

Issue No 13 - 11th December 2020

This week's year group news...

Reception The last week of term in Reception will find us feeling festive and full of fun. We will complete our Christmas cards for our families, showing off our best handwriting as well as cutting triangles to create Christmas trees. We will explore using a flange to create an angel in junk modelling as well as selecting resources to design and decorate Christmas baubles and jumpers. There will be opportunities to consolidate our understanding of numbers to 5 as we create a festive themed number story book and we will continue to explore applying our phonics in writing letters and messages to Santa, his elves and the characters from 'The Jolly Christmas Postman'. May we take this opportunity to thank you wholeheartedly for your support and involvement in your child's learning journey so far. Fingers crossed that 2021 will bring us joy and positivity.

Year 1 We have been very busy swiftly putting together a small Christmas production for you to enjoy on YouTube next week. The children have all been absolutely brilliant in learning new songs and actions in record time. Highly impressive! In our writing next week, we will be enjoying some poetry and we will be writing our own 'winter' acrostic poem. Perhaps the children could start thinking about some wintery words this weekend when you are out and about. The weather has certainly turned wintery for us with some crisp, frosty mornings. Thank you for sending children to school in warm coats. We are becoming masters at wriggling small fingers into gloves! In maths, we will be continuing to consolidate our learning with another look at number bonds to 20, one more and one less and addition and subtraction. We have recently re-assessed children for RWI phonics as part of the 6 week rolling programme. The children may find themselves in a new group with a different colour book soon. We are so pleased with the progress children are making. Well done to everyone, including you parents for continuing to support by hearing your child read at home. Thank you. Finally, we will be aiming to fit in a French lesson next week all about colours. I say aiming, as with Christmas dinner and all the other jobs to do, it is perhaps a little ambitious, but we'll aim high! We hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Year 2 As we reach the final week of the term and the last month of one of the most unusual of years, we wanted to say how proud we are of all the children in Year 2. They have worked incredibly hard and shown great resilience in all their learning over the last two terms. We have been impressed with clear and concise instructional writing explaining how to make a snowman Christmas decoration this week, including features such as adverbs, time connectives and imperative verbs. The children have made a good start with their money learning in Maths. They have been able to name and order pounds, pence and notes and started to find totals of coins. As we finish our topic for the term, the children have been busy designing and decorating their memory boxes and are deciding what special memories to include. Next week we will be starting a week-long unit on poetry and the poems the children will write will be published onto scrolls, tied with ribbon and put into their memory box. Finally, next week the children will be making a photo frame for a class photo that they can also put in their memory box to remind them of the year 2020. Lastly, all the teachers and teaching assistants in Year 2 would like to wish all the children and their families a very merry, and safe, Christmas and we look forward to welcoming you back in 2021.

Mrs Nicholls, Mrs Boalch, Mrs Kimberlee, Mrs Davies, Mrs Dennis, Mrs Frankham, Mrs Longley, Mrs Lagor and Miss White

This week's virtue is:

Generosity...the quality of being kind, understanding, and not selfish; the quality of being generous.



More year group news...

Year 3 We've had a fantastic term 2 and are all looking forward to the Christmas break! Before we reach the fun and festivities of Christmas we have a busy week of poetry learning where we will be writing our own poems based on 'The Sound Collector' by Roger McGough. We will also be bringing our 'Playlist' topic to a close by writing our own class song. Our week of creativity and performing will be topped off with the release of our Christmas performance on our school YouTube channel! In our Maths lessons, we will be continuing our multiplication learning focussing on the 3- and 4- times tables. Our learning will begin by focusing on practically building multiplications using cubes and using skip counting (3, 6, 9 etc) then we will move on to recall of the multiplication facts. Any practice that you are able to do with this at home will be invaluable.

Year 4 This week we have enjoyed our class advent calendars, encouraging us to do good deeds before enjoying our rewards. It has been lovely watching the children taking this further and carrying out random acts of kindness in the playground and in the classroom; we are sure Santa is watching! In the last week of Term 2, we will be enjoying the build up to Christmas with our own performance of The Grinch and Jingle Bells, accompanied musically by the boomwhackers! You can watch this from Wednesday on YouTube (details of where to find it will follow). In literacy, we will be studying 'The Sound Collector' and writing our own poem based on experiences we collect using our own senses. Over the weekend, please encourage your child to take notice of sounds, smells, tastes and the feel of things they can touch so that they will have lots of ideas in class. In maths we will be multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000 using place value to understand what happens to the digits. Finally, we will round off our topic learning with a class performance of our alternative version of 'Skip To My Lou' to share our understanding of sound.

Year 5 Year 5 have been incredibly busy again this week! In English, the children have been writing a non-chronological report about an imaginary planet. They have used a range of sentence openers and ambitious vocabulary to write detailed paragraphs about their planet. The children will be publishing them next week and we will be sending a copy home for you to be the audience of their final written outcome. In Reading, we have started our final text of the term 'The Darkest Dark'. The children are so engaged in these sessions and participate willingly in discussions about what they have read. In Maths, we have been multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, 100 and 1000. Our Stargazers topic will draw to a close next week with the children being set a mission to make their own spaceship, which we will be launching into the air! Here are a few reminders before the end of term: Topic homework is due to be uploaded via Assignments by next Friday (18th), the children need a recyclable plastic bottle (no larger than 2l) and resources to decorate their spaceship in school from Monday and finally, if your child is able to play a musical instrument, please send us any videos of your child playing a Christmas song to lclarke@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk as we would like to use their videos in our Christmas Extravaganza!!!

Year 6 Our second assessment week has allowed the children to demonstrate what they are able to do and we are now busy analysing the data to ensure teaching focuses on areas for development. The children have shown great interest in their scores and we will go through the papers with them next week to address any misconceptions. Along with the rest of Key Stage 2, we have enjoyed a range of individual challenges in our Games sessions this week and submitted our best scores to Miss Thomas. In our Topic sessions, we have learnt about biodiversity and written in role as Scott of the Antarctic, conveying - with vocabulary and sentence structure - his mixed emotions when he reached the South Pole only to discover he had been beaten to it. As we move into the final week of Term 2, we look forward to rounding off our Frozen Kingdom topic with a variety of activities, including planning a polar expedition. Please encourage your children to read regularly and quiz often to boost their AR word count. 6R are still in the lead with 5,657,965 words compared to 6WT's 5,096,629 and 6S's 4,516,143!



This week's highlights & reminders:

Message from the Headteacher

At Goosewell we have so much to celebrate and we want to share as much as possible with parents. We must also balance what we put online and what we make public. We have therefore made the decision that all videos containing assemblies, or larger gatherings of children will not go on to our public YouTube page. Instead, the videos will be uploaded to an unlisted area of YouTube and the link will be sent to the parents of the children in the video. Parents will then have the choice to share this link with wider family, should they wish to. After two weeks we will then delete the video. We kindly ask that these videos are not reproduced for wider public viewing. We thank you for your understanding.

Parent Support Advisor - Jo Penk

Don't forget to look at the PSA section of the Goosewell Academy website, for information on ideas, support and activities for families throughout the year.

We have an online [Worry Box](#) link if your child has a worry that they would like some help with. By clicking on the link, or the Worry Box image, Mrs Penk can talk to your child about their worry and together they can work out how to make that worry shrink.



The [Plympton Hub](#), in response to the a local community need, is offering free online 'Understanding Anxiety Workshops' for parents & carers starting in January. Please contact the Hub using the link above to book.

[Plymouth Libraries Facebook](#) page has lots of activities to enjoy together throughout December, including Seasonal Rhymetimes, Festive Storytimes and Christmas craft ideas.

Click [PSA](#) to keep informed of all the most recent updates from [Plymouth Information Advice & Support for SEND](#) and [Routeways](#) including ideas and activities for the Christmas break.

Little Troopers - Cinderella Pantomime

20th December 1400hrs

Little Troopers has organised a free virtual pantomime for British Armed Forces children to watch at home on Sunday 20th December. Performed by children's entertainment company, Playhouse Parties, Cinderella the pantomime can be streamed live at 1400hrs on any device and is open to all children with parents serving in the British Armed Forces. The pantomime is part of the Little Troopers Christmas Smiles campaign which aims to bring smiles to faces of military children, especially those who have a serving parent deployed over the festive season. We want you to have lots of fun! Get your snacks organised, your little troopers can dress up if they like and get cosy on the sofa. We can't wait to see you there!

Registration is required due to a limit of 1,000 families able to log in live, it will also be available as a recorded session after the live performance.

[Register here.](#)



Headteacher: James Gentile

Christmas at Goosewell

Christmas at Goosewell will feel a little different in this unusual year. Our traditional Christmas parties have been postponed but these are now scheduled to take place in the Spring Term along with the Dojo and House celebrations. A reminder of our sequence of Christmas events are as follows, which started off today with our Christmas Jumper day for St Luke's Hospice - take a look at the back page for some festive pictures. Thank you for all your donations, this will make a huge difference to the work of this local charity in challenging times :

This year, sadly we are unable to invite friends and families into school, but WE WILL be celebrating and sharing Christmas with you all in a virtual way. In the final week of term, you will be able to access a new Christmas video each day via Tapestry or YouTube:

❁ **Monday 14th December - Reception** ❁

Our wonderful Reception children will be creating their own nativity and will share this with their parents, carers and families via Tapestry.

❁ **Tuesday 15th December - Key Stage 1** ❁

Each of our Year 1 classes will be sharing a magical Christmas story, whilst Year 2 will be sharing 'The 10 Christmas Trees' with their parents, carers and families. All videos will be shared via YouTube.

❁ **Wednesday 16th December - Lower Key Stage 2** ❁

Our fabulous Year 3 and 4 classes will be continuing with their tradition of sharing Christmas songs with their parents, carers and families - don't forget to bring your Christmas hats, scarves and gloves next week for our practices.

❁ **Thursday 17th December - Upper Key Stage 2** ❁

At the top of the school, Year 5 and 6 will be delivering their own virtual Christmas performance, including songs, jokes and quizzes. We're all looking forward to watching this Goosewell Christmas extravaganza!

❁ **Thursday 17th December - Children's Christmas Dinner** ❁

Christmas lunch will be served in sittings on Thursday 17th December. Please ensure that your child's SchoolMoney dinner account is topped up with £2.20 by this date. Menu choices are shown on the last page of this week's newsletter. You will shortly receive an email to make your child's choices for the day.

❁ **Friday 18th December - The Twelve Days of Christmas at Goosewell** ❁

Watch this space!

❁ **Friday 18th December 2020 - Whole School Festive Mufti Day** ❁

All children (and staff!) are invited to come to school in full festive mufti on the last day of term. There will be no charge for this mufti day, however if you would like to donate to Children's Hospice South West's in memory of our special Goosewell pupil, Oliver Brown, who loved everything to do with Christmas, your donations would be welcomed by the charity.

[Children's Hospice South West](#)



This week's highlights & reminders:

Collection for Plymouth Foodbank

Plymouth Foodbank are so grateful for all you collected during Harvest, 234.36kg wow! At that time the children felt it would be good to do another collection before Christmas for those who most need it. There are over 30 families in Plymstock who are currently benefiting from this fabulous resource. Thank you!

Rev Dave and Jennie have created another short, fun video for our Goosewell family in the form of a song which can be viewed on each year group's You Tube pages, or by clicking the picture below.

If you are out shopping and would like to contribute to our Christmas collection we would all be very grateful.

Rev Dave will be here to collect any goodies on
Thursday 17th December

Things to bring in are-

Puddings- rice and custard

Crisps

Treats- (chocolate and sweets) eg bars or selection boxes etc

Squash

Instant mash

Instant hot chocolate

Deodorant

Washing up liquid



This week's highlights & reminders:

Premier Education Afterschool Sports Clubs



Back to School! Stay Active!

Supporting children with a safe return to school, and getting them back into a routine. With Premier Education, children will be safe, active and together, with the aim to build confidence, self-esteem & stamina through fun and engaging games & activities in our sessions.

premier-education.com



All Premier Education after school clubs have now finished for the term. However, Premier Education will be returning in the new year to continue to provide their clubs across the school.

Clubs will begin week commencing 11th January 2021, and finish week beginning 8th February 2021. **You will be notified via Eduspot once the spaces are available to book.** Please remember to book your place via Premier Education, then pay for your child's place on SchoolMoney/Eduspot. Places are limited to 20 and will only be confirmed once payment is received.

MONDAY – Year 5/6 – KEEP FIT FOOTBALL - [3.30 - 4.30](#)

TUESDAY – Year 3/4 – KEEP FIT GYM [3.30 - 4.30](#)

WEDNESDAY – Year 1/2 - KEEP FIT DANCE/GYM [3.15 - 4.15](#)

THURSDAY – Year 3/4 – KEEP FIT DANCE/CHEERLEADING - [3.30 - 4.30](#)

FRIDAY – Year 5/6 – KEEP FIT DODGE BALL [3.30 - 4.30](#)

Christmas Lunch Thursday 17th December

Thank you for all your responses to our Christmas lunch choices online form. We have had a fantastic uptake for Cook's Christmas dinner this year. *Please be aware that we are no longer able to accept any more orders.* If you have not booked a Christmas lunch for your child, they will need to bring a packed lunch with them on Thursday.

If your children are in Years 3-6 please make sure that your Eduspot/SchoolMoney dinner account is in credit BEFORE Thursday 17th December by logging on to [SchoolMoney](#). If your children are in Reception and Years 1-2, the Christmas lunch is covered by Universal Free School Meals.



Headteacher: James Gentile

This week's highlights & reminders:

Thank you for your donations and support of our Christmas jumper day in aid of St Luke's Hospice, Plymouth - we saw some wonderful jumpers to get us into the Festive spirit!



Primary Academy

After a very busy, unusual term, we are all looking forward to the Christmas break and spending time with families. School finishes on **Friday 18th December** at the usual end of day times.

We look forward to seeing everyone back at school in the New Year on **Wednesday 6th January**.

Thank you for your continued support throughout this year.

Wishing you all a very happy, healthy Christmas from all at Goosewell Primary Academy and our very best wishes for the New Year.

