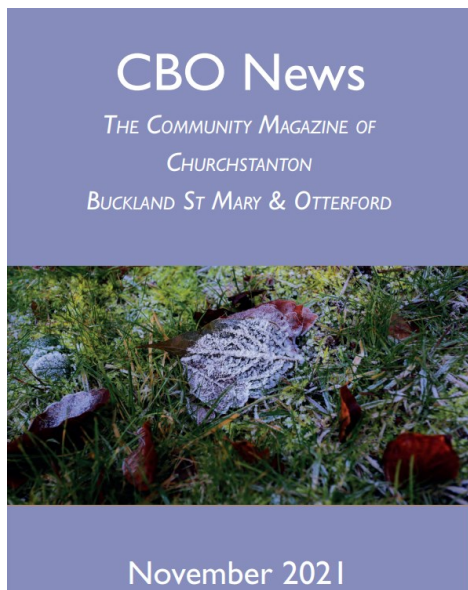
Well done to Sylvia and Lennon who are going to attend the Year 6 Leadership Academy run by SASP. This is an exciting opportunity for our Year 6 pupils to grow their leadership skills and put them to good use in school by leading younger children at playtimes.



Community Catch-Up

CBO news for November can be found on line here.

[CBO News Editorial November 2021.indd](#)



Attendance

This week, the Golden Gnome for the best attendance over the last two weeks, is awarded to.....

SQUIRREL Class!

Well done to you all!

Good attendance is directly linked to good progress.

Keep it up!



PTA Catch-up:

This half term is all about Christmas!

The children's Christmas trip to The Brewhouse Theatre to see 'The Wind in the Willows' is fully funded by the PTA including the coach to get there. This trip is a magical enrichment experience and something that doesn't happen without everyone pitching in and fundraising, so thank you for helping to make this happen with big or small contributions.

That said we do have some things this half term, that we need help with to keep the money coming in for things like these to continue. If you would like to volunteer please let Becca know what you can help with. Thank you to those that have said they can help already. Please could you confirm directly with Becca the areas you can help with - listed below:



Helpers needed:

Hummingbird Craft Fair - Saturday 20th November- 11am to 2pm. We need helpers to run our table, there will be a few things to help us raise funds, like name the teddy & lucky dip. It will all be organised, it just needs help to run.

Cake baker needed: for a guess the weight of the cake, maybe a Xmas fruit cake. It's needed ready for 11am Saturday 20th November Craft fair.

Christmas raffle- sales and promotion will start on Monday 22nd November, we need someone to promote this on Facebook and drive the excitement to buy buy buy tickets! We have some fantastic prize donations that have come in already and more expected.

Churchinford table top sale-Sunday 12th December- 10am-1pm. Churchstanton Primary School are the beneficiary of funds raised. We need helpers to run our table there, to sell our Xmas raffle tickets and get more money in the raffle pot.

Thursday 9th December 9.30am, helpers needed to put together Xmas raffle hampers.

Wednesday 15th December, if you know a helper that the children won't recognise, that can come to school on their sleigh in a red suit and says 'Ho Ho Ho' (suit & sleigh provided!) to help the elves give out presents 1.30pm-2pm approx, please let Becca know ASAP.

Dates for your diary:

- ◆Friday 5th December: Xmas card designs deadline (today!) Xmas card orders, look out for your proof design and place orders by given deadline—tbc.
- ◆Saturday 20th November: Hummingbird Christmas Craft Fair, 11am to 2pm.
- ◆Monday 22nd November: Churchstanton Primary School, marvellous Christmas raffle launch, look out for you raffle letter, including your hamper item request please.
- ◆Thursday 9th December: from 8am, drop off hamper raffle prizes etc to school.
- ◆Thursday 9th December: 9.30am hamper construction with those that confirmed they can help.
- ◆Sunday 12th December: Churchinford table top sale, 10am-1pm. For the benefit of Churchstanton Primary School.
- ◆Tuesday 14th December: online (Facebook) raffle prize draw Pm.
- ◆Wednesday 15th December: wear a Christmas jumper over school uniform in exchange for bringing an item for Taunton food bank (look out for letter with more information).
- ◆Outgrown your Christmas jumper or have unwanted Christmas things, why not pop on the schools preloved page & make some pennies for the PTA pot.
- ◆Having a clear out before, don't forget to pop bagged clothes in our school recycling bank.
- ◆When buying your presents, why not raise some pennies for the PTA, register easily with Easy fundraising— see link. It costs you nothing!

Easy fund raising: It's so easy to register and then even easier to earn money for school, no hard work needed. Some companies give 8% on your purchase as a donation! Get money for school whilst you make those Christmas purchases and more.

[https://
www.easyfundraising.org.uk/
causes/churchstantonpta/?
utm_campaign=raise-
more&utm_content=gs-f1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/churchstantonpta/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=gs-f1)

Diary Catch-up

Dates for your Diary: (Subject to change)

Parents Consultation Evening via phone calls:

8th November - Hedgehog Class

9th November - Badger Class

10th November - Squirrel Class

15th-19th - Anti-bullying week with SAV workshops for KS2

17th - **ETC closed** for sessions 1 & 2 after school.

December 2021

1st December - Winter flu vaccinations 1pm

KS1 Nativity - **Tuesday** 7th December – am

- **Wednesday** 8th December - pm

14th - Whole School Theatre trip to the Brewhouse - Wind in the Willows

15th - Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas Jumper Day

16th - KS2 Carol Concert 2pm

17th - End of Term

January 2022

3rd - Bank Holiday - school closed

4th - Return to school - Spring Term

February 2022

18th - half term begins

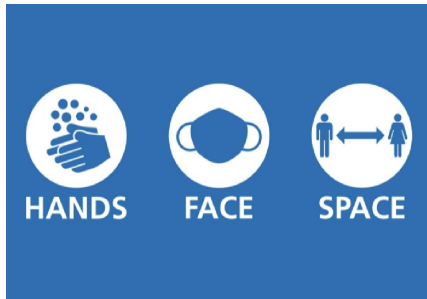
28th - INSET school closed to pupils

March 2022

1st - Return to school

April 2022

May 2022



COVID update

Just a reminder of the procedures for parents if your child is displaying any of the symptoms associated with Coronavirus.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, please **DO NOT** send your child to school. Contact the school office and leave a message on **01823 601345** **and** email **sch.105@educ.somerset.gov.uk** **and your child's class account** to be sure that the message is received. You should organise for your child to take a PCR test via the NHS online portal or by calling 119. Members of the household do not need to isolate unless they themselves have symptoms.

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do:

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Safeguarding:

We take child protection extremely seriously at our school and this is especially important during any school closure. If you have any concerns you can ring Children Social Care on: **0300 123 2224** or email **childrens@somerset.gov.uk**