



MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN



Dear Parents and Carers,

It gives me great pleasure to wish you all a very Happy New Year - I do hope you all enjoyed the festive season and some family time!

We have had a fantastic week in school with both our key worker provision and our remote learners. Children attending school are very settled and children learning at home have enjoyed attending live lessons and the interaction this provides. We know how challenging home-learning can be and we also know that it will not have gone smoothly for everyone - please get in touch if we can help you in any way. I must, once again, apologise for the slight intrusion with emails over the Christmas period, however, your swift response, support and engagement has enabled us to plan far more effectively for children working both at home and in school.

I am delighted to welcome three new members of staff to Biggin Hill Primary School. Mrs Kimpton-Clark has joined the Administrative team and will be based in our main reception area. Ms Gordon and Mrs Horgan have joined our Learning Support team. Ms Gordon will be joining our Reception team on a Thursday and Friday and Mrs Horgan will be based in Year 3.

I would like to congratulate Miss Powell on becoming our new Early Years Foundation Stage Lead (EYFS) and welcome her to the Leadership team. Mrs Lucas, Year 1 Class Teacher, will continue to lead on Modern Foreign Languages and also take on the additional responsibility of leading on Computing for the next two terms. Mrs Windover will now be working additionally with the Year 6 team teaching Literacy.

Mrs Lineker will now be taking over matters concerning attendance and Ms Wythers will take over matters relating to admissions for both school and nursery. Mrs Helps will look after marketing, communications and outreach and Mrs Sargeant will continue to support our families and will also take on additional responsibilities around inclusion and safeguarding.

I will continue with my teaching commitment until May and hopefully beyond!

These changes will enable us to support our children and families and the new leadership structure that we have in place.

... continued overleaf

STARS OF THE WEEK

Jill Barklem, Beatrix Potter, Emily Gravett, Eric Carle, Abi Longstaff, Michael Rosen, Helen Cooper, Jeremy Strong, Berlie Doherty, Adam Frost, Michael Bond, Katharine Woodfine, Abi Elphinstone, Andrew Donkin and Sinead O'Hart



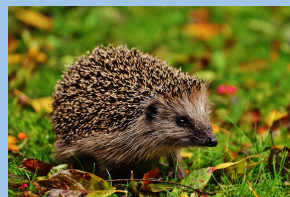
***You are all our
'Stars of the Week'***



Thank you for being so adaptable

RECEPTION

*Our children are **AMAZING!***



This week our Reception children have made a great start to the year! They have

read the story '*The Very Helpful Hedgehog*' a story about Isaac the Hedgehog who gets an apple stuck on his back. They have really enjoyed this story. Over the coming weeks we will be learning about 'People Who Help Us'. We know we have lots of key worker parents amongst our year group, so we are looking forward to finding out what you all do! Both our learners at home and school have amazed us with their engagement in lessons both remotely and in school. This week, we also welcomed Ms Gordon, Learning Support Assistant, to our team.

***Miss Powell, Mrs Clark
and Mrs Gilham***

CONTINUED... MESSAGE FROM MRS FREEMAN

Our focus for all children in school and at home is on their learning, engagement and wellbeing. Pupil Progress Reviews (PPR's) were held internally with teaching staff before the Christmas period, the outcomes of these have very much informed our planning of teaching and learning for this term. I know the current situation is very difficult for our families, however, it is vital for our children that we collectively do as much as we possibly can.

As always, we strive to promote a 'virtual open door' policy and if any families are having any difficulties, we would urge you to contact us as soon as possible.

I know that we are all very much looking forward to the Spring, when we hope to enjoy some warmer weather and see some much needed light at the end of this tunnel: please do not forget, we are on this journey together and are here if you need us.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Mrs Freeman
Acting Head Teacher



Look out For

Home Learning Provision

- A daily "Good Morning" message on the Google Stream.
- Two live lessons a day - one English and one Maths.
- A weekly video that sets out a learning challenge related to another subject from the curriculum.
- A daily physical/PE challenge.
- Work for the day (posted to the stream the night before).
- Stories uploaded to our YouTube channel.
- A weekly assembly - pre-recorded.

A member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will always be available to speak to - please just telephone the office and leave a message or email us directly.

RECEPTION CHILDREN

Fun in the SNOW at home



Myla, Ronnie, Elinam and Dominic
having fun in the snow!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR INCLUSION TEAM

Hi everyone,
I'd like to start by saying that Mrs Sargeant and I fully understand how tricky home learning can be in addition to the stress that ordinary life can put upon us all. Throw in national lockdown and our normal coping mechanisms are greatly reduced! Please remember that we are here to offer any support and advice needed. Whether it be how to manage and use google classroom, timetables for home learning or maybe you'd like support in how to present the home learning to your children, please contact either myself or Mrs Sargeant. We are both in school full time and always welcome your calls or emails. We have recently launched a new programme, provided by Edukey, to support our children with additional needs. Look out for information over the coming weeks which will explain how to log on, view your children's provision and provide an additional form of communication between us all.

Mrs Lawrence
Acting Deputy Head Teacher
& Inclusion Lead

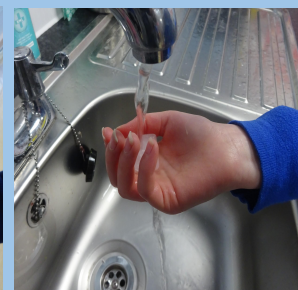
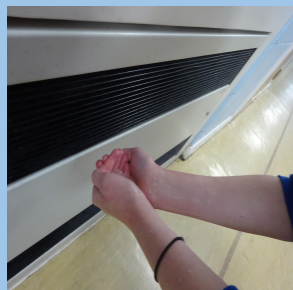
k.lawrence@bigginhillps.com

YEAR 4

Scientific first week back. Is it a liquid, solid or gas?



Year 4 have had a very scientific first week back at school, whether that be in person or online. We have been learning about liquids, solids and gases. We were challenged to melt an ice cube as quickly as we could. There were some interesting ideas.



We found the ice cubes melted most quickly in hot water, although the hand dryer and heater were pretty effective too. Holding the ice cube didn't work very well at all!

The snow on Wednesday morning was very exciting too! The view from our classroom was so pretty.



Mrs Buchanan and Miss Farrell

Thank you Mrs Windover and our amazing children that took part in this special event.

On Christmas Eve, the New Life Church hosted a Christmas Eve like no other! Due to the restrictions we are under, they streamed their service with some special appearances from the children at Biggin Hill Primary School. If you did see it, you can view at:

<https://www.facebook.com/newlifebh>



On behalf of all the staff at Biggin Hill Primary School, thank you for your lovely Christmas cards and gifts.

Mrs Freeman and Mrs Lawrence

IMPORTANT NOTE



We are working hard to keep everyone as safe as possible in school. I must ask that if your child or a family member within the household is unwell with any of the key symptoms, please keep your children at home and follow the government guidance. This is very important for us **all** in making sure everyone is as safe as possible.

Mrs Freeman and Mrs Lawrence

Do you need any support?

Please remember that we are aware of how difficult the current situation is. I would urge any families that feel they need any support to reach out to Mrs Sargeant, our Family Support Worker and Inclusion Assistant. Please email her directly at: k.sargeant@bigginhillps.com or contact the office to request a phone call.

YEAR 2

A Fantastic Attitude



Year 2 were working at home for 10 days at the end of December. The children showed such a fantastic attitude towards their work and worked really hard.

In maths we were learning all about shapes. We went on a 3D shape hunt around our homes and showed our friends and teachers what we had found in a Google Meet. We then discovered how to count faces, edges and vertices on 3D shapes.

In literacy we did some Christmas-themed writing. We each found a Christmas decoration in our home and brought it to a Google Meet. We learnt how to describe our decorations using expanded noun phrases. We also thought about what we would like for Christmas and wrote letters to Father Christmas. We had to remember to write "Dear", "love from" and tell Father Christmas what we had done to be "good"!

Thank you to all the parents and carers who supported the children with their home learning.

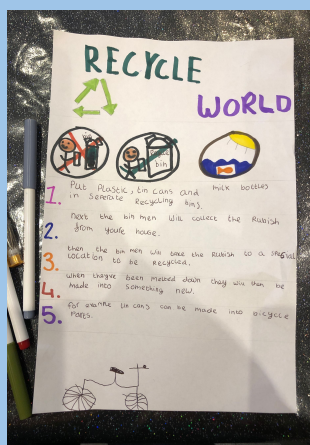
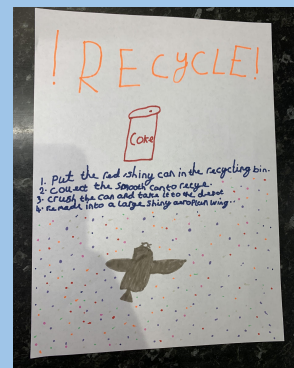
Ms Reed and Miss Castledine

EXAMPLES OF SOME AMAZING HOME LEARNING

Jacob and Lyla, Year 4, weighing fizzy drinks before and after they go flat to see how much the gas weighs!



Lyla, Reception, created an ambulance for our 'People Who Help Us' topic!



Amelia and Amos, Year 3, have made posters about recycling related to our new book 'The Tin Forest'.



ROLL OF HONOUR

Joshua you are a true inspiration!

Joshua S, Year 1, is raising funds for MS Research Treatment and Education (MS Research). Joshua is a very keen horse rider and he will be doing the equivalent distance of the popular horse race held in France - the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe - every day for a month! This horse race is held in France and is 2.4 km. Joshua will do this either on horseback each day or by foot!

Not only is this inspirational, but Joshua is doing this in support of his godmother, who suffers with MS. His godmother, also a parent at our school, will be undertaking the personal challenge of virtually cycling from London to Paris in the month of January. So far Joshua has raised a massive **£300!!!**

To find out more about this extraordinary young man and this inspirational story, please visit his fundraising page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/joshuasmart6?fbclid=IwAR3MVHWR7RGarmzg63XiPv8RYFUXHyT1o3gcoZLF2FlIAhvRzkXV0URrvk>