

Issue No 2 - 18th September 2020

This week's year group news...

Reception Our Reception children are so settled and are very familiar with routines and expectations already. This is wonderful! Next week will see us moving on to explore Autumn in even more detail and exploring the texts, 'Leaf Man' by Lois Ehlert and 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson to inspire our learning. We will be using leaves, pine cones and other 'Autumn treasures' to create pictures and we will be making our very own stick men. Pine cone buns and leaf soup recipes will be on display for children to follow in the mud kitchen and the home corner will see the children making framed pictures of loves ones.

Phonics moves on to the letters c, k, u, b and f and we will explore the number 2 in terms of formation, grouping, pattern and order. The children will also be drawing and labelling signs of Autumn in their special orange books. Please take a look at our Reception page on the website for more information about our letters and number of the week and enjoy spending time extending your child's learning at home with our 'Foundation five' activity sheet.

Year 1 We are really pleased with how the children are continuing to settle into new routines in Year 1. They all seem very happy and at home already. Next week in Maths, we will be looking at giving one less and comparing numbers using the equivalence symbols $<$, $>$ and $=$. We will also be encouraging the children to be using mathematical language such as, 'greater than', 'less than', 'fewer', 'more' etc. We are enjoying our topic about London and can all name some of the famous London landmarks. Literacy will continue to be based around the story 'The Queen's Hat'. We will be writing our own stories about where our hat could fly to if it were to blow away, just like the Queen's did! Thank you for all the support that you are giving the children. We were so impressed that everyone arrived at school wearing their games kit on Monday...well done! We sent out login information earlier in the week for Microsoft Teams. We would appreciate it if everyone could attempt to login when you get a chance and let us know if you have any problems. Thank you and have a lovely weekend everyone.

Year 2 Once again, we have been very impressed with the wonderful learning that our Year 2 children have achieved this week. Labelling maps of the UK to show major cities and using a key to colour code each of the UK's four countries. We also learned about the history of the Union Jack and why it looks like it does today. The children have continued to revise their Year 1 Maths learning ready to move on to Year 2 place value next week. We have completed story maps for 'Katie in London', used actions to retell and used hot seating of the main characters to generate questions. The children have settled into their new phonic groups well and should all be bringing home a RWI reading book this week.

Finally, next week is Bikeability for our KS1 children, please make sure that you have completed the online consent form and that your child comes to school in PE/Games kit from Monday to Thursday. Many thanks, Mrs Nicholls, Mrs Boalch and Mrs Kimberlee.

Year 3 We have had an exciting week planning our version of Treasure Island ready to begin writing next week. We will spend time developing the different parts of our adventure story using the skills we have learnt this week. We will also be using our editing skills to improve our writing. We will be focussing on our comprehension skills in our reading lessons and recording our responses to questions about different texts. In our Maths learning we will continue our learning around the place value of numbers up to 1000. Children will continue to use a variety of equipment and models, including the bar model and part-part whole, to represent the numbers. We will continue our Blue Abyss topic this week by looking at the animals that live in the deep ocean and how they have adapted to survive there. A final reminder that children will only need to come in to school in their Games kits on Tuesdays (this includes 3/4Y).



More year group news...

Year 4 Year 4 continue to amaze in their calm and enthusiastic approach to their learning, two weeks down and the children are fully engaged within the depths of the Blue Abyss! In Literacy next week, the children will use ideas and plot lines from Treasure Island to create their very own versions! They have already mapped (excuse the pun!) out the plan and have created some weird and wonderful characters as well as some very exotic settings. They will also be challenged to fill their descriptions full of expanded noun phrases and organise their work into clear paragraphs. We look forward to some classic literature from the year group! In Maths, the children will continue to consolidate their place value understanding as this crucial element of the subject is the bedrock for so many concepts. Lessons will look to ensure rounding, counting on in 100s and 1000s as well as partitioning numbers will give the children confidence to spring forward in the subject. Children will continue to read AR books and 'quiz' at the end of the book. Can we remind you that the children need to remember their books for school every day as there is a timetabled slot where children will read and quiz. Teachers will also listen to them read. Topic work continues to study the creatures of the deep as we move from food chains to consider how we classify the vast variety of animals that live in our seas and oceans. As always, we thank you for the support you give the children in making this return to school so successful. If at any point you need to speak to a member of staff, you can catch us at the start or end of the day on the playground or you can email us in school.

Year 5 Year 5 have been continuing to immerse themselves in the 'Pharaohs' topic this week. The children have been examining sources of evidence to find out what they could learn about Tutankhamun, in addition to creating timelines of the key events that occurred during the Ancient Egyptian era. In English, the children have been learning how to use a thesaurus to improve their vocabulary choices and how to punctuate and use fronted adverbials to use a range of sentence openers. In Maths, the children have continued their Place Value learning by reading and representing numbers in various ways. On Wednesday, we had a fantastic discussion about the Pilgrim Fathers and the Mayflower – we hope they shared many interesting facts with you! Please remember that earrings cannot be worn for PE and Games sessions, so if your child is unable to remove their earrings themselves they need to be taken out at home in the morning or your child can bring some micropore tape to cover the earrings. Next week, we are going to be welcoming Clive Pig in to school, who will be teaching the children about life in Ancient Egypt through socially distanced drama and storytelling workshops.

Year 6 Year 6 have had a busy week and the children have continued to work hard and impress their new teachers. In Maths, we have been ordering and comparing numbers to 10, 000,000. Next week, we will be rounding numbers and investigating negative numbers. In English sessions, the children have been keen to plan and begin writing their own versions of 'The Switch'. We will continue this next week and the children will publish their writing for display in school. Please ensure your child has a labelled blue pen in school in case they are awarded a pen licence. The children enjoyed discussing the themes and morals of 'The Lonely Sea Dragon' in Reading sessions. In our ID topic, the children have discussed and analysed their fingerprints, thought about the meaning of community and completed tasks based on maps of Plymstock. Next week, we will discuss the 'Nature vs Nurture' debate and family resemblance. Staff from Coombe Dean School visited on Wednesday afternoon; your child should have brought home a leaflet about their open evening on 17th September.

We have set the children some tasks via 'MS Teams Assignments' and the children have been shown how to access this in school. You should have received information (paper copy) about their new usernames and passwords. On 'Assignments', you will see that we have asked the children to bring in a family photo for Monday so that we can discuss family resemblances as part of our ID topic. Don't panic if you cannot print a photo – your child will still be able to write about this. We have also set a homework (due in Friday 25th September) where the children will write notes in order to prepare for a two week block on autobiographical writing starting Monday 28th September. Termly topic homework has also been set. Your child can choose which activity to complete and this is due on the last day of term. Please remember to complete the Bikeability consent form online (texted home as a link - [click here](#)). Well done to the children who have taken AR quizzes. Remember, they can now do this at home as well as in school. Will anyone reach a million words before half term?



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This week's highlights & reminders:

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 a [Worry Box](#) link if your child has a worry that they would like some help with. By clicking on the link, Mrs Penk can talk to your child about their worry and together they can work out how to make that worry shrink. Click [PSA](#) to keep informed of all the most recent updates from [Plymouth Information Advice & Support for SEND](#) and [Routeways](#).



Applying for secondary school place to start in September 2021

If you live in Plymouth and your year 6 child was born between 01 September 2009 and 31 August 2010, you can apply online for a secondary (year 7) school place for your child from 23.59 on 3 September 2020. Please click on the image below for further details. You should have received an email from the school office last week, outlining the procedures that you need to follow. Please do also search the individual school websites for details of their forthcoming open events.



Dear Parents, Carers and Students

I am writing to invite you to visit our virtual Open Evening which can be viewed on our website from Tuesday 22 September.

Plymstock School is a unique community that believes in and actively promotes the traditional values of courtesy, respect and compassion. We have a dedicated, enthusiastic and inspiring team of well-qualified and highly skilled staff who provide excellent teaching and support. This enables our students to become creative and independent thinkers and develop a genuine love of learning, which brings them great success.

At Plymstock, we understand that deciding on a secondary school can be a complex process. Therefore, to support you and your child, we have created a virtual Open Evening page to help with your decision.

This includes a presentation from the Senior Leadership Team and students. Families are able to view the school facilities, experience activities in our departments and see and hear our staff and students.

We are incredibly proud of our school and we strongly encourage you to view our virtual Opening Evening, so that you can see for yourself why Plymstock School is a special place to learn.

Best Wishes

Rob Pearsall

HEADTEACHER

www.plymstockschool.org.uk/plymstockschoolopenevent



SCAN ME

OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR CHILD



Plymstock School

**YEAR 6
VIRTUAL
OPEN EVENING**
Tuesday 22nd September 2020

www.plymstockschool.org.uk/plymstockschoolopenevent

You are invited to view our dedicated web page which includes a presentation from the Senior Leadership Team and students.

We are incredibly proud of our school and look forward to showing you why Plymstock School is a special place to learn

SUCCESSING TOGETHER



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This week's highlights & reminders:

Guidance on coughs

Dear Parents / Carers




Since the beginning of this week the guidance on what constitutes a cough has changed and we now have further guidance we would like to share with you.

A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH MEANS:

- you are coughing a lot for more than 1 hour

OR

- you have been coughing a lot 3 or more times in 24 hours
- if you normally have a cough, it may be worse than usual.



As a continuous cough (as set out in the image) is a symptom of Covid-19 it is vital that any household member who displays these symptoms self isolates and books a test.

As soon as we have further guidance, I will share this with you. In the meantime, I would like to thank all parents for their cooperation in keeping children off the play equipment before and after school. And a huge thank you for respecting the one-way system that is now in place around the schools rounds. Lastly, can I kindly remind you to maintain two meters from each other while on the school site.

Best wishes
James Gentile

Devon Flu Vaccination Programme 2020/21 - IMPORTANT

Dear Parents/Carers,

Your Reception to Year 6 child, they are eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination.

It is anticipated that this will be delivered in schools between October 2020 to December 2020, this will be administered adhering to all up to date Infection Control, PPE and social distancing guidance at the time.

Flu vaccination is one of most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential we deliver the vaccine to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society.

In light of the above we are expecting demand to be high and therefore we urge you to follow the below link to consent to your child's vaccination now. You will also find answers to your FAQ's on this link.

<https://schoolimms.virginicare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form please contact the Immunisation Team on our Single Point of Access (SPA): Tel: 0300 247 0082 Email: vcl.immunisations@nhs.net

School Age Immunisations Team
Virgin Care Services Limited
Telephone: 0300 247 0082



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This week's highlights & reminders:

Head Boy & Head Girl

Calling all Year 6 students!

Are you interested in becoming Goosewell Academy's second ever Head Girl or Head Boy?

Throughout the year, these children will be given important responsibilities by Mr Gentile and the Senior Leadership Team. The successful applicants need to embody the spirit of Goosewell Academy. They must be shining examples in terms of behaviour and consistently show the learning dispositions expected by all Goosewell children. If you are keen to apply for one of the above positions, please write a letter of interest to Mr Gentile and pass it to your class teacher by Friday 25th September. You may hand write or type this and must explain why you would be a good person for the job. Remember to write in a formal but friendly manner. Mr Gentile and the Senior Leadership Team will then shortlist the applicants and some children will be invited to the next round of the selection process. These children will need to produce a short presentation to deliver to the Senior Leadership Team after which a final decision will be made. Good luck!

Prospective Reception 2021/22 School Visits

Is your pre-school child due to start school in September 2021? Would you like to find out more about our fantastic school community? Prospective families are invited to take a tour of the school with James Gentile, our Headteacher or our Senior Leadership Team. We will be holding small group tours (maximum 6) of the school each Friday at 4.00pm, and ask that only one parent/carer attends from each household. Please contact the school office on 482960 or email admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk to register your interest and book a place.

Reminders

- ◆ Please ensure that ALL uniform and belongings are named - it is impossible to reunite items without them being named, and we are currently unable to facilitate parents/carers attending onsite to search for lost items.
- ◆ Please could your child wear their Games kit to school on the following days:
 - ⇒ Year 1 — MONDAY
 - ⇒ Year 2 — THURSDAY
 - ⇒ Year 3 — TUESDAY
 - ⇒ Year 4 — WEDNESDAY
 - ⇒ Year 5 — FRIDAY
 - ⇒ Year 6 — WEDNESDAY
- ◆ At this present time of being Covid 19 aware and to avoid cross contamination, we kindly remind you to avoid letting your children use the climbing frames and trim trails at the start and end of the school day.

Next week's virtue is:

Cleanliness

The practice of keeping yourself and your surroundings clean.



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