THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



'Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements' November 30th 2020



Super Learning Hero Awards

Congratulations go to the following children for their awards week commencing 16th November 2020, awarded in Celebration assembly on 23rd November 2020:

Positive, Persevering Poppy

Samuel (Acorn) Pollie (Oak) Co-operative, Caring Craig

<u>Craig</u> Harrison (Maple) <u>Curious</u>, <u>Questioning</u>

Quinn

Reflective, Reviewing

<u>Ruby</u> Zack (Oak) Leonie (Elder)

Headteacher award Oliver Wastell (Elder)

Congratulations go to the following children for their awards week commencing 23rd November 2020, awarded in Celebration assembly on 30th November 2020:

Ponny Ponny

<u>Poppy</u> Holly (Oak) Co-operative, Caring Craig

Curious, Questioning
Quinn
Colette (Elder)

Reflective, Reviewing Ruby

Amelie (Acorn) Erin (Oak) George (Maple)

Governors Award Oliver (Elder)

> Hall of Fame Rowan (Elder)

Message from Mrs Norton

Dear Parents/Carers,

End of lockdown & New Tier System

Today marks the end of the national lockdown in England and sees the introduction of <u>local restriction tiers</u> where different tiers of restrictions apply in different parts of the country. In West Sussex we are in Tier 2 - High Alert. Please see the government poster to see restrictions in place in our county. In school we continue to follow the DfE/PHE's guidance on actions we must take during the pandemic. A reminder for parents to:

- book a test if they or their child are displaying symptoms. The main symptoms are a high temperature, a new continuous cough and/or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested if they have symptoms, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents or carers if using a home testing kit
- provide details of anyone they or their child have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
- <u>self-isolate</u> if they have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), or if anyone in their household develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

We appreciate the steps you are taking to help us manage the continuing challenges and have appreciated all your positive feedback, your full support is essential. A polite reminder please that once your child has been

received by their teacher, you will need to leave the site promptly. It is lovely to see you catching up, but please do so off site, our paths around the site are so narrow and car park is busy so we need your support to ensure we keep bubbles separate and maintain social distancing.

Christmas at Thakeham

Hopefully you will have seen a separate letter outlining all the exciting plans for Christmas. Key dates are below as a reminder:

- 4th December: Decorations afternoon for the whole school in class bubbles. Materials kindly provided by FOTs.
- 9th December: KS1 Christmas Service led by Rev'd Sara Jane on site.
- 10th December: KS2 Christmas Service led by Rev'd Sara Jane on site.
- **16th December:** Christmas Lunch for key stages in their usual bubbles, party/film in the afternoon. Christmas Jumper Day. Christmas crackers provided by FOTs
- 17th December (9am) deadline for Trinity Church 'Follow the Trinity Trail' competition.
- Another key date for your diary in the next few weeks is **14th December**—Bags to School, please support us in raising funds for chrome books for children and books for our school library.

Children in each class are busy rehearsing their Christmas nativity/performance and we look forward to sharing these with you electronically before we break up for the holiday.

SPLASH have been supporting remotely during this period with virtual visits and we also look forward to a special Christmas virtual assembly from them shortly.

Thank you for your very generous Amazon Wishlist donations of books for our school/class libraries rather than gifts for staff this year. We have also received these in place of sweets to share for children's birthdays. Thank you for supporting this change, it really is making a difference!

Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE)

We have always placed great emphasis on this important aspect of our curriculum, and this learning has never been more important through such challenging times. We implemented a new programme called 'Jigsaw' in September and have supported teachers to lead this confidently and ably. It has been wonderful to monitor the impact of this work through observations in class and talking with pupils and looking at their work. Mrs Allan and I have been able to see the positive developments across the school and where we can further improve teaching and learning in this area. We have been creative in involving governors in monitoring, joining with the children, staff and I virtually to meet. Next term we will be preparing a presentation for parents to bring you up to date with our revised curriculum which also meets the statutory requirements set by the DfE for RSHE (Relationships, Sex and Health Education).

Governor Involvement

Governors will continue to perform their essential roles in school on a virtual basis whether this be through meetings, monitoring curriculum developments, meeting with WSCC advisors, recruitment and even presenting Governor Awards remotely! We have a strong governing body who continue to work hard on a voluntary basis for the school to ensure they fulfil their statutory responsibilities. At the end of this term governors linked to key priority areas for development this year will meet with curriculum leaders to review progress and impact. This will be for English, Maths, Early Years, PE and PSHE. Next term will also include Geography, History, Design Technology and Equalities.

Safeguarding

With the evenings drawing in quicker by the day, we thought it would be a good time to share with parents/carers the importance of road safety. The Royal Society for the Protection of Accidents have produced the following guide which you may find useful: https://www.rospa.com/media/documents/road-safety/teaching-road-safety-a-guide-for-parents.pdf

The Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) has produced a pack for parents about keeping children safe during lockdown and beyond. This leaflet includes safety advice around burns, poisoning, falls and water. To view this publication click on the link <u>Parents Pack - Safety Advice for Lockdown and Beyond</u>

E-Safety Please be aware of this game, which children might be playing on their phones or PC. It is called Cunch-Line Chronicles. The game is about 'County Lines' drug running. There are concerns about its potential influence on vulnerable young people as it has themes of drug-running, CSE and grooming. To find out more click on the link https://www.i-space.org.uk/cunch-line-chronicles-potentially-harmful-video-game

Staffing

Mr Beeching, Teaching Assistant in Maple Class will be moving onto pastures new shortly, with his last day being Friday 11th December. Mr Beeching has worked at Thakeham for 3 years, making a real difference to the lives of children he has worked with, working mainly on a 1:1 basis to support learning. We are grateful for his care, hard work and dedication during this time and wish him all the very best for the future.

Interviews for this role and to replace Mrs Ramsell who retired recently, are due to take place this week. We will keep you updated with the appointments.

With Best Wishes

Mrs Sam Norton Headteacher



TPS Competition - Trinity Methodist Church Nativity Trail

Trinity Methodist Church have created some lovely nativity displays for the community to enjoy. They are in a selection of shops in Storrington High Street. They have asked the public to post pictures of the scenes on their facebook page.

For **Thakeham Primary School children only**, they have created a competition. All you have to do is complete the attached entry form, stating the shop's name and which characters/animals are in each scene. Entry forms need to be submitted to the school office no later than 9am, Thursday 17th Dec. (Please do not send the school photos of the nativity scenes). Three lucky winners will each receive a £5 book token. Good luck!

FOLLOW THE NATIVITY TRAIL IN STORRINGTON



Find 12 figures in shop windows

Take a photo

Share with us on



TrinityStorrington

Trinity Methodist Church lives to share God's love in our community by loving God, loving people, and making a difference





Trinity Methodist Church Nativity Trail

Name	
Class	:

Shop Name	Characters & Animals Seen
-	

Please give your entries for the school office.

Deadline for entries 9.00am Thursday 17th December 2020.

Sussex Grapevine Magazine

Please find below, a the web address for the pdf of the winter 2020 Crawley & Horsham Family Grapevine magazine. The decision was taken not to print the magazine for the winter issue as England was just about to enter lockdown again. The winter issue features Places to go in December onwards, a competition to win 1 of 3 Family Tickets to Gatwick Footgolf, editorial, messy play recipes and adverts for local businesses.



http://thefamilygrapevine.co.uk/midsussex

Facebook: Mid Sussex Family Grapevine
Instagram: @midsussexfamilygrapevine

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- Online music lessons from home
- Learn to play the guitar, drum kit, piano / keyboard or to sing
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- Ofsted registered
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Watch this video about SAM's online lessons

Dear parent,

We would like to inform you of SAM Music Service, who provide 30 minute online one-to-one online music lessons, allowing your child the opportunity of learning to play the guitar, drum kit, piano / keyboard or to sing.

We recently showed your child the second in SAM's video series demonstrating instrument lessons available. Lessons take place online via Zoom provided by SAM Music Service. You can rewatch the video here:

Re-watch the full demonstration video - Guitar / Drum Kit / Piano / Vocal lessons now available

With Christmas just around the comer, learning an instrument can be great timing allowing for lots of gift ideas, including lesson vouchers which are <u>available here</u> and instruments and accessories to buy available here.

You are welcome to book a half-price (£8.25) one-off trial lesson, to be sure your child enjoyed the experience and is keen to continue.

Lessons are on a weekly basis, and available until 8pm on weekdays, and 9am to 5pm on weekends, there are plenty of times to choose from to suit your weekly diary.

<u>Tax-Free Childcare</u> - SAM is Ofsted registered and accepts payment through the government's childcare voucher scheme, along with other childcare voucher providers, a great way to help reduce the price of lessons. Lessons are affordable at £16.50 per 30 minute individual 'one-to-one' lesson, suitable for both children and adults.

To enquire, complete the short contact form on <u>SAM's website</u>, and they'll be in touch soon, or you can call 0800 756 9411 to speak to one of their friendly team.

sammusicservice.com / lessons@sammusicservice.com