



On Our Patch

Patcham Junior Newsletter
Volume 3, Issue 3

December 2020

Headteacher:
Alister Sutherland

Message from Mr Sutherland



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Forthcoming Events:

- * 4.1.21 INSET Day
- * 5.1.21 Return to School



'And so this is Christmas and what have you done...?'

Well, it *is* Christmas, but not quite what we are used to. I am certain however that you will all make the very most of your time together, with whomever you can see.

I urge you to follow all of the advice and keep celebrations to a small group where possible, as we all want to see you back in school rested, fit and healthy in 2021!

By the time you read this newsletter, you will also have received the link for the Virtual Christmas Concert! We had so much fun viewing the videos you submitted and I know that many of the children have loved seeing their friends performing too.

If you missed the PING, details of how to access the concert appear at the bottom of this page.

Further to the usual Christmas excitement, school has remained a hive of activity and this month Year 6 set

sail on their fateful trip across the Atlantic on the Titanic and Year 5 stepped further back in history to enjoy their Egyptian day.

Thanks goes to all of you for supporting the children with their costumes for these events and with their wider learning at home!

Wishing you a VERY Merry Christmas and a happy and hopeful New Year!

Mr Sutherland

2020 Virtual Christmas Concert is LIVE!

We received nearly 60 entries for the Virtual Christmas Concert and now they've been painstakingly edited together, we are proud to present the full concert on YouTube for you all to enjoy!

The concert is an 'unlisted' video on the platform, so you won't find it by searching, however by using the following address, you will be able to watch!

<https://youtu.be/VXYRNO9hHXs>

A huge thank you to Mrs Bogaru for coming up with the concept and to parents, carers and of course your children for taking part!



Titanic Day in Year 6





Monday 4th January—School closed for IN-SET

Tuesday 5th January—School reopens for Spring Term

Spotlight on the School Governors

On behalf of all the Governors at Patcham Junior School, I would like to thank all the children, their parents/carers, as well as every member of staff, for their fantastic efforts and thoughtfulness over the last term, since school fully returned in September.

The last 9 months has been a truly unique, and unpredictable time, with all of us having to learn how to live a completely new way of life. As Governors, we have been endlessly impressed with all your energy and

commitment in continuing to make PJS a great school.

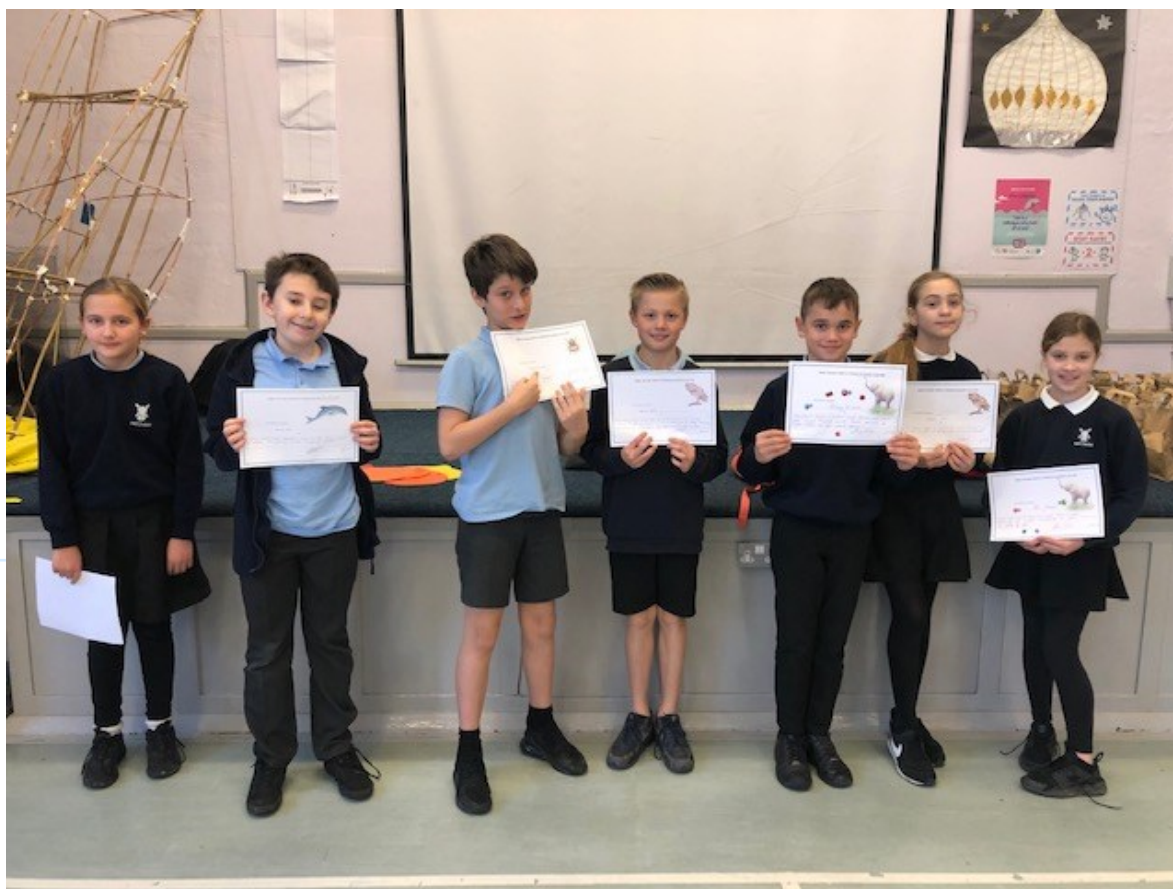
We hope that you all have an enjoyable Christmas holiday, and we look forward to a positive 2021.

Marion Rajan,

Chair of PJS Governors

If you would be interested in joining the Governing Body, or if you have any questions for the Governing Body, please contact the school office email address – office@patchamjun.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Celebrating Success in December!



At first glance, just two pictures to celebrate might look like less children were brilliant this month, but with fewer weeks in school, other exciting activities in and around school and slightly less assemblies happening as a result, we ended up with these two fine groups of legends!

Well done to everyone!



The Multicultural School Book Fund:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/multicultural-school-book-fund>



The aim of this community fund is to ensure every classroom and school across Brighton & Hove has a box of books representing Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic characters, illustrators and authors. These books will be representative of the wonderful diversity of families across our city.

The titles will be curated and supplied by The Book Nook in Hove and Black Star Books and each book box can be adapted for each school. They will be fully diverse and inclusive with positive stories, representing characters from black, Asian and ethnic minority, disabilities, gender, LGBTQ+, blended families, same sex families and mental health.

We are happy to announce Brighton & Hove council are backing this fund and donating £1000 towards this initiative – Please see our video here:

<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/news/2020/council-backs-local-multicultural-book-project-schools>

We are also excited to be partnering with the Equality & Anti-Bullying Service in the council as part of an anti-racist school strategy that is being implemented across all Brighton & Hove schools.

We need your support!

To reach our goal we would love schools to support us by:

Donating – any amount will be so appreciated!

Sharing - Please share to friends and family within our communities

Sponsor – We would love to hear from any local businesses that would like to sponsor a school

Follow us on Social media!

Twitter: @schoolbookfund

Instagram: @multiculturalbookfund

Reporting a positive Covid test result over the Christmas break

Dear parents and carers,

As we are now moments away from breaking up for the Christmas holiday, I need to draw your attention to the procedure for letting us know about a positive test result for any pupils after the end of term (up to and including 24th December only)

The government guidance states: **Where a pupil tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted.** Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

For the first 6 days after teaching ends (up to and including 24th December), if a pupil or member of staff tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school has been asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

If your child has a positive test result and their symptoms developed within 48 hours of being in school, please email the school using the following address ONLY: covid@patchamjun.brighton-hove.sch.uk This email address will be monitored for messages at 12pm and 6pm each day up to and including 24th December.

If a positive case of a pupil or member of staff occurs within the above parameters, and there is a need for your children to self-isolate then we will contact you directly via PING or email only.

School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching, which for us is Thursday 24th December. **Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, schools do not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term.** I look forward to not hearing from any of you, until 4th January 2021!!

Festive regards,

Alister Sutherland

Headteacher

Class based fundraising/AGM

Dear parents and carers,

The Friends of Patcham Junior School (FOPJS) met online last Tuesday evening for the annual AGM - thank you to those of you that were able to join us, it was good to see a few new faces, however there is always space to add more people to the team!

Due to the current circumstances and limitations to raising much needed funds for the school, it was agreed that we would ask for one parent per class to be a designated Whatsapp messenger to the rest of the class parents and carers on the group. If you are such a parent or carer and would like to nominate yourself then please let us know via the PING submission form that was sent to you on 15th December. Thank you to the one parent who has already volunteered for this 'role'.

The 'role' would be nothing more than being the go-to person to send messages about FOPJS events etc to the Whatsapp group - these would be in addition to the messages the schools send out via PING, so this will hopefully capture more of the school community.

Talking to other parents and carers, there was a clear positive feeling for using Whatsapp as a way of quickly communicating to the whole class group. January Class Fundraiser So, as far as fund raising goes, it was suggested that each Class Messenger would help co-ordinate parent chat via their class WhatsApp group about fund-raising ideas for their class can't be a whole school approach to something physically in school at present.

Classes would then fund raise through their chosen method and the FOPJS would match fund raising up to a maximum of £100 per class - so if a class made £56 in fund raising, the FOPJS would match that, giving a total of £112 to spend. If the class raised £175 via their activity, the FOPJS would add the maximum £100 giving a total of £275 to spend. The class teacher(s) and children will then have the exciting opportunity to choose where to spend the money on resources their class currently needs. This fundraising will begin from Wednesday 6th January and will run until Friday the 5th February.

Posters will be circulated in the New Year. Thank you for your continued support.

The FOPJS Team