

Perseverance, responsibility, thankfulness, forgiveness, respect and friendship in Action

BITS & PIECES NEWSLETTER 18 2021/22

21st January 2022

EXPLORER DOME



This week, years five and six and our reception classes were visited by the Explorer Dome. In the morning Willow, Sequoia and Copper Beech were able to get hands on as they explored light. They used mirrors, prisms and filters to examine how light travels and how we see it. In the afternoon, Elm and Palm classes explored the beauty of the night sky, viewing the moon and stars as part of their topic of space.

All the children were very well behaved and were really engaged in the activity, asking lots of thoughtful questions to the team from the Explorer Dome, who told us they really enjoyed meeting the children and their enthusiasm for the two topics.

COVID 19 Update

Earlier this week, we sent out a letter to you all about the increase in COVID cases in school. We are monitoring the situation daily and will update you if we have to make any further changes. If your child does test positive for COVID, either through a lateral flow or a PCR test, please can you contact the school by phone or email to let us know.

We would like to thank those of you who have been testing your children, and for helping us keep our school safe.

Fareshare and Uniform Shop

A reminder that our Fareshare and Uniform shop will be open on Fridays and Mondays. The shop will be unmanned and located at the room at the back of our school hall (near the front entrance by the black bollards). The doors will be open from **8.30am-4.30pm**, and all you need to do is bring a bag or box to take the food away in. We are unable to control or request the food donated but we usually receive a great variety of fruit, vegetables, store cupboard foods and ingredients to make a meal or two.

We welcome families to come throughout the day to help yourselves to food and produce donated by Fareshare, for free and anonymously.

If you have any good condition uniform you would like to donate to our uniform shop, if you can pop into the shop on Friday or Monday and place the uniform on the correct age shelves, that would be appreciated.

Alternatively, if you can't make it on these days, please pass any donations to the school office. Thank you.



Winter Weather

Please can we ask that you send your children in with appropriate, labelled clothing for the cold weather. We like the children to be able to spend time outside whenever it is possible so they need to have a coat and any other items to keep them warm during this chilly spell!

Important Safety Information

Parking around school

We understand that parking around school can be tricky, but please can we just remind you about being respectful of our neighbour's when dropping off and collecting your children from school. Can we also ask, that you avoid parking in front of the school gateways or in our staff car parks, as we've had a few near misses with children making their way to their year group entrances. Thank you.

No Dogs

Can we please remind everyone that dogs are not allowed anywhere on the academy premises (with the exception of guide dogs). Please do not bring your dogs to school or tie them to the fence or gates around the perimeter. Thank you.



Holidays During Term Time

Whilst I realise absence through illness is unavoidable, I do have concerns about children missing school through holidays and the impact this makes on their learning. Children also need to be present for important assessments throughout the year – **there are particularly important tests for Year Six and Year Two in May and Year One in June. I cannot, therefore, authorise any requests for family holidays except in exceptional circumstances.**

Play Equipment in the Infant and Junior Playgrounds

This is just a reminder that children should not play on the trim trails or any outside play equipment before or after school. The only time they are permitted to use this equipment is during school hours when a member of staff is able to supervise its use. Thank you.

Bike and scooters

Could we please ask that if you are waiting for your child at the end of the school day that younger children do not play with bikes and scooters in the playground, especially the ones in the bike shed. Thank you.

School Association

Tesco Community Grants Scheme

We have been fortunate to be selected as one of the charities being supported by the Tesco Community Grants scheme. Between now and 31st March 2022 if you are shopping in either the Cam or Wotton-Under-Edge stores, you will receive a blue token, these can then be put into the Dursley Primary slot in the voting unit. Any monies we receive from Tesco will go towards some fantastic new play equipment for the infant playground.



VIRTUAL 50/50 BUCKET for 2021/22

If you would like to be in with a chance of winning on our monthly prize, please consider signing up to the school VIRTUAL 50/50 BUCKET for 2021/22.

Based on the 50:50 buckets that we have at the school fairs, and so called “100 clubs” it is a great way to support your association whilst having a bit of a flutter! Simply complete and sign the subscription form sent out last week and sign up for £2 a month (or £24 annually) per entry. This buys you one membership number (which will be randomly allocated); this will enter you into the monthly draw. All participants must be parents, guardians or staff of Dursley C of E Primary Academy School. The draw will take place during Worship on the last Friday of each month (or virtually if no Worship is held). The winner will receive 50% of the membership fee taken that month. The remaining 50% goes to the School Association to help fund equipment, resources and opportunities for pupils. In 2020/21 the average prize was more than £60, and if we sell more tickets, the prize could be higher. If you win, a cheque will be posted to your home address. The name of the winner will be announced in the newsletter, on Facebook and the school’s website. Any queries, please contact the school association on schoolassociation@dursley.gloucs.sch.uk



Cake Sales

Our latest Cake sale was hosted by Elm and Palm classes. We had lots of lovely cakes sent in to us. We are delighted to announce that we raised a fabulous **£77.08** Thank you everybody for your support.

Our next cake sale will be hosted by **Sequoia Class on Friday 11th February.**

If you are able to help out, we’d be delighted to have more helpers. Please speak to Louise Peglar in the playground or contact us on schoolassociation@dursley.gloucs.sch.uk

Hope you have a lovely weekend

Toni Holford-Wright

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