



## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

*Message from the Head of School, Kelly Martin.*

When I went to visit another Bromley, Aquinas school on Monday, which I don't often visit, I used the sat' Nav' because I **needed** its direction to find the school. I was relying completely on this device to help me to find the way.

Annoyingly, as it was first thing on a Monday morning (I left my house at 6.30am) by the time I got into London it was well and truly rush hour traffic time (it made me very thankful that in our area, rush hour traffic is mainly tractors first thing in the morning)!

My Sat' Nav' 'thought' it was being very 'helpful' in offering me alternative routes, 'where I could save 7 minutes by going 'this way' or saving 9 minutes by going 'that way' and changing route once again. I am sure most of you may have experienced this at some point. As I didn't know the area at all, I trusted that this device would get me there faster, as promised. Therefore, I duly followed these "faster routes".

Long story short... I felt like I went round 400 extra roundabouts that I didn't need to, sat in needlessly long queues of traffic, waited at road works, waited again at traffic lights, went around a few more roundabouts and ended up in my location 20 minutes after the sat nav' had originally said I would arrive at my destination! So much for a faster route!

Lesson learned! I had put my complete trust and faith in something which promised me it could "see the future" (well, the future of traffic build up, at least). I relied on following routes which at the time of the sat nav' telling me they were clear (I agree they probably were at that Nano second) they quickly became as congested as the previous route and although my device constantly tried to find me a better route, each route became just as congested as the last!

I decided, after arriving 20 minutes late, that I should have just stuck with the original route and taken my chances!

Life can be like this sometimes, not just when we are driving, but in general everyday life, we always want to go with the quickest option, we want to save time in this fast paced world. If you are anything like me, you probably try and pick the shortest queue at the checkouts (and you may even swap queues if another one looks to be moving faster)!

Usually though, these choices we make to try and get through a task quicker, don't work and sometimes we forget that **there is joy in the journey**. How often do we take time to stop and think about what we are missing by trying to speed everything up...

Do you really need to buy that 'must-have product' online just because it will get to you quickly? Could you wait and save up for it? Can you find it cheaper somewhere locally and support local businesses? Could you make your own and enjoy the experience of 'home made'?

Do you really need to take the car to the local shop or could you take a little longer and enjoy a family walk to the shop?

I am sure you can think of things in your own lives where it may help you to not always look for the "quick way."

As we approach what can be the 'craziness of Christmas', when it shouldn't actually be like that at all... Stop and think about how you can do things more mindfully and plan for the **best experiences**, not always the **quickest**. January will thank you for it, especially if you have also managed to save money by not rushing into buying the first things you see because they have fast, next day delivery!

**Lest we forget.**

**Rye Primary School and Rye College were proud to come together with our community on Remembrance Sunday in the beautiful sunshine at St Mary's Church to lay a wreath in remembrance for those who have given their lives in military service. We will remember them.**



## PUGWASH

Pugwash children have been continuing to explore and learn all about the season of Autumn. We have had spooky potion making in the role play area.

We have been learning how to use the maths resource, Numicon, to make Rangoli patterns during our learning of the festival of Diwali.

The children who have been attending Forest School sessions have been learning to use tools safely when working.



## CLOWNFISH

Clownfish are enjoying their new topic, 'Intrepid Explorers'. In art and design this term, the children will be making mobiles of the solar system, drawing aliens and making model aliens out of clay. In our first art lesson this term the children used pastels to create their own fantastic solar system pictures.



## SEA TURTLES

In Key stage 1, we are really excited about beginning our new topic, "Intrepid Explorers", in which our learning is blasting off to the moon and beyond! As we wanted to learn how to write brilliant letters, we found out about the inspirational space scientist and science communicator, Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock. We thought of relevant questions to ask her and planned our letters carefully. Our letters are now ready to post! We'll let you know if we get a reply... fingers-crossed!



## SEA HORSES

As part of our Intrepid Explorers Topic, we had the most fantastic visit from the Astrodome, from the Observatory Science Centre in Herstmonceux. We travelled through the galaxy and watched the stars and planets. We learnt that the Earth is always moving and that Jupiter has 79 moons travelling around it. Did you know that Jupiter also has a giant storm which is the same size as two planet Earths! We really enjoyed learning about the constellations and the phases of the moon, we listened to a story about a dragon who took 2 weeks to eat the Moon. Lots of us would like to travel to Space but as it is 115km from Earth to the Sun we have decided it would take us too long!



## ORCAS

Orcas class are very excited about our new topic: Metals and Magnets. We have started writing a story about the Iron Man. We are learning about forces and have conducted our first fair test. We predicted which surface outside would have the most friction using a toy car and rulers to measure the distance the cars would drive. We are also very excited about designing and making a moving storybook and are learning about mechanisms to make this happen.



## DOLPHINS

Dolphins class designed, made and evaluated fairground rides! We spent a lot of time planning and tinkering with circuits and pulley systems. Then we got into our groups and created some fantastic fairground rides. They turned out really well, if only we could make them life-size and try them out!



# Pupil Monitoring Teams

The 'Pupil Monitoring Teams' have been set up and are running successfully across Key Stage 2. The children decided that they wanted to design badges for their specific roles. Here is a selection of some of the winners.



Scarlett from Barracudas designed the Reader Leader badge



Levi from Cuttlefish designed the Green Team badge



James and Gabriel from Marlin designed the Prefect badge



Lucas and Archie from Dolphins designed the Assembly Monitor badge



CJ from Barracudas designed the Lunchtime Monitor badge



Cayden from Marlin designed the Digital Leader badge



Cadi and Aj from Sharks designed the Head Girl and Head Boy badges, 'Leading the Way.'



# Attendance News

## Whole School Attendance

Whole school attendance currently stands at 93.7%

Our target is 97%

If your child is well and not displaying COVID symptoms please ensure they are attending school, on time, every day.

We can't authorise any term time absence for holidays.



## Class Percentages

1st September until

17th November

**Minnows 91.6%**

**Clownfish 92.9%**

**Seahorses 91.1%**

**Sea Turtles 94.4%**

**Cuttlefish 94.8%**

**Barracudas 95.3%**

**Orcas 96.5%**

**Marlin 96.4%**

**Dolphins 91.6%**

**Sharks 92.6%**

## Attendance Rewards

We are pleased to announce we will be rewarding punctuality and excellent attendance with Dojo points and a certificate sent via class Dojo. These will be going to children in the class without any late marks for the week. The class with the highest weekly attendance percentage and all pupils with 100% termly attendance.

We are also looking at reinstating the termly attendance prize draw for all children achieving 100% attendance.

Watch this space!

## Punctuality update.....

We have seen a real improvement in punctuality this week and nearly all children have been arriving to school on time.

Thank you for your support and please keep it going, it really has made a difference.

Please remember if your child is going to be late then you need to bring them to the main entrance lobby and complete a late slip. If you are struggling with the morning routine and need some advice please speak to the school office, Alison Homewood or your child's teacher.



## Homework Club

\*\*\*\*\*Please note\*\*\*\*\*

There will be no Homework Club on the last week of term.



## Dates for the diary!

### November 2021

- 19th Forest School– Cuttlefish  
Children In Need– Non Uniform Day
- 24th Swimming Y5 & Y6  
Y2 Phonics Check
- 25th EYFS, One World day (see separate letter for details).
- 26th KS1 RSHE Day  
Forest School– Cuttlefish
- 29th Creative Christmas Workshop (more details to follow).



### December 2021

- 1st KS1 RE Day  
Swimming Y5 & Y6
- 3rd Forest School– Cuttlefish
- 7th Minnows– Grandparent's afternoon
- 8th Swimming Y5 & Y6
- 9th KS1 Nativity Performance 9.30– 10.30 & 5.30-7.00pm
- 10th Christmas Jumper Day, suggested donation of £1 for Save the Children charity (donate through parentpay please).  
Forest School- Cuttlefish
- 14th EYFS Christmas Production 2.00pm  
KS2 performance at St Mary's Church 6.00pm (all KS2 pupils to attend).
- 15th Swimming Y5 & Y6  
Christmas Dinner  
KS1 Christmas Parties
- 16th EYFS Christmas Production 2.00pm  
KS2 Class Christmas Parties
- 17th RPFf Christmas Fair 2.00-4.00pm  
Non-uniform day in exchange for £1 to the RPFf for the Christmas fair & bring a prize for the Tombola.  
RPFf collecting on the gate.



### Last Day of Term

### January 2022

- 4th **Inset Day**
- 5th **First day of term**
- 7th Forest school– Orcas
- 10th– 14th Money Week
- 14th Forest School– Orcas
- 15th Deadline for 4+ admissions
- 21st Forest School– Orcas
- 28th Forest School– Orcas



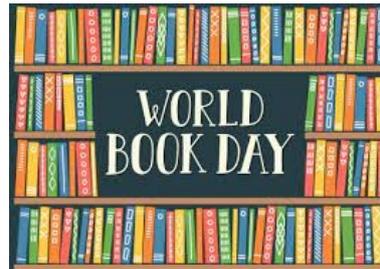
### February 2022

- 4th Forest School– Orcas
- 9th Learning Celebration
- 10th **Last Day of Term**
- 11th **Inset Day**
- 21st **First Day of Term**
- 22nd Parent Consultations 4.00– 6.20pm
- 24th Parent Consultations 3.20- 5.30pm
- 25th Forest School– Marlin



### March 2022

- 3rd World Book Day (dressing up day)
- 4th Forest School– Marlin
- 7th– 11th Club event– Week of Assemblies
- 11th Forest School– Marlin
- 18th Comic Relief– Red Nose Day– Non-Uniform Day
- Forest School– Marlin
- 23rd Maths Day
- 25th Forest School– Marlin



### April 2022

- 1st Forest School– Marlin
- Last Day of Term**
- 19th **Inset Day**
- 20th **First Day of Term**
- 22nd Forest School– Sharks
- 29th Forest School– Sharks

### May 2022

- 2nd-27th KS1 SATs
- 6th Forest School– Sharks
- 9th– 12th KS2 SATs
- 13th Forest School– Sharks
- 20th Forest School– Sharks
- 26th Learning Celebration
- 27th Forest School– Sharks
- Last Day of Term**



**June 2022**

- 6th **First Day of Term**  
Phonics Screening Week
- 6th-24th Multiplication Tables Check for year 4
- 10th Forest School– Dolphins
- 13th-17th Photos– Sarah Prescott,: Class and Individual photos
- 17th Forest School– Dolphins
- 20th– 24th Aspirations week
- 24th Forest School– Dolphins



**July 2022**

- 1st Forest School– Dolphins
- 7th Sports Day KS2
- 8th Forest School– Dolphins
- 13th EYFS Sports Day
- 14th Learning Celebration
- 15th Forest School– Dolphins  
KS1 Sports Day
- 21st **Last Day of Term**
- 22nd **Inset Day**



Occasionally, dates are subject to change, please refer to the most recent communication for up to date information, thank you.



Thank you to everyone who bought Poppies from our Head Boy and Head Girl last week.

We are pleased to confirm that we raised £125.77 for the Poppy Appeal.