

COURTNEY TIMES

Nurture, Inspire, Flourish.

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TERM 2 WEEK 7

Wow! What a busy term we have had. All of our children and staff have showed great resilience during a busy term and have been trying their best to continue until the end of term. If the sickness bug or virus going around has not hit your household, you have done well.

Staff have worked extremely hard to ensure our children are engaged and challenged with their learning whilst offering support. We have had lots of sickness at school and have been grateful for your patience during staff absences. Our Early Years team and Keys Stage (KS)1 team have been busy preparing for their nativity performance and have been practicing their lines. If you have children in YR, Y1 and Y2, you will be familiar with the songs and we will look forward to you singing along at our performances on Wednesday of this week.

Communication

We have been working on our communication this term in terms of trying to get the balance right with enough information in a timely manner and too much communication. We have significantly reduced the amount of text messages we are sending and have streamlined communication so that we have a weekly newsletter. This means that **all messages and reminders now feature in the newsletter**. The weekly dates, fortnightly dates and up and coming events, links to be able to book things and reminders on non-school uniform and donations are all included. The whole school receive the newsletter via email and it is also posted on Classroom Dojo.

Following last week some parents and carers have shared with us that they had not read the newsletter so therefore were not aware of school dinners, Christmas jumpers or donations. As we had shared this in the newsletter and are mindful of not wanting to bombard parents and carers, we are going to be sharing a **printed version of the newsletter featuring in the children's book bags**. If you have multiple children, the oldest child will have the newsletter in their book bag.

Christmas

This time of year, can always be a special one with the awe and wonder of our children at Christmas. We want to remind you that your children's greatest gift, will be spending time, with you. As we are all feeling the effects of the cost of living, we want to suggest that you spend time with loved ones, the greatest gift you can give. To not feel pressure to buy the latest toys and gifts, the best food and drinks. To teach our children that playing a game with the family, eating around the dinner table and going for a winter walk hold the greatest joys that we can ask for. Many of our adult memories of our childhood at Christmas time are not the gifts we did or did not get, but the laughter that we had as a family. When we think back to the letter I shared with you recently on the news that has shocked our Courtney community, we truly need to count our blessings and hold our loved ones a little tighter this year.

As we break up at the end of this week we wanted to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Wednesday 3rd January!

Staff Changes

We are sad to share that Mrs Howell in reception class will be leaving us at the end of this term. Mrs Howell has an exciting opportunity to work in a different education setting continuing her passion of early years education in a pre-school.

Mrs Howell, has been with us for 2 years in her role as class teacher and has been a valued member of the team. She has formed part of the leadership team and has been instrumental in developing continuous provision in cherry class and Year 1. She has successfully taught children from their early starting points, sparking that love of learning. She has formed relationships with children and parents alike and whilst sad for the loss to Courtney, we are excited to hear of her adventures in her new setting.

Keep smiling, keep shining!

Ms Scott

Menu Change

Wednesday 3rd January

BBQ chicken with jacket wedges

or

Margarita pizza with jacket wedges

or

Jacket potato with a filling

Apple crumble with custard

Events This Week...

W/C 11th Dec

Monday 11th	
Tuesday 12th	
Wednesday 13th	Key Stage 1 Nativity— 10:00am/4:00pm
Thursday 14th	Courtney Santa Dash in school
Friday 15th	Class Christmas Parties

For the class parties, children are welcome to bring in party snack. They will need to be nut free and please, no sweets.

Santa Dash

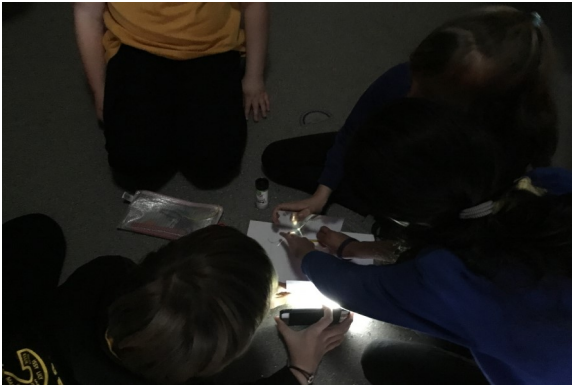
Courtney Primary will be taking part in a Santa Dash obstacle course on the **morning of 14th December**. As part of the Santa Dash the children will be completing the obstacle course by trying to help Santa get enough star power to deliver his presents. The children have enjoyed decorating their individual stars ready for the event. Please can children wear PE kit for this event. There will be buckets on the school gates for voluntary donations for Save the Children UK before and after school.



Children's News

Year 4

Year 4 have had a great term and have been very productive. They have been writing a narrative based on *The Last Polar Bears* by Harry Horse. They have created some fantastic and imaginative stories about being on an old boat with a dog! In maths we continue to work hard on multiplication and division. As Year 4 have a multiplication check this year, it would be fantastic if you could continue to practice the times tables so we are not too rusty in January. They have created some brilliant Fridha Kahlo inspired artwork with Mrs Nicholls and continue to have lots of fun with Ms Britt in PE. In RE we have been looking, of course, at the nativity and in PSHE our theme has been around bullying. They have also had some fun lessons on biology looking at digestive systems, the food chain and teeth!



Year 6

This term has been so busy for Year 6 and we've all worked incredibly hard. We have developed our fraction work in maths and will continue this next term. In English we have written our own mystery narrative, newspaper report and nonsense poem. We have learnt all about light and electricity as scientists. Well done Year 6!

The children at Courtney Primary would like to let you know that our school raised £71.00 for Save the Children UK by wearing our festive jumpers on Christmas Jumper Day.



Save the Children

We also raised £225.62 for children in need.



What an amazing community we have!

*Wishing You a
Merry Christmas.*

From all at Courtney Primary School

ATTENDANCE

Below is an update on the current attendance scores for each class, well done everyone!

Attendance should be above 96% for each child.

Current scores per class are:

Reception	91.1%
Year 1	95.1%
Year 2	95.6%
Year 3	95.6%
Year 4	95.4%
Year 5	95.7%
Year 6	94.2%

LET'S CELEBRATE!

A massive well done to Year 5 class for winning this terms attendance competition.

They will enjoy a games afternoon during next term.



Well Done!



Term 3 Attendance competition

The winning class will win a non uniform day during term 4.

Courtney Crown Value Certificates (8th Dec)

Year 1 - Sophie
Year 2 - Edith
Year 3 - Theo
Year 4 - Lacey
Year 5 - Vinnie
Year 6 - Cadi

Well Done everyone!

TERM DATES

To assist parent/carers to book holidays and arrange other events, please find detailed below the term and inset dates for this academic year:

Term 2: Monday 30th October 2023 to Friday 15th December 2023

Term 3: Tuesday 2nd January 2024 to Friday 9th February 2024

Term 4: Monday 19^h February 2024 to Friday 28st March 2024

Term 5: Monday 15th April 2024 to Friday 24th May 2024

Term 6: Monday 3rd June 2024 to Friday 23th July 2024

INSET DATES

Tuesday 2nd January

Thursday 28th March

Clubs

Term 3 sports clubs will commence from 8th January. They will be bookable from 6pm this evening via Arbor.

Monday - Year 5/6 Football

Tuesday - Key stage 2 Netball

Colouring club

Thursday - Year 1/2 Multi-sports

Friday - Year 3/4 Multi-sports

These clubs will finish at 4:15pm and you will need to collect your children from the school office.

OOSC

You will be able to book after school club and breakfast club from 6pm this evening (11/12/23).

Foodbank

Miss Long is able to refer families to Kingswood foodbank. Please email the office if you would like more information or to pass your details onto Miss Long, this will be treated in the strictest of confidence.



Friends of Courtney Primary (FOCP)

FOCP would like to thank everyone for their support this year and to wish everyone a happy and healthy Christmas and new year.

Here are a few photos from the wreath making workshop that took place last week.

