



3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

**Dear Parents**

The Christmas tree is in school, rehearsals are underway and we are feeling very festive!

The changes in government guidelines mean we are now asking visitors to wear masks when they are moving around school. I would also ask all parents to be aware of others and keep their distance. However, we remain hopeful that all our events will go ahead as planned. We are really looking forward to seeing you at some of them. Have a good weekend Mrs T L Good

**District Boys Shine by Mr Good**

I was privileged on Saturday morning to watch Matthew and Leo from Year 6 play in the National Cup second round against South London. It was a very competitive game with strong players on both sides. Both Matthew and Leo scored and the result after extra-time was 2-2. Good luck in your next game boys.

**Sayers Croft by Mr Knott**

Last Wednesday, with great excitement and some trepidation, Year 5 set out for their residential stay at Sayers Croft. After a back-road tour of Surrey, in a large coach, we finally arrived. With suitcases, wellies and teddy bears we were introduced to Nick, our instructor, and to our dormitory, Rudgwick. After unpacking, making beds and having a Fire Drill, we headed off for lunch. Later, our keenly awaited activities began... Orienteering and the Blindfold Maze. Both these activities introduced the children to three of our learning objectives for the week, independence, responsibility and teamwork. In the evening we set out into the darkness for a night walk around the woods. We were all glad to be back for hot chocolate and our bunk beds.

The next day brought a full day of adventure. A Challenge Course awaited to test out teamwork skills. We also tried out a new activity – Axe Throwing. This was very exciting. We channelled our inner Viking. In the afternoon we built shelters in the woods and tried not to be eaten by bears. We also learned a little about World War II and the role played by Sayers Croft. We sat in a real air-raid shelter and tried to imagine what it might have felt like during an air-raid. After dinner we prepared for the incredible Ongar Talent Show 2021. This year we had more acts than ever with a wide variety of acts too. A wonderful evening was had by all especially the judges.

On Friday morning, with tiredness kicking in we set out for the last few activities. Again, we practiced teamwork in the Adventure Playground, trying not to be swallowed by the lava. We honed our aim in Archery and we then climbed and scrambled over some giant boulders. Finally it was lunchtime and a last play on the field before boarding the returning coach. We all had a very exciting, tiring but memorable trip. Thank you to Mrs Brown, Mrs Tuttle and Mrs Slater.

**Chess Club**

Wednesday was the last chess club of the term and the results of this term's tournament were announced and trophies presented.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Harry
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Rhea
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Jack

Most improved player – Caio  
Mark has been really impressed with everyone's attitude to the game and how much they have learnt this term. He is looking forward to next term and hopes to see even more players come along.



**Christmas Shopping Week**

Thank you so much to the PTFA Elves who have been busy running the Christmas Shop. Children have had a great range of presents to choose from and it has been lovely to hear them deciding on what their loved ones will enjoy opening on Christmas morning. I look forward to hearing how much the Granddad, who unwraps his lovingly chosen whoopi cushion reacts!

**Support at Christmas**

Surrey have again given us the capacity to issue vouchers to those parents who are struggling financially over the holidays. If your email address has changed since half term please let the office know. Hebrews will also be giving out lunches to anyone who needs them at Strawberry Fields, St Paul's Church and Tesco.