

Laying Foundations for Life-long Learning!  
**Ridgewell C of E Primary  
School Newsletter**



25<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## TERM UPDATE

### *Christmas is coming...*

So far this term, our outdoor learning experiences are providing the children with lots of opportunities to develop their resilience, independent learning and also make time available for their wellbeing. You will all be aware that we have recently had a few positive COVID cases within our school community. Thank you to those families for being vigilant with testing and for keeping to the guidance around isolating. Please continue to test as often as possible to help us identify any other cases early on.

This year, our KS1 children are taking the lead in our Christmas nativity, 'Honky Tonky Donkey'. They will be performing the play in our school hall with our KS2 children leading the singing. We will be sending you out more information about the allocation of tickets. One of our performances will also be filmed and the link to watch this will be sent to all our families. We plan to perform another school play in the summer term in which KS2 children will be able to take on the lead performances.

Last Friday, the children enjoyed coming to school in their PJs for Children in Need. Together we raised £78, which will be going to support many worthy causes. Thank you!

We have lots of different Christmas events happening over the coming weeks. Please make a note of the dates at the end of the newsletter and also take note of any parent mails over the coming weeks.

*Mrs Stuart*

### **PTFA Update:**

Thank you so much to the parents who joined the meeting last week and those who sent messages of support! 😊 We are delighted that a group of parents and helpers will be re-launching the school PTFA very soon. Please look out for more information coming your way!



## Autumn Welly Walk

### *A Perfect Morning*

On Wednesday last week, we held our first welly walk this year. It was back by popular demand having been suggested by the children in one of our School Council Assemblies. It was a beautifully sunny and mild autumn day.

The whole school walked 2.5 miles across the fields to Ashen before returning back to school along Ashen Road and then Church Lane. Children mixed across the different age-ranges in school and it was lovely to see children enjoying time with their friends.

A special well done to our youngest children in Earth Class, who were all awarded the star of the week for their enthusiasm the whole way along the walk!

# Reflection Garden

*560 bulbs planted!*

Last Wednesday afternoon, children in years 3,4 and 5 spent time planting 560 spring bulbs in our reflection garden area near the back of the school field. Thank you so much to all who came to help the children with the planting. Some of the bulbs were donated by Braintree District Council, the others were from Tommy Redman – thank you! We can't wait to see what will grow in the spring.

There is still some work to be done before the garden can be officially opened in the spring. We have put a date in the diary for a working party to complete the final jobs in the new year. Please put Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January in your diary if you think you might be able to help.



After the re-build, we are all enjoying using the new spaces in the school. Jupiter class took their reading books to the staffroom to try out the new sofa – kindly donated by Home Brands – and they enjoyed the clear, freshly painted spaces.

## Looking forward to...

- 30<sup>th</sup> November – Children making Christingles in school
- 7<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Nativity – Dress rehearsal – 10am
- 8<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity Performance 1 - 1:45pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> December – Nativity Performance 2 – 5:30pm
- 10<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper & Christmas Dinner Day
- 16<sup>th</sup> December – Outdoor Community Christmas Carol Service – 1:30pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> December – last day of term
- 4<sup>th</sup> January – Non-pupil day
- 5<sup>th</sup> January – Children return to school