



Avonmouth CE Primary School Newsletter 5



Friday 27th November 2020

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Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Welcome back to our Nursery children – it's so good to see you all. We have missed you so much.

What a treat! I have a magic moment to share that will pull at your heart strings. I was busy in the office when Mrs Parrott came in with two delightful children from her Reception Class. Not only had they written their own sentences but they read them too! RECEPTION, already reading and writing. Truly amazing. Congratulations to them both and all the class who have made such astounding progress in these few weeks.

Well, things are getting exciting around here. The Christmas spirit is flooding in. As you probably know, we have a Christmas competition that will be judged on Monday 7th December. The classes are challenged to make a Christmas tree from scratch using 85% recycled materials. It has to contain a minimum of 20 baubles which are geometric shapes (getting a bit of maths in there too) and 3D shapes are encouraged. I can't wait to see them. The winning class will enjoy their prize on the afternoon of 11th December – I can say no more!! Not long to go now.

We have been in touch with Reverend Andy to organise our Christmas service so it's all happening. I can't wait to get out our beautiful Nativity scene. Have you seen it? I'll put a photograph of it on our last newsletter of this term.

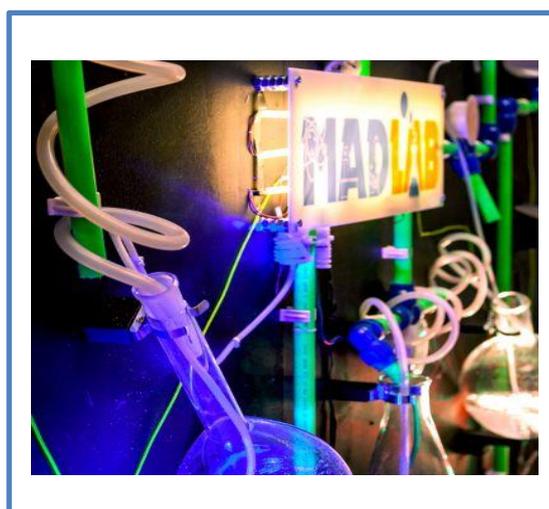
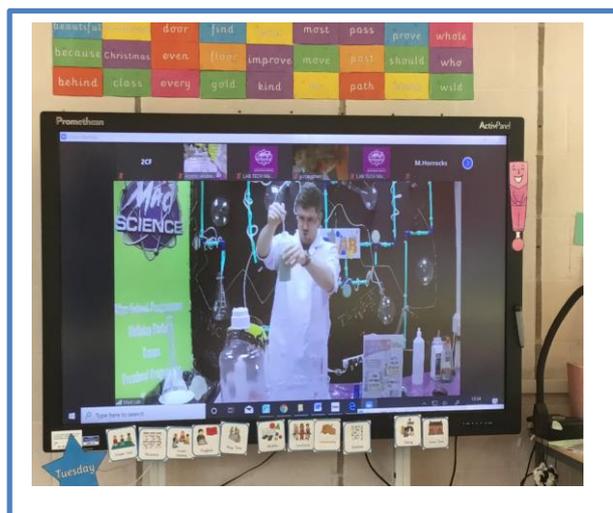
Please take care when parking near the school. It's getting a bit dangerous out there with some parents even parking on the zig-zag lines. Both yellow and white **zig-zag** road markings indicate that **parking** is prohibited and doing so can carry more than just a fine - you can be given penalty points too. ... white **zig-zag** road markings are enforced 24-hours a day, every day.

Our brand new reception area at the front of school is coming on nicely. My goodness, it's going to be posh! We're at the stage where we are making decisions about light fittings and flooring so progress is great. It won't quite be ready for our new Head Teacher's arrival but very close. There are lots of pictures on the website so you can monitor the progress yourself.

I am regularly 'blown away' by our attendance. WE ARE SO GOOD. This week our lovely Year 2 have managed 100% attendance. No wonder they are making so much progress in their learning. They have really done well this term and the evidence in their books speaks for itself. Well done Year 2. Now, close on their heels we have 98.20% for Year 6 and 98.16% for Year 3 – absolutely brilliant. This week we have 6 out of 7 classes achieving percentages over the national minimum percentage of 96%, and this includes our Reception Class. Well done everybody, a truly fantastic achievement.

Please note: Covid related absences are coded differently and not included in the totals, because of the national pandemic, in accordance with the Department for Education directions.

This week we were lucky enough to have a virtual assembly by MAD Science. From just across the road, we were able to watch some exciting experiments and demonstrations. They made a horrible goeey instant precipitate, changed water into Ribena and back again and even set light to ethanol vapour! The children had a great time responding to questions and learning about chemical changes. Each class was even lucky enough to be given a CO₂ exploder to do right there in the classroom (don't worry it sounds more dangerous than it is). Each child was also given a free ticket to a MAD Science after school show. We'd love to hear about any amazing demonstrations they get to see.



In the meantime, unfortunately but not surprisingly, we find ourselves in Tier 3 of Covid restrictions. We are looking again at precautions we can take to keep us all as safe as we can. The most important change is obvious and timely. From Monday (30th November 2020) please

WEAR MASKS/VISORS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

This is now **critically important**. Some parents/carers have already chosen to do this but now we all must. This applies to everyone who is not a pupil in the school. We will not be wearing masks in school but we will be adhering to all our other safety measures. This message comes directly from the authorities at Bristol City Council-

Key messages from Bristol City Council:

- ***Please travel to/from school with COVID-19 in mind. It's advised to avoid public transport so please try and walk/cycle to school if you can, keeping your distance from others, and ensure you wear a face covering when required. Where possible, car sharing with people outside your household or support bubble should be avoided.***
- ***Social distancing guidance inside and outside of school is different. Whilst at school, your child can mix with his/her class bubble, as safety measures are in place. This is necessary in order for us to enable children and young people to continue to attend. However, these measures are not in place outside of school, so please make sure you and your child follow the current government guidance when not in the school building***
- ***Social distancing outside school gates is vital to minimise the spread. Please do not gather or mix when dropping off or collecting your child***
- ***If you or your child develops symptoms of the virus, you/they must not go to school. Stay at home, self-isolate and get tested. Symptoms include a new continuous cough, high temperature or loss or change to your sense of taste and smell***
- ***If you or your child is asked to self-isolate, you/they must not leave the house under any circumstances and your friends and family cannot visit during this time. We understand your frustrations in having to adapt to last minute calls or changes requiring you/your child to self-isolate and thank you for your continued cooperation.***

Sorry to end on a bleak note here but we're all in this together. We owe it to all those we love and hold dear to protect ourselves and each other.

God Bless you all.