



*Small School  
Big Opportunities  
Great Achievements*

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

I would like to warmly welcome you to the start of the new term and to 2022 at Thakeham Primary School.

We welcome new staff to our school community this term. We have two wonderful new learning support assistants, Mrs Julia McIntyre, joining Acorn Class and Mrs Sarah Ede, who joined Elder Class just before Christmas. We also welcome Harriet Macready as class teacher in Elder Class. As you are aware, I will be out of class this term as Acting Headteacher and Mrs Mullineux will be Acting Assistant Head. Otherwise, school business will continue as normal!

### Who are we celebrating this week?

**Positive,  
Persevering  
Perry**



**Co-operative  
Caring Chloe**



**Headteacher  
Award**

**Reflective,  
Reviewing  
Rowan**



**Curious,  
Questioning  
Cleo**



Lucy (Maple)	Fiyin (Acorns)	Max (Maple) Eryn V (Maple)	Olive (Oak)	Ava (Elder)
--------------	----------------	----------------------------------	-------------	-------------



### Time to Shine!

It was Lucy's first time participating in Storrington Village's annual Elf Trail so she was delighted to win a chocolate prize which she shared with her brother!

## **Stunning Starts!**

There have been a lot of footprints found this week at school!

On Wednesday, Elder Class had to step over some huge, muddy footprints outside their classroom which they were led to believe, could have been Grendel, the monstrous creature defeated by Beowulf. Then on Thursday, a trail of penguin prints were discovered round by the Golden Mile track, which led Oak Class to a rather large penguin egg!

All of Acorn Class have been looking after their dinosaur eggs and baby dinosaurs creating some very warm and cosy looking nests for them to sleep in.

## **Homework**

I would like to remind you of the role we all play in the children's learning. The teaching staff very carefully source homework opportunities for the children to complete away from the classroom. The purpose of homework is to support and enrich children's learning, develop independence and encourage personal organisation. We believe that when it is well managed, work at home can broaden children's outlook, extend experience and interest, provide encouragement, reinforcement and foster independence. It always provides opportunities for the children to share their learning with members of their family, and for parents and carers to be involved with and support their child's learning.

### **What is the role of the teacher?**

- To plan and set homework tasks that are appropriate to the needs of the child
- To ensure all children understand the homework tasks they are asked to do
- To mark and give feedback about homework tasks
- To communicate with parents and children about homework, including successes and concerns.

### **What is the role of the parent/carers?**

- To be aware of the expectations of homework tasks and support their child as appropriate/needed
- To support their child to ensure that homework is handed in on time and completed to a high standard
- To provide appropriate conditions and resources for their child to complete homework tasks.

### **What is the role of the child?**

- To ensure they have everything they need to complete their homework tasks
- To make sure they understand the tasks they have been set, and ask for help if it is needed
- To complete homework tasks to the same standard as class work
- To hand homework tasks in on time
- To take on board any feedback that is given about homework tasks.

## **Covid-19 Update**

Please continue to keep us updated of any Covid-19 in your household. It is a requirement that everyone in your household and contacts, self-isolate in line with the latest guidance. I would like to emphasise that these are the government rules that we must follow and not ours as a school

[When to self-isolate and what to do - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do-coronavirus-covid-19)

Best wishes,  
Mrs Emma Hopkins (Acting Headteacher)