

Issue No 11 - 27th November 2020

This week's year group news...

Reception We will continue to be influenced by 'The Gruffalo's Child' in the coming week with further description of characters and creative retellings of the story as well as exploration of shadows and woodland habitats. Alongside this, we will be getting festive and continuing to piece together a Nativity show involving all of the children. They will be learning about the Nativity story and retelling it through role-play. They will also be exploring and naming musical instruments as well as playing them to follow a tune and a rhythm. Singing will take place safely outside and the children will learn actions to accompany the songs. We hope that you are looking forward to seeing your very own little donkeys and shepherds perform with gusto !!

Year 1 We certainly enjoyed learning about our senses this week, and in particular, having a taste of some baby foods! We liked the rice pudding best. We thought it tasted like ice cream! Next week in our topic learning, we will be looking at toys and games that were played in the past and comparing them to toys now. We will teach the children how to play marbles and dominoes so that they can practice and enjoy these games from long ago. Perhaps the children would like to talk to an older member of the family about toys and games that they had when they were little. In our writing, the children will continue to learn how to write instructions. They will already have learnt that instructions have 'bossy' (or imperative) verbs like 'Put', 'Wash', and 'Mix' and they will get to know verbs more by identifying them in sentences and writing their own verbs. In Maths, the children will continue to learn about place value, the number of tens and units in a number. They will be comparing numbers with the equivalence symbols <, > and =. They will also be identifying one more and one less than a given number within 20. I have no doubt that we shall enjoy a song or two as current guidelines state that it is now safe to sing in a well-ventilated room, so we can give our well rested vocal cords some exercise! We wish you all a lovely weekend.

Year 2 We have had a fun-packed week of science learning this week. The children have enjoyed learning about the five senses using the sense of touch to guess the object in a feely box first with a sock and then with their bare hands resulting in some quite intriguing answers! They have tried to identify different smells, sniffing the contents of 6 different jars and finally taking part in a carefully administered taste test with the unsurprising result of the 'sweet' being the firm favourite amongst our Year 2s.

Next week, the children will be investigating the sense of 'hearing' and conducting sound tests using a variety of materials. They will also start the next part of their science focus for this term and discuss and agree on what makes a 'healthy' meal as they learn about the food groups. In Maths, the children will start a new topic - multiplication and division. We will start this topic by teaching the children how to make equal groups. In literacy, the children will be starting their second week on instructions where they will be ordering a set of given instructions, reminding themselves of all the features needed and finally writing up instructions on how to brush your teeth.

Thank you for all the fantastic time lines the children and their families have posted onto Teams. We have really enjoyed looking at the photos and learning about special events in your lives.

This week's virtue is:

Kindness...the quality or state of being kind; a kind act.



More year group news...

Year 3 We have had another exciting week in school learning from biographies about the lives of Harriett Tubman and John Lennon two very different famous people who have both impacted on the world around us. We have enjoyed not only learning about these people but looking at the features and structure of a biography ready to begin to plan our biography on our favourite musicians next week. In Maths, we have been focussing on the adding and subtracting 3-digit numbers using the column methods. The teachers have been blown away by the amazing Maths learning that has been going on. Next week, we will finish our addition and subtraction learning and complete our Maths assessments (PUMA). We will also be completing our Reading (PIRA) and Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar assessments. Rest assured, that we spend a lot of time preparing the children for these assessments to ensure they feel comfortable and show us their best learning. Finally, in our topic learning we will be thinking about how the human ear works and investigating pitch.

Year 4 This week we have enjoyed learning about John Lennon through his biography and now we are going to use what we have learned about the structure to plan our very own about our chosen musicians. (If your child has not yet completed the homework, please encourage them to do so as it will make next week much easier for them). This week we will be looking at past tense, third person and chronological order and writing some sentences which we can drop into our own biographies. In Maths we will be measuring perimeter of a variety of rectilinear shapes on a grid by counting squares and looking at some real-life problems which will require this skill. In our topic learning, we will be investigating materials we could use for ear defenders to protect ourselves in noisy situations, and using the data loggers to record sounds in dB to test our theories. We are also continuing to build on our Modern Foreign Languages skills. Why not see if your child can remember some of the greetings we learnt by asking them how to say 'Hello! What is your name?' in French. Finally, we will be using our 'Jigsaw resource' to examine what it is like to be ourselves and learning some calming practices which we can use when we feel overwhelmed.

Year 5 In Maths, Year 5 have been learning about prime numbers, square numbers and cube numbers. Can your child define these terms with examples? In our spelling session this week, we have been learning how to spell words from the Year 5 and 6 word list. We hope that your children can talk confidently about these sessions when their spellings are set on a Monday. Our topic lessons this week have involved learning about how Galileo and Sir Isaac Newton have been influential in our knowledge about our solar system. In English this week, we have started to learn about non-chronological reports. We have read several examples in order to create a list of the generic text features. The children have also developed their ability to take notes and had the opportunity to practise using a range of strategies whilst listening to reports about how to look after their teeth. These skills will be applied next week when we will be making notes about the sun, moon and some of the planets in our solar system. Well done to 5M, who have risen to the Accelerated Reader challenge, as they have seen a large increase since we last celebrated our word counts...

5C – 4, 586, 421

5T – 2, 891, 082

5M – 1, 241, 325

Year 6 The children have been challenged in Maths to use different strategies to add and subtract fractions and it is wonderful to see many of them converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions as well as finding equivalent fractions confidently. Plans have been generated for our own rags to riches stories and the children have been writing character descriptions in preparation for their story writing next week. The children are enthralled by the Inuit myth 'Ice Bear' and have made predictions and empathised with characters. We have explored how polar animals have adapted to their environments and investigated polar food chains and webs. Next week, we will plan and create our own Inuit prints. 6S are due to enjoy a foot-golf session on the field this Wednesday (2nd December) so please ensure your child brings a spare set of footwear in case their trainers get wet. Have a fantastic weekend!

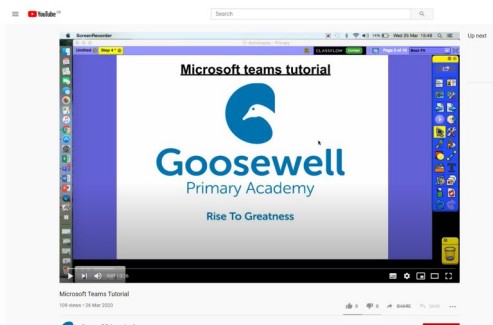


This week's highlights & reminders:

MS Teams

As you will be aware, we are continuing to set home learning tasks this year and have moved away from providing a Homework Book as we develop our use of online platforms. We have seen the positive impact of using online forums for our learning during our school closure and we are continuing to build on this by using Microsoft Teams to set our weekly homework tasks. If you need a reminder how to access MS Teams, Miss Merriman has produced a great 'How to' video on our YouTube channel. You can access it here:

[How to use MS Teams - Miss Merriman's How to guide](#)



School Prospectus

We are delighted to have a brand new school prospectus available to families who are considering Goosewell Primary Academy for their child's primary school journey. If you have family members or friends who might be interested in receiving a brochure, please email the school office on admin@goosewell.plymouth.sch.uk and we will arrange to send one home with your child or via the post.

2020 Christmas Cards

As we find ourselves in an unusual situation this December we are asking that this year, children are discouraged from exchanging Christmas cards within school. We would appreciate your support and cooperation with this request, to ensure that we are able to keep everyone safe in these difficult times.

Can you support your PTA by clicking on Amazon Smile?

Please help support our school in raising valuable funds without it costing you a penny! If you make purchases via Amazon you can now use Amazon Smile and opt to select **Friends of Goosewell School** as your chosen charity to receive a donation from Amazon for every purchase you make. All you need to do is make purchases via the Amazon Smile App or website rather than the standard Amazon account after you have selected us as your chosen charity. It will cost you absolutely nothing too!



Please follow the below link to set up your Amazon Smile App or account for free (it will link to your existing Amazon account) and for every purchase you make in the future our school will benefit.

If you are planning on using Amazon for some of your Christmas shopping please remember to set this up first to help spread some extra Christmas cheer to our school and remember to share this far and wide to all your family and friends. Thank you for your support.

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1051158-0>

Thank you!



Headteacher: James Gentile

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 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.

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



Little Troopers Christmas Smiles campaign

As part of their Christmas Smiles campaign Little Troopers have teamed up with the Build-A-Bear Foundation to send out a limited number of Build-A-Bear teddies to military children who will have a parent deployed overseas with the British Armed Forces on Christmas Day.



Applications are open from now until noon on 30/11/20. Email info@littletroopers.net - just remember to complete ALL the questions asked. Please check the criteria and eligibility before applying. Please click on the link below for further details.

[1,000 bears hugs to bring Christmas Smiles to military children - Little Troopers](#)

Children's Hospice South West, 'Santas on the Run Goes Freestyle' event

Children's Hospice South West are holding a 'Santas on the Run Goes Freestyle' event this December to raise funds for Little Harbour in St Austell. It's totally free to sign up, families can choose their own route, location and distance over that weekend and skip, run, walk, cycle, sledge their way around their chosen route in festive fancy dress. We just want families to feel a part of something festive this Christmas, and help spread some Xmas cheer after such a turbulent year. And if they would like to raise some sponsorship they will be sent a commemorative Santa medal for every £15 raised for each person they register. All the information can be found here > <https://www.chsw.org.uk/event/santas-run-2020-goes-freestyle>

