Newsletter October 2020



We are getting outdoors as much as we can!

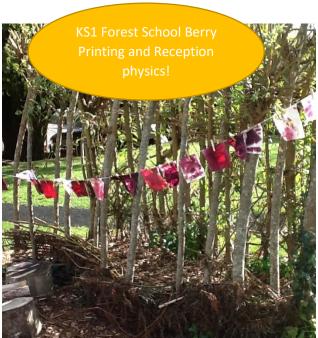




Wellbeing sessions, chalky art and Autumn Assembly!















End of breaktime for Cogden...





*Do check the website homepage for frequent Twitter posts containing lots of photos!

- So far the children have all enjoyed a healthy mix of outdoor activities and a
 gradual return to curriculum work. We are seeing some fantastic writing and maths
 as well as a wealth of knowledge brought to our topic lessons. We have focused on
 wellbeing and will continue this throughout the term to enrich our teaching and
 learning approach. We are beginning to get a precise idea of where the children are
 with their learning which helps us know where to target "Catch-up" strategies where
 needed.
- We are always focused on **online safety** here at school and for your child at home. Please have a look at https://www.net-aware.org.uk/ which is an excellent quick guide for parents to learn about age appropriateness, how "safe" sites can affect your child and general E-safety tips.
- Usually this time of year we would be planning an **open day**. This year however, we are preparing a virtual tour of the school to publish on Facebook and the website and to send to prospective parents. If you do know of any interested parents for next September please let me know so that I can forward our video to them.

- The PSA are working behind the scenes to work out what can be done this term to
 ensure the children have a lovely Christmas at Powerstock. It is obviously much
 more difficult at the moment but they have some good ideas about raising money
 already. If you would like to help, please get in touch by emailing the school office.
- In getting outside as far as possible, it is important that your child has suitable shoes
 and a warm, waterproof coat. We do try to be outside for breaktimes even in
 wet drizzly weather and warm clothes will ensure that your child stays with their
 class at all times.
- **Flu immunisation** will take place on November 25th at school for all year groups. You will receive a letter about this soon. We usually have a good take up for this and we are hopeful that this year will be even better to keep everyone safe.
- Can I please remind you to stick to the timings for your child's class for **arrival and collection**. This helps with our procedures re C19 where timings are exact and helps your child start off the day together. With collection, we have to arrange separate care for each class bubble if you are late to pick up. No back packs/bags please we cannot store them safely. Children just need to bring their lunch/snack and a water bottle. Many thanks.

We are planning **parent interviews** this term via Zoom virtual meetings. Below are days and times when you can book a (up to) 15 minute slot to "meet" with your child's class teacher. When you have decided a time and day (a few options from you will work best to ensure we can help everyone), we will send you the Zoom ID to join the meeting (many of you will have done this during Lockdown) on https://zoom.us/join. We have found it is easier to download the free APP, but you can access through your browser as well. Alternatively, we can send you an individual summary of your child's term so far and how well they have settled back into school.

Please let the office know your preference/times/days etc at office@powerstock.dorset.sch.uk

Week beginning 19th October:

Burton Class

Monday: 2pm - 4.30pm

Tuesday: 2pm – 5.30pm

Wednesday: 2pm – 4.30pm

Cogden Class

Monday: 2pm - 5.00pm

Tuesday: 2pm - 5.30pm

Wednesday: 3.15pm – 5.00pm

Seatown Class

Monday: 2pm – 5.30pm

Tuesday: 2pm – 5.30pm

Thursday: 3.15pm-5.30pm

C19 notice -

• Some parents have needed to have other parents and family members help pick up and drop off. If it does not follow the guidance, then please follow the social distancing guidance linked below:

It is critical that everybody observes the following key behaviours:

- HANDS Wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds.
- FACE Wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.
- SPACE Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre
 with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation
 indoors).

If you are transporting other parents' children, then please follow the guidance where possible, which includes wearing a mask, using hand sanitiser when getting in and out of the car and opening up the windows to increase ventilation.

By following these measures we can protect ourselves and our children's health and **limit** the risk of having to close our 'bubbles' or our whole school. We are doing everything we can to keep our school healthy and happy – thank you for your support in this.

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-support-bubble-with-another-household

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing

Thank you all for your continued support!

