

Surrey Hills All Saints Monthly Newsletter

**Christian value:
New Beginnings and Love**

December 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of term and a hugely busy and eventful autumn, we would like to sincerely wish you the very best of Christmas Festivities. We hope that you manage to spend time together as families and get to see friends in these once again, challenging times. We hope that all within our community will manage a warm, bright and beautiful holiday, thinking about loved ones lost and helping those less fortunate than ourselves. At school we have been busy giving thanks for all that we are so lucky to have and share.

We also hope you manage to welcome in the New Year filled with aspiration and ambition. Ready and clad with hope, resilience and faith to work together to face the challenges our school and community will undoubtedly be faced with in the coming term.

There is much to be thankful for. There is much to celebrate. There is much within our reach to change and make anew as we enter the warm spring months ahead...however far they may seem to be away in the bleak midwinter.

We wish a fond farewell to Mrs Coyle as she moves onto pastures new. She has been an invaluable member of the Surrey Hills team and we will all miss her enormously.

Our children and staff have asked me to reach out to you all and offer our thanks for all that you have helped us with.

We look forward to the New Year and wish you all hope and warmth and light.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr Simon Coles

Monthly Newsletter

We have moved to a monthly newsletter and this will grow in time to include more information and stories of interest and accomplishments. We will be continuing with weekly updates and news items which will be published on our website and conveyed in emails and messages.

Meet The Headteacher and school Tours

I am looking to offer open evenings for current and prospective parents who may have not yet been able to visit our school in the New Year and who may wish to meet me.

If this is not feasible due to Covid, we will be offering a meet the Headteacher Teams meeting per class in the New Year.

**Reminder INSET DAY
Monday 4th January 2022**

Please settle any outstanding accounts i.e. dinner money, year 3/4 swimming etc. by Friday 17th December.

Walking Bus

As part of a revision of our Travel Plan, we have successfully made arrangements to trial a walking Bus in January to make it easier for parents to pick up and drop off. We want to distance children away from the A25, ease congestion in the village and reduce pollution concentration levels. This will be one of a number of proposed changes to improve the current travel plan as the year progresses.



What is a walking bus? Please click [here](#) to find out the basics. There is more to learn about them by visiting the [living streets](#) website too. There are initiatives in towns, Villages and cities around the world.

Ours will run from the Sports Ground at the entrance of Milton Street. We will have access to the Club car park entrance and we will be able to invite parents to drop children off and leave them in care of our staff and similarly pick them up at the end of the day. The Bus will then walk down Milton Street and utilise the pathways to reach the bottom end of School Lane next to the school field.

If it goes well, it will slot into the immediate need to improve Westcott pupil accessibility and will combine with additional measures.

I would like to thank the club and the trustees for their support in facilitating this proposal.

We will look to begin this on Monday the 24th January, to finish on the Friday the 4th February.

Please look out for further information and guidance on how to book a place in January.

Online Learning

In the event that your child's class has to move to a remote learning scenario this academic year, we have decided that we will utilise Microsoft Teams to deliver an Online Learning Experience.

We have uploaded a guide on to our Home learning page on the School Website. Please visit this detailed step by step guide to aid logging in and navigation of the platform.

We have created a TEAM for each class and all the children have an Office 365 Login and Username. We will be communicating these to you in January. As we are Changing IT providers over the Christmas period they are upgrading systems and will be changing the log in details for you and your family so are unable to provide these before Christmas.

I will be hosting a Parent/Headteacher conference call with each class, to test the platform and use it as an opportunity to introduce myself to those parents I still haven't had the opportunity to meet.

I look forward to having TEAMS fully in place, although I hope we never have to resort to it as a teaching and learning platform.



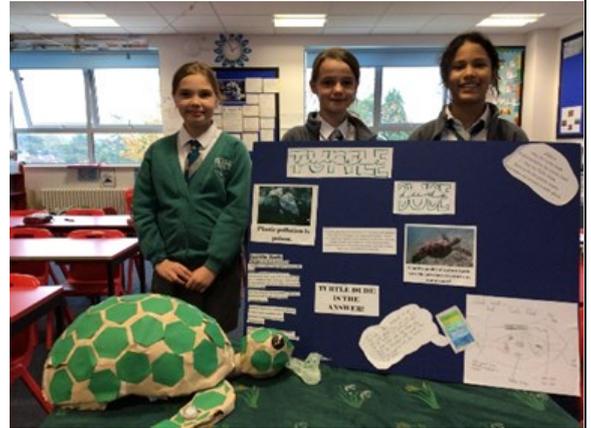
Safeguarding Briefing, Poppy Playtime: Online Safety Briefing

Our online safety experts have been alerted to a video game, Poppy Playtime, being described by some users as an "introduction to horror." Videos, versions of the game, and associated material are becoming increasingly popular on YouTube, Roblox, and other platforms used by young children.

Read our blog to find out more about this game, its risks to the children and young people in your care and download our guidance. [Poppy Playtime: Online Safety Review - Ineqe Safeguarding Group](#)

ROAR Project

Recently, our children in Year 6 have been taking part in a programme for Primary Schools designed to give a platform to young people to ‘think big and positively change the world’. Over several weeks, in groups, they created a life changing concept: producing a poster, model and jingle to promote their product. The Lions Club have supported Surrey Hills over many years and they helped to choose the entry that represented the school in the virtual final on 8th December. This was a very difficult decision as there were many fantastic innovations, such as an app to alleviate loneliness ‘Match Me Happy’ and ‘Holo-Nav’ where arrows are projected onto the road (thereby keeping a driver’s eyes on the road ahead at all times. Our winning team’s idea was a robotic ‘toy’ turtle ‘Turtle Dude’ that could help to rid our shores of plastic waste. We wish them the best of luck for the final!



Butterfly Class

Butterfly class have been learning all about the Great Fire of London this half term. We made Tudor houses for homework and then built a London street scene. There was great excitement when we actually recreated the Great Fire and burnt the whole street down!

We were also lucky enough to have a visit from the Fire Brigade to teach us about fire safety.



School Choir

Earlier in the month, the School Christmas Choir entertained a large audience at the Wescott Reading Rooms. They sang a collection of Christmas carols with great enthusiasm, including their own arrangement of Away in a Manger, with a solo and keyboard performance. This was followed by yummy cake. Thank you for the invitation.



School Christmas Dinner

A huge thanks goes to Dawn our cook who prepared a fantastic Christmas lunch for all the children and staff this week. There were candy canes, crackers, Christmas music and lots of laughter as the children tucked in to their amazing meal.

The afternoon was then spent enjoying watching an online pantomime, which was kindly funded by F@SH.



Diary Dates 2021/22		Please add these dates to your diary, any changes will appear in red. F@SH dates are shown in blue.	
December 2021		April 2022	
17th December 2021	End of Term (early close times) Abinger 1.15pm. Westcott 1.30pm	1st April 2022	End of Term (early close times) Abinger 1.15pm. Westcott 1.30pm
17th December 2021	Santa's Grotto at Abinger	19th April 2022	INSET Day
January 2022		20th April 2022	Back to School—Summer Term
4th January 2022	INSET Day	May 2022	
5th January 2022	Back to School—Spring Term	4th May	Class Photos
27th January 2022	Year 5/6 Theatre Exchange Viking Workshop	9th May 2022	KS2 SATs Week
February 2022		20th May 2022	Foxes Class Assembly
11th February 2022	Moles Class Assembly	27th May 2022	Butterflies Class Assembly
14th to 18th February	Half Term	30th May to 3rd June	Half Term
22nd February 2022	Parents' Evening	June 2022	
24th February 2022	Parents' Evening	13th to 17th June 2022	Year 6 Residential Trip - Thames Young Mariners & High Ashurst
March		21st to 24th June 2022	Year 4 Residential Trip - New BArn
3rd March 2022	World Book Day	17th June 2022	Bees Class Assembly
25th March 2022	Rabbits Class Assembly	24th June 2022	INSET Day
		July 2022	
		22nd July 2022	End of Term (early close times) Abinger 1.15pm. Westcott 1.30pm

Headteacher: Mr Simon Coles

Abinger Site	Abinger Lane, Abinger Common, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6HZ, 01306 730747, abinger@surreyhills.surrey.sch.uk		
Westcott Site	School Lane, Westcott, Dorking, Surrey RH4 3QF, 01306 881136, westcott@surreyhills.surrey.sch.uk		
Chair of Governors	Judith Packer, chair@surreyhills.surrey.sch.uk		
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