

## November 27th 2020 Newsletter

### Checkendon CE Primary School

Email: office.3801@checkendon.oxon.sch.uk

T: 01491 680693



The **School Vision**, which appears at the top of this newsletter each week, underpins all aspects of school life. Each year, we choose a number of areas to work on to bring our vision to life and these targets are set out in the **School Development Plan**.

One aspect we are focusing on this year is the implementation of a **Recovery Curriculum**. This idea is being developed by Barry Carpenter, Professor of Mental Health in Education at Oxford Brookes, and includes 5 levers: **Relationships, Community, Transparent Curriculum, Metacognition** and **Space**. We are using this framework here at Checkendon to foster pupil wellbeing during the pandemic and to support children's developing independent learner skills.

We are investing in **Relationships** and have been really impressed with the way children have settled back in school, re-igniting old friendships and making new ones; and teachers are enjoying the time for more informal conversations with pupils as they now eat lunch together in class daily. We have taken a number of steps to ensure that we present a **Transparent Curriculum**. Over the last few weeks, we have updated the school website so that the **Community** is well-informed. There is now more information about the school curriculum; we have improved the weekly class updates for class pages and added a report about the Catch-up Premium Grant. This newsletter also includes items of class news in every edition and there's more on Twitter and Instagram. Our focus on the development of independent learning skills is well-established at the school and we continue to use **Metacognition** strategies to help children rebuild their confidence as learners. Our beautiful school grounds provide lots of opportunities for the children to have **Space**; we pause for reflection as part of collective worship daily and we are using the Zones of Regulation resources across the whole school to support mental health and well-being.

As we continue to navigate the challenges of this pandemic together; our commitment to the school vision shines through: **SEEKING**↳ **SERVING**↳ **SOARING!**

Warm regards,  
**Gillian Seymour**

*Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary. Isaiah 40:31*



### Thought for the Day



### Pictures of the Week

**Rhino Class** pupils received a thank you letter from Chiltern's Court Care home, where one of our parents work, because of the caring cards that they sent as part of their PSHE learning looking at the elderly in care homes during this difficult time.



More fabulous photos overleaf ☺

## More Information

We have three birthdays at school this week:

- **William** who was 10 on 23<sup>rd</sup> November
- **Flo** who was 6 on 24<sup>th</sup> November
- **Thomas** who was 8 on 24<sup>th</sup> November

**Happy Birthday to you all 😊**



**Congratulations** to **Jessie** who got a **Distinction** in her recent piano Grade 1 exam. Fantastic!

**Christmas Post** - We are planning to make the post box available in the entrance hall from Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December to post all school Christmas cards. Those Christmas cards posted up to and including 4<sup>th</sup> December will be distributed on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December and those Christmas cards posted up to and including 11<sup>th</sup> December will be distributed on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December. In both cases the cards will be set aside over the weekend to comply with current health and safety measures. The last posting day will be Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December.



### School Council



At our meeting this week each School Council representative presented a global issue they feel strongly about and a suggested action for Checkendon pupils. Issues included: wasting water and electricity, hunting, littering, hunger and pesticides. Following a vote, we chose deforestation as the issue to focus on as part of the Global Neighbours Silver Award application.

### Worship for Sunday 29th November 2020

Please see this coming Sunday service choices below. For Zoom Meeting IDs and Passwords please refer to <http://langtreechurches.org/sunday-services/>

10am	A Service of the Word with Revd John. Prayers and Bible readings to start the day.
10am	Worshipping together with Revd Linda. An informal service suitable for all ages.
11am	Holy Communion for Advent Sunday with Revd Kevin. Advent carols, and a communion specially recorded in Checkendon Church.
11am	Morning Service with Revd James 11am. Fellowship and prayer at the start of a new week. Please <a href="#">email James</a> to receive your invitation.
Advent begins this coming Sunday - 29th November, and Revd Kevin invites you to join him online every day at 8.30pm from Monday 30th November until Christmas Eve, for a devotional ten minutes.	

### Dates for your Diary

w/c 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Book Fair (children only – Mon-30 <sup>th</sup> – Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec)
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Closing date for CH.I.P.P Christmas Competition Extravaganza
18 <sup>th</sup> December	End of Term - 2pm finish

### And Finally....

Q: What musical instrument is found in the bathroom?

A: A tuba toothpaste!



**Social News Feeds:** <https://twitter.com/CheckendonSch>  
<https://www.instagram.com/checkendonprimaryschool/>

Children in **Owlet Class** have been planning their trip to the moon! They



have read the story of Whatever Next, hot-seated Little Bear and role-played his adventure using props. The children have thought about what we will take with us into space and made passports ready for our journey.

This week pupils in **Owl Class** completed their 'We are Weather



Forecasters' learning project by

creating their own weather forecasts. Everyone worked so well to write and learn their scripts in their pairs.



**Panda Class** children have displayed some impressive acting and writing skills, acting out the ending of The Egyptian Cinderella,



and creating their own imagined conversations between the main characters.

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### Rhino Class

enjoyed having Mrs Claire Rowling in to talk to the class about space innovation and the work of women in science.

