



Headteacher: Mrs Deborah Wood

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish.



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Newsletter 14 – 18th December 2020

We respect the rights of others through understanding similarities and differences.

| Dates for your Diary | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| INSET Day | Monday 4 th January |
| INSET Day | Tuesday 5 th January |
| Children Start Back | Wednesday 6 th January |

Headteacher's News



Well, it's been a strange last week of term, fitting really for the way 2020 has been so far. We lasted 14 weeks and, at the final hurdle, fell with 2 separate but positive cases. Already down to four classes, our numbers have dwindled further as the week has progressed. Well done for those who soldiered on to the end.

Keeping socially distanced of course, I managed to organise for Miss Scott to visit. She met any children and staff who were in. We managed to spend a good few hours together so she can hit the ground running in January. Thank you to Mr Thomas who has taken on the mantle of the go-between and has already put a lot of preparation into the new term to help things run smoothly.

Thank you so much for the kind messages and gifts that I have received. I have just had the most wonderful, bizarre virtual whole school assembly; I was so touched by the kind words and so proud of our children for having the confidence to speak in front of so many others. (Who knew Mr Green could play the ukulele?) Once again, a brilliant covert effort from the Courtney staff team. Have a very Happy Christmas one and all. I will keep half an eye on Courtney and will track its future successes with interest. Signing off...

Deborah Wood

Whole School Attendance Target

96%

Current Attendance

95.9%



This week's Crown Values Certificates awarded to:

- Year R Cherry: Maya G
- Year 1 Oak:
- Year 2 Ash:
- Year 3 Lime: Isis C
- Year 4 Maple: Elliot M
- Year 5 Sycamore:
- Year 6 Cedar: Madison PW



Reading Certificates

Eva R, Cadi S, Kallum G, Isabel H, Lilly B, Tate W, Jenson W, Ella AB



Arrears

We are conscious that this is often a very difficult time of year financially and that Covid is making it a lot worse for many families. Consequently, we have made a point of not chasing arrears to avidly this December. However, sadly, we do need parents to pay arrears as our on school finances are suffering in the pandemic. We ask all parents to pay off any arrears they have over the holidays/at the beginning of January. We will have to contact those parents with outstanding arrears over £40 in the New Year to discuss ways of paying.

Thank you all for your co-operation!

Reporting Covid Cases over the Holidays

Schools are required to assist with Test & Trace over the Christmas Holidays.

If your child has been in school this week and then tests positive for Covid on or before **Tuesday 22nd December**.

Please email office@courtneyps.org.uk.

If your child has been in school this week and is awaiting a test result on **Tuesday 22nd December** please also email office@courtneyps.org.uk.

We will be checking this email address over the first few days of the holidays, but only to monitor any possible covid cases.

Application to Primary School 2021/2022

The closing date to apply for entry into primary school in September 2021 is 15 January 2021. This will be for any younger siblings born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017. It is important to apply on-time as siblings are not guaranteed a place at the older child's school and the school may fill up with on-time applications making it harder for late applicants.

Applications should be made to the local authority where the child lives; regardless of the location of the school they are requesting. For more information or for South Gloucestershire residents to apply on-line, parents can go to www.southglos.gov.uk/admissions. If parents' need help with the application process please ask them to telephone the contact centre on 01454 868008.

Stay Warm this Winter

Connecting Kingswood have produced a magazine with information about local services which each family will be receiving along with some free items. (The packages have been self-isolating for over 72 hours!)

If you would like an electronic copy, it can be downloaded here:

<https://www.healthwatchsouthglos.co.uk/news/2020-11-20/connecting-kingswood-your-winter-warmer>

Stay warm this winter - 'Connecting Kingswood' have created a magazine full of fun activities & FREE local services!



Menu w/c 4th Jan

Monday

Inset Day

Tuesday

Inset Day

Wednesday

Roast of the Day with Gravy with Roast Potatoes
Cheese & Onion Pinwheel with Roast Potatoes (v)
Jacket Potato with cheese, beans or tuna (v)
Strawberry Jelly and Peach slices (v)
Fruit, Yogurt

Thursday

Mince Beef and Onion Pie with Mash
Cheesy Broccoli Pasta (v)
Jacket Potato with cheese, beans or tuna (v)
Sultana Sponge & Lemon Syrup
Fruit, Yogurt

Friday

Fish Fingers with Chips and Tomato Sauce
Veggie Burger with Chips and Tomato Sauce (v)
Jacket Potato with cheese, beans or tuna (v)
Vanilla Iced Shortbread
Fruit, Yogurt

Merry Christmas from FOCP

As we get close to the end of a very difficult year, we would like to thank all parents and carers that helped us to raise funds this year. You have helped to raise over £1,600 for Courtney Primary School over the past year. We have held a virtual Courtney K, two virtual balloon races and also set up Amazon Smile and easyfundraising schemes to continue to raise money by simply shopping online. If you have not signed up to either of these schemes, please check our Facebook page for previous posts (search for 'Courtney FOCP' or @focpcourtney).

The money raised has been put to good use. These are few of the requests that we were able to fund this year:

Library Wall Art
Reusable Plastic Cups
Garden/class vegetable patches
Books for Reception Class
Online pantomime
Festive treats

The children were meant to receive a Christmas present from a virtual elf visit last week but unfortunately the company we had originally booked it with let us down and we didn't receive the books before classes had to self-isolate. We will now think of something special for next term to make up for this. Children have also watched the online panto in school and details have been sent home to all those self-isolating. We hope you all enjoyed the show.

Some Big Thank You's

As this year draws to a close, we would also like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Wood – she has supported FOCP throughout 2020, and in previous years, whilst she has been Headteacher. We hope that she will manage to enjoy her retirement. Also, a big thank you to Mr Thomas for attending FOCP meetings and liaising with teaching staff to inform them of FOCP decisions.

Lastly to our FOCP volunteers and committee members, past and present. Your dedication to support and help the school to deliver an outstanding school experience to our children is, and has always been, a very valuable one. This is

especially the case during this particularly difficult year. To everyone who has bought a raffle ticket, virtual balloon or raised sponsorship money as part of the virtual Courtney K... THANK YOU! We could not do this without you all.

Heres to a much better 2021 for all of us.

