



11th December 2020

Learning and Achieving Through
Love, Courage and Respect

Dear parents and carers,

Has anyone seen **Rudolph**? He's gone missing—someone left the gate open and he's run away! We've heard that he's somewhere in Brighstone, so please keep an eye out for him. Some of the Reception children have already seen glimpses of his red nose in their gardens, so we know he's somewhere around. Reception are going on a reindeer hunt on Monday to see if they can find him. In the meantime, keep your eyes peeled—we need to return him to Father Christmas because he needs to guide the sleigh!



All the children have been busy rehearsing for this year's school **Nativity** and, as I sit here writing this, their energetic singing is drifting through the window, and I can see Bubble 1 shepherds, wise men, villagers, sheep, goats and more as they practise their scenes outside on the playground, as well as children from other bubbles busy filming their scenes across the school premises. I can't wait to see the finished product. Hollywood calls!

Yesterday saw **Robertson class** experience life in the **Stone Age**. They tramped across fields and through mud to Visit the Stone Age at Yafford, where they took part in a range of exciting activities led by Joy Verrinder. They ploughed fields, created cave paintings, made willow fences and explored inside reconstructions of stone age caves. I was lucky enough to be able to pop along in the middle of the day, and they were having great fun! They impressed the accompanying adults with their knowledge that they have gained throughout the topic, and their behaviour was exemplary. Well done, Robertson class!

A letter was emailed (and a paper copy sent home) today about our **end of term arrangements** following the Department for Education's guidance that came out this week. Having carefully considered it, we are continuing with our original plan for the children's last day to be Friday 18th December. There is also information on the letter about what to do if your child develops symptoms in the Christmas holidays. Please let the office know if you haven't received this, or if you have any questions about it.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend, and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best wishes, Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone Team

This week's Collective Worship focus
is: God of the Unexpected

Compassion

What does the Bible say about the Nativity story?

"And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."



Christmas Prayer

God of compassion,

You came among us in a way people didn't expect.

You came to us in Jesus.

God of compassion, you come among us today in ways we don't expect.

You come to us where we are.

Help us to recognise you among us and welcome you afresh this Christmas.

Amen



Golden News

Ainslie	Kieran - for joining in and singing enthusiastic with our Christmas song.
Lambert	Year 2 for trying really hard with their phonics check. Annaleigha for having a super week, great behaviour and attitude to learning. Dan - for challenging himself and being a good friend.
Robertson	Charlotte - for outstanding effort and for asking great questions. Whole class for excellent engagement on the trip.
Macarthur	Leila - good score in Maths assessment. Dominic and Elin - Great English work
Clover	Jack - for having such a positive attitude to his learning and showing great resilience.
Sports Bee	Poppy J - for always showing great focus and effort, and demonstrating the School Games Values.

SEMH

Social, Emotional & Mental Health

Wellbeing Window

How did your list writing go?

This week's task is:

Being Kind.....

You're going to come into contact with an awful lot of people who are at their absolute breaking point this month. Friends, family, neighbours, co-workers, strangers in the shops etc. While it may be the merriest time of the year for some, it may be the saddest, most stressful, loneliest, most heart-breaking time for others. We're all busy. But we're not too busy to be kind, caring and patient. Remember the best thing you can give someone this season is your love and kindness.

Or maybe it's you that's at the end of your tether and feeling the various pressures of the festive season. Remember to be kind to yourself. You are only human.



It's Christmas Dinner day next Wednesday 16th December. If you have not ordered and paid for a dinner, please ensure you send your child in with a packed lunch. Children not having a school dinner will still be included in the festivities. Children are invited to wear Christmas themed clothes/mufti for a donation to Isle of Wight Radio's Toy appeal (please do not bring in toys). If you would like to contribute to the appeal please donate any amount of money to allow for gifts to be bought for younger and older children.

More info: <https://www.iwradio.co.uk/isle-of-wight-radio-toy-appeal-2020/>

Last day of this half-term is
Friday 18th December

Back to school on Monday 4th January 2021

News from the classrooms



Hands on the Stone Age!

On Thursday Robertson Class dressed for the weather and hiked across fields to a delightful Stone Age museum in Yafford. Here they experienced life in the Stone Age from ploughing fields to stripping bark to making string and weaving willow for shelters. They ventured into a time tunnel which took them from an early Stone Age dwelling through to the start of the Bronze Age. They could see how skills had developed through this time.



After lunch they had a go at weaving a blanket and Tommy dressed up in the clothes (sheep skins) of Otzi the iceman found mummified in a glacier in the Alps in 1991.

The children really enjoyed themselves and got stuck into every task.

Our thanks go to Joy Verrinder who opened the museum especially for our visit.



STEM Careers Talk

On Tuesday morning, KS2 met Dr. Jonathan Whitchurch from Harwell Campus in Oxford, via ZOOM, to speak about his scientific career. He is currently researching ciliopathies - disorders like kidney and heart diseases that arise from abnormalities in the cilia - the tiny hairs attached to the cells in the human body. It was fascinating and again, the children asked some great questions that Jonathan was very pleased to answer, and he did a great job of explaining very technical language in an understandable way. We are hopeful that the children are beginning to see their potential career choices, if they work hard in STEM subjects. It was also great to see that the processes that we follow in our science enquiry is exactly what Jonathan does in his job. Well done KS2.

Doodle Maths

Well done to Macarthur Class who are the top Doodlers this week!



School Dinners

Children in **Year R, 1 and 2** are entitled to a 'universal' **free** school meal everyday.

Children in years 3-6 are charged at £2.15 per day.

2nd Nov	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Chicken Pasta	Sausage Roll	Christmas	Chicken Wraps	Fish and Chips
Option 2	Veggie Tagine	Vegan Roll	Dinner	Veggie Wraps	Frittata
Dessert	Choc Brownie	Fruit and Yog	Day	Cookie	Apple Sponge

If children from years 1-6 do not like what is on the menu, they can ask for a jacket potato with either beans, cheese, beans and cheese or tuna mayo. Fresh salad and fruit is offered everyday alongside the daily options.



FLU VACCINE REMINDER FOR Ainsley and Lambert Class

The NHS Solent Trust School Nurses will be in **on Monday 14th December** to administer the Flu vaccines to our Reception and Key Stage 1 - Bubble 1 children (and for any other children who previously missed the flu vaccinations due to self-isolation).

Mrs Cousins and Mrs Aram will supervise your children in Ainslie classroom at the end of the day until they are collected.

The nurses will set up the flu clinic in the school library. Due to your immunisation consent forms now being out of date, the nurses will need to review them on the day; therefore, a **PARENT MUST** be present with their child.

Please arrive at the following times and wait in the playground socially distanced (these slightly later times are to allow the rest of the school to have been collected to enable more space for you to wait on the playground, and the staggered times mean that you won't be waiting in the cold for too long). We will send the children out from Ainslie classroom in alphabetical order - they will then be called to the library door. The nurses will be as quick as they can, so we appreciate your patience while you bear with them.

Surname beginning A - G: 3pm

Surname beginning H - Z: 3.15pm

If you have another child to collect in an older year group, please collect them at the normal time and come round the one-way system again at your allocated time.

FURTHER REMINDER.

There are two remaining catch up sessions for school aged children who were unable to receive their flu vaccination in school when the nurses visited. The clinic dates are:

Wednesday 16th Dec 09:30-17:30 at West Newport Family Centre PO30 5QT

Wednesday 6th January also at West Newport Family Centre 13:00-17:30.

As these are drop in sessions there may be a short wait to see a nurse, social distancing measures will be in place and face masks must be worn. Please dress warmly as you may have to wait outside.

Here at Dinosaur Isle we know it's been a year when many children have missed out on their school trips.

We are going to be open Friday & Saturday for the 3 weekends before Christmas (4th & 5th, 11th & 12th and 18th & 19th December)

We would like to offer all primary & pre school children entry for £1 when accompanied by a full paying adult. Just let us know the name of the school when paying.

Due to Covid restrictions we would ask that anyone wishing to come book first please. Email dinosaur@iow.gov.uk or message on our Facebook page.

Music Lessons

If any parent would like to talk to Rob about music or instrument hire / purchase then they can contact him anytime on 07974 442573

Robcarr93@yahoo.co.uk

Or message me on my fb site

Guitar Stars



Christmas Cards

Last collection day for the School Christmas post box will be Wed 16th, to allow time to quarantine the cards before they are delivered to classes on Fri 18th.



During the Spring term, **Robertson Class** will be focusing on measurement (length, mass, capacity, temperature, money and time) during their lessons with Mrs Denness. It would be fantastic if you could do any of the following over the holidays:

- Look at the coins in your purse
- Do some baking that involves measuring mass in g/Kg
- Measure liquid in a jug using ml/L
- Measure the lengths of items around the house in cm/M
- Measure the temperature of different liquids with a thermometer in °c (with adult supervision and safely!)
- Refer to an analogue (clock with a face) clock frequently

If you need any gift ideas, analogue watches that show the hours, and even better, those that are specifically meant for learning to tell the time, would be brilliant. Save those Christmas cracker tape measures too!

If you have any questions or would like any help in approaching these subjects, please do email.