



Newsletter – No. 29 3rd May 2024

Message from Mrs. Mole

Citizen Science is coming!

The **Big River Watch** is back and taking place over the Bank Holiday weekend (and the forecast says that the weather will be fabulous!)

Many of you took part last year and contributed to the 3,600 surveys that were completed. Hopefully, even more of us will take part this year so that we can deepen our understanding of the health of our rivers and work out how we can take better care of them.

Want to know how to take part?

1. **Download the free Big River Watch app**, available on both the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play](#).
2. **Take part!** Visit your local river, or explore a new one, and spend 15 minutes observing and recording what you see in the simple in-app survey.
3. **Press upload** and share your findings.

Together, we'll gather vital data on everything from wildlife sightings to pollution levels. Not sure what you're seeing? Not to worry, our handy in-app guides will help you identify common species and different kinds of pollution.

What's more, you'll spend 15 meaningful minutes connecting with nature, so it's good for our rivers and for you. The perfect activity for a Bank Holiday weekend.

The Friends are promoting the '**Rethink Waste**' campaign. This is our chance to get a share of £6000 and improve our environment. Read their section in the Newsletter to see how you can be involved. I easily earned the school 300 points in less than 5 minutes!

We are also working with The Friends in planning our next Gardening Afternoon. On **Friday 10th May** we are inviting families in to tidy up/refresh/plant in our wonderful grounds. Adults are welcome from 1pm and the children will be able to join you at 3pm. Please e-mail the Friends if you are able to help.

Rebecca Mole, Headteacher



Star of the Week

Rabbits: Calista Adkins

Squirrels: Seth Faulkner

Badgers: Dashed Jagger



Star of Week

Rabbits: **Calista** for working so hard to improve her phonics and writing—keep up the hard work.

Squirrels: **Ellis** for making such great progress in his reading.

Badgers: **Thomas** for working so hard to improve your handwriting—you are a superstar!

Values Star of the week:

Rabbits: **Manuel** for being a curious learner and asking sensible questions!

Squirrels: **Oscar** for being a curious learner, looking for different tree types and spotting an Oak tree.

Badgers: **Ava** for being a courageous learner!



Forest School Star of the Week

Rabbits: **Zac** for being really engaged in today's task making daisy pictures.

Squirrels: **Gian** for being an inquisitive explorer searching for leaves of different shape, colour and size.

Badgers: **Dashel** for focus and attention to detail when making your flower puppet.



Book Recommendation of the week by Tabitha in Year 1

Pop up London by Jennie Maizels.

'I love this book because you can move stuff around which is fun and learn about London which is interesting.'



Parking

We have been made aware that, since start of this term, one of our school community has started parking in Oakdene Close to "drop off & pick up" as a matter of routine. We do ask that Oakdene Close is only used as a last resort or in an emergency. Unfortunately, it seems that other parents have noticed and now started doing the same and this is increasing the safety risk involved for the parents and children walking to and from the school at that time.

I understand that the request from the school emanates from a time when a child got hit and injured by a car coming up the Close to do a "drop off". The pavement was then widened so no one had to walk in the road. It is important to remind ourselves and the children that we must walk on the pavement and stop and check before crossing driveways.

Our request, not to park in Oakdene Close, is there to keep everyone safe and to minimise the disruption for local residents. Please do show respect by following our request.

Take One Picture

This year the children will be taking part in Take One Picture Day on Thursday 23rd May during our Arts Week. We will be focussing on recycling materials into our artwork so please could you begin collecting any plastic recycling - the brighter the colours the better! Please pass to your class teacher. Many thanks Mrs Mathews



Library Volunteer

We have the most wonderful library that our children love to visit, browse the books and take them home. To help the children get even more from the library we would love a parent/carer volunteer to open it up for small groups of children at specific times of the day.

If you are interested in volunteering please see Ms. Mole. Ideally we are looking for someone who can volunteer on a regular basis, we can train you in using the systems and following our safeguarding policy we would carry out a Disclosure and Baring Service check. We know from experience that children love seeing their parents/carers in school and volunteering is shown to have a positive impact on wellbeing!

Message from the Friends

School Gardening Afternoon - Friday 10th May 1pm - 5pm

Help us get the school grounds looking summer ready!

We'd love to invite the whole school community to help us with a bit of school gardening on Friday 10th May. If you can lend a hand even for a short time, we'd be very grateful. If you are free, parents are welcome to start from 1pm with your children joining you from 3pm. We know the children get hungry after school, so we'll provide refreshments and snacks for all who come (grown ups included).

The weather at the moment is looking lovely and sunny, so why not top up on some Vitamin D whilst making the school look great.

If you can help out, please email plisfriends@gmail.com so we can cater for enough. Feel free to bring along any gardening tools/equipment too.



New Easy Way To Help Us Win A Share of £6000 Greenredeem -

Rethink Waste is a local initiative encouraging us all to waste less, recycle more, discover money-saving tips and earn rewards for living a greener lifestyle.

Each week there are 3 activities (a short 2 minute video to watch, a very short quiz on the weekly topic and a pledge to make a difference). For each of these you earn points.

Over the next 50 days, they are running a Surrey Schools Donation campaign, the more points we finish with, the bigger the share of £6000 we get.

At the start of this week we were 9th on the list, please sign up, collect your weekly points and donate to our school here: <https://rethinkwaste.co.uk/register>

The video and quiz are informative and engaging and you could even get your children involved.

Any funding we receive will go towards litter pickers and our Solar Panel project.

Encourage family members to sign up too and let's get our school up that leader board!

Dates

6th May—May Day Bank Holiday—school closed

8th May—Year 1 Trip to Wisley

9th May—Year 2 Trip to The British Wildlife Centre

20th—24th May—Art Week—various art activities will take place during the week

20th—24th May—Walk to School Week

20th May—Class photos (am)

21st May—Perform Workshops—all classes

27th May—31st May Half term

3rd June—Inset Day school closed for training

4th June all children return to school

5th June—Year 2 Trip to Woking Mosque (am only)

17th June—Year 2 Singing Picnic at Yehudi Menuhin School (am) More details to follow

26th June Sports Day followed by family picnic after school

2nd July—Reception Trip to Nower Wood—More details to follow

2nd July—Year 2 children visit their new schools (Surrey wide transition day)

19th July—Year 2 Leavers Assembly (am) more details to follow

23rd July Last day of term - school closes at 1pm

Friends Events for your diary:

Friday 10th May - School Gardening afternoon

Thursday 23rd May - Sponsored Bounce & After School Picnic

Thursday 6th June - Making Morning for Bookham Village Day Parade

Sunday 14th July – Summer Fair 12 - 3pm

