



# PENSHURST C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents

What a week! It certainly has been a busy and challenging one; we have experienced a surge in Covid19 cases amongst pupils and staff. I hope anyone who has succumbed to the virus is not feeling too unwell and I wish everyone a speedy recovery. We did well to keep the virus out of school for so long but it seems to spread very quickly once a few cases appear. I am hoping we are over the worst of it now – fingers crossed. We will still face challenges into next week as Mr Harris has to isolate until he has the correct number of negative tests and is feeling well enough to return.

Recently I was reflecting back to the start when Coronavirus (as we called it then) was just emerging. I remember thinking to myself 'do I need a file for this?' ... Now I have several files with guidance, changes in guidance and further changes! I feel like Covid19 guidance could be my 'Mastermind' specialist subject!

I believe that our incredible sense of community has helped us through what have been challenging times. A big thank you to everyone for all they are doing to support our pupils.



Due to the kind of week it has been there are not so many things to report in this week's newsletter so forgive me if it is brief.

## PTA Fundraising



This coming Friday (28<sup>th</sup>) is the last Friday in the month and pupils may wear their home clothes for a £1 donation to the PTA.

## Open Afternoon

We are hoping to plan an Open Afternoon this term to allow parents to come and share their child's work – I am sure you will appreciate that I will set a day and times once the current virus situation has abated.

## Stars of the Week

As we have had so many children off this week and their teachers are away - I have made the decision to postpone 'Stars of the Week' this week. So next week each year group will have 2 stars.

## Positive Feedback

This week I have received some lovely feedback from visitors and parents. We have had a number of supply teachers in school, covering classes and they have all commented on how helpful and polite the children are – making it a pleasure to come to our school. I have also received some lovely feedback about our Early Morning and After School provision – commenting positively about the relationships between the staff and children. They went on to say how lovely it was to see that we cater for different age groups with the activities and games we have available. Our external club providers also say that the children are well behaved, because of this the clubs are calm and enjoyable for all. Well done to everyone who makes the school such a great place to be.

## Year 5 and 6 Showcase – Art and DT

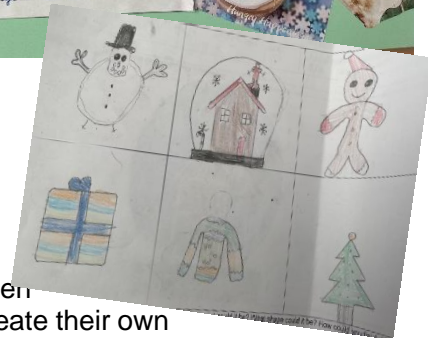
As I have some room in this week's newsletter I thought it would be a good opportunity to showcase some of the work our older pupils have been completing.

Last term they undertook a DT project which was focused on food technology. Pupils evaluated and tasted Christmas biscuits and then went on to design their own festive biscuit. They created posters and design ideas (see below) and they are now working in small groups to create their finished



products.

This term the children are working on an art and DT project which involves experimenting with different printing techniques and then creating a lino block to create their own fabric. Pupils started by exploring and creating their own wooden printing blocks.



They will then move onto creating a lino block to print the fabric with. Once the fabric is printed and dry they will go on to develop their DT skills to make a textile product e.g. a bag, apron, or tea towel.



When the end products are complete the children will display them and invite their parents to take a look at their work.



Wishing you an enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards, **Sue Elliott, Headteacher.**