

# November 2020 NEWSLETTER



## Dear Parents & Carers

Despite an increase in Covid cases locally, we continue (at the time of writing) to have zero positive cases in terms of staff and children.

I want to thank you all for your diligence and co-operation in keeping the children and staff safe.

Thank you for complying with our

systems and for your overwhelming support and care. We all appreciate this very much.

I know the increased measures do put a strain on everyone, especially the staff who are continuing to work longer hours with very few breaks as a result of our staggered systems. I want to thank them for their dedication to the children and the Galampton team. It's at difficult times like this that a strong school culture and shared vision are really evident. Fortunately, we have that in buckets and spades at Galampton!

Although we are disappointed we can't carry out all our normal Christmas events, we are determined to ensure our children enjoy Christmas in school. In the next newsletter, we'll share the Christmas performances that all classes will be taking part in and we'll let you know of some of the special things we will be doing in class too. Father Christmas will still be coming to Galampton this year although he may be wearing a face mask!

Again, many thanks to all our wonderful Parents and Carers,

*Katy Burns* Headteacher

## Job Vacancies at Galampton

We would welcome applications for two new roles within school. Both roles are fixed term and details can be found on Devon Jobs or by clicking the button below.

[Click here for details](#)

## Year 5 New Chromebooks

Year 5 have had an exciting time in ICT this term. Using the new Chromebooks kindly provided by FROGs. They have been able to learn how to produce a simple PowerPoint presentation based on their Learning Question "Why is Water Wonderful?". Working in pairs or small groups, they produced their PowerPoints using all their new knowledge and then presented them to the class.





## Rotary Club Young Writers Competition

Well done to Freda, Marcella, Eliza and Elsie who entered the 'Rotary Young Writers' competition in Y5 & each received a certificate for their entries.



Just letting you know that "Galmpton C of E Primary School – Galmpton" are now registered with Easyfundraising, which means you can raise **FREE donations for FROGs** (from contributing companies who are part of the scheme), every time you shop online. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to you!

**These donations really** mount up and **will make a BIG difference to us**, so we would really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely **FREE** and only takes a moment.

Thank you so much!

FROGs

Click here for our  Easyfundraising Page

# Anti-Racism and Diversity

As a result of the anti-racism and diversity work that we carried out throughout the School earlier on in the term, the children have created a statement. The sentences from each class clearly state our expectations for our School in terms of inclusion and respect for all. Here are Marcella and Teddy who contributed to the Y6 pledge! Please do read the pledge, which you'll also find on the School website and around the School to remind all who come into our School, that this is an essential for all that work and learn at Galmpton.



## Advent Nativity

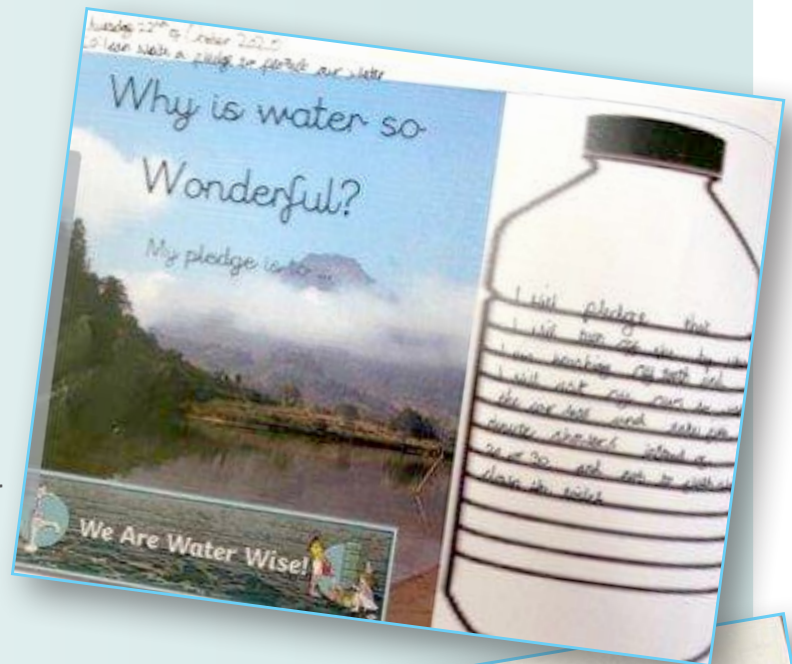
Unfortunately, due to the current Government guidance, we are unable to hold our annual KS1 Nativity and KS2 Carol Service. We still however, very much want to share the Christmas story with you in the run up to Christmas. We will have an interactive advent calendar on our website. Please join us by opening a door each day to hear the children from all year groups re-tell the Christmas story in words and song. More details to follow.

# Year 5 – Why is Water so Wonderful?

Year 5 have recently finished our learning journey 'Why is Water so Wonderful?' This enabled us to work like scientists by:

- Making observations
- Conducting fair tests
- Taking measurements
- Gathering data
- Presenting data

The class absolutely loved carrying out fair tests although they were surprised to find that it isn't always easy to make sure the test is completely fair.

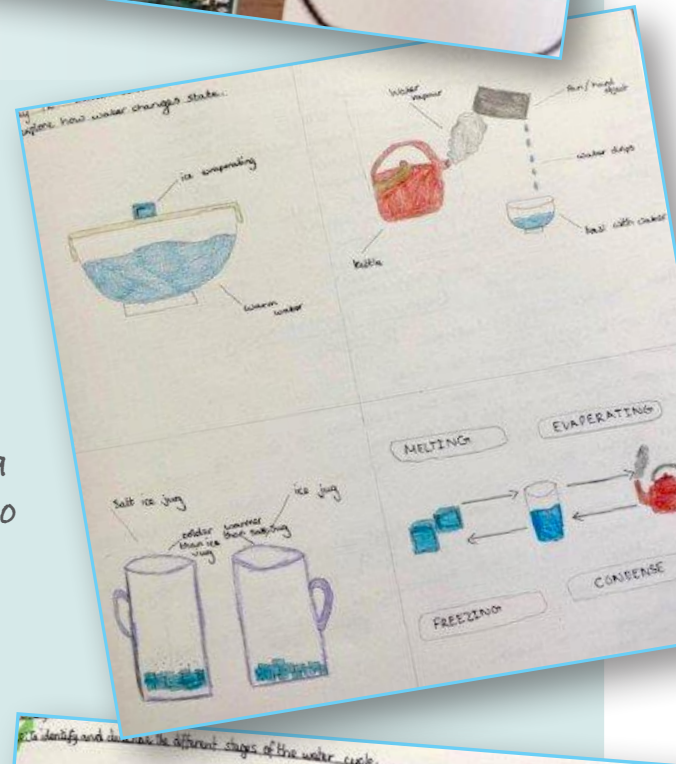


"Sometimes we spilt the water so the test wasn't fair". **Neve**

"We had to be careful to not muddle up the measurements, and taking measurements can be tricky if you don't have the right equipment. **Harry**

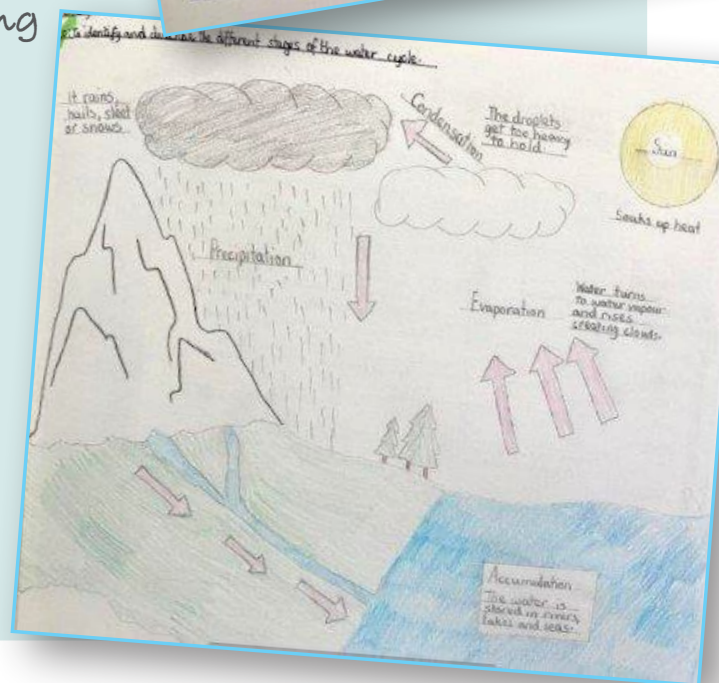
"When we were trying to find the weight of a gas, our scales didn't have a decimal point so the reading wasn't accurate". **Ethan**

"One tiny mistake can make the whole experiment collapse, however, this is all part of being a scientist; you have to keep trying until you get it right.". **Millie**



One of the most amazing things we found out about was the Water Cycle. We now know that a dinosaur could have taken a bath in the same water that comes out of our tap today! We carried out some science investigations to observe evaporation and condensation then drew a diagram of how these processes fit in the water cycle.

Through our research, we found out that not everyone has access to clean water and water can also get easily polluted. As responsible citizens, we made pledges to conserve water or to keep it clean.





## Shoebox Success!

Woweeeee! A staggering 72 shoe boxes were donated this year! Well done everyone!

With a **massive thank you to the Lamsin family who donated** a whopping **24 boxes**.

Lindsay Williams was delighted and will place a feature in the Church Newsletter.

We also had an ex-parent who returned to support the Shoebox Appeal again this year with 4 boxes, having received one himself as a child, which just goes to show how impactful they are to those who receive them.

Thank you so much to all the children who brought these in and to Gracie and Bethan-Rose for their help in getting them to Lindsay's car (it took a while!).

## A traditional Christian Wedding with Year 1

As part of Year 1's RE focus, the children have been comparing traditional symbols and practises of the Christian and Jewish faith. One of these comparisons was to explore different traditional ceremonies. The children helped to organise a traditional Christian wedding in class, where they prepared prayers, practised hymns, created an order of service, learnt about Christian practises such as exchanging rings and lighting candles. The service was followed by a wedding reception, which was also prepared by the children.



## Goodbye and Welcome

At the end of last term we said farewell to Jan Luscombe, our cleaner of many years. She's been the backbone of our site management for a very long time and whilst it was sad to say goodbye, she has definitely earned her retirement. Good luck and enjoy your retirement Jan!!

Stepping in to fill Jan's position, is the lovely, Mrs Debbie Hall. Debbie joined the team as an MTA in the Summer Term and will be cleaning and ensuring Covid compliance within school.

We also welcome Mrs Christie Whitall to the Galmpton team. Christie has joined the team as a TA and is currently working within Y6.



## Fabulous Fundraising



JoJo in Year 6 had a sponsored hair cut to raise money for the school to purchase much needed recycling bins for each classroom (whilst also donating her hair to "The Little Princess Trust"). We are sure you'll agree this was a wonderful idea and JoJo has raised £34.32 for the school and the cardboard recycling bins have now been purchased and are situated in each class.

# Covid Guidance

Just prior to "going to press" we have found out that from 2nd December, the county of Devon has been placed in "Tier 2". Information on the restrictions and guidance relating to "Tier 2" can be found at:

[Click Here for Tier 2 Covid Guidance](#)

However, until 2nd Dec, we are in lockdown as below: Please do be advised that following huge increases in transmission rates, families should be adhering to Government guidance, which can be found at:

## General Government Guidance

Should we have to pass on information about a bubble closing due to a positive case within a bubble, we will do so with the utmost urgency. So far, at the time of writing, we have not had a positive pupil case within school. We do have instances where pupils / families are self-isolating due to close contact with a positive case, but again, there are so far, no confirmed positive pupil cases within school.

Obviously we will not be able to divulge details as to which children are self-isolating or may test positive in the weeks to come due to GDPR and we would encourage you not to use social media to speculate as to who may be affected. If it is necessary for you to isolate, you will be informed to do so by us and the necessary test and trace systems in place.

If you have any questions at all, do please contact the admin team via email / phone as we are constantly being updated by the Local Authority and we will be able to answer your questions – if not immediately, by getting the answers for you from elsewhere.



## Forgotten Items

Please could we ask all parents and carers to ensure that children come to school with all items required for the school day, including a warm coat for Autumnal weather. If you walk to School and the weather is very wet, we would suggest walking in wellies and bringing shoes for changing into once in school.

Instances of Parents returning to school after gates have closed with coats and lunches are on the rise. Whilst we would love to be able to go back to the normal way of life where parents and visitors are able to come into school, it's just not the way of the world currently. Therefore, if lunches are forgotten, we will provide lunches for your child (the cost will be added to your child's ParentPay account if your child is in KS2 and does not receive free school lunches). We will no longer be willing to receive forgotten items due to the increase in transmission rates locally. For this we apologise, but feel it is necessary to go the extra mile to protect not only our staff but our children too.

# Remembrance Day Poppy Display

As part of our recent work on climate change in School, we thought it would be a good idea to recycle plastic bottles and put them to good use by creating poppies

for Remembrance Day. All classes took part and we hope you agree the final display looks amazing. We had lots of appreciation from our local residents.





**BBC**  
**Children  
in Need**

# THANK YOU!

We thank you for all your support and donations for Children in Need this year. Although it was a little different the children were able to recognise the importance of this charity event and take part in a range of different activities. Joe Wicks led this year's campaign with making children's mental wellbeing the number one priority. The slogan was "Five to Thrive" and included a programme of wellbeing activities for the Appeal Week. On Friday the children of Galampton explored the five themes "Connect" (friendship),

"Take Notice" (take time for mindfulness), "Get Active" (promote physical well-being), "Be Curious" (trying new skills) and "To Give" (show kindness).

The children also took part in a morning workout supporting Joe Wicks in completing his 24 hour PE challenge.

Year R focused on the theme "Connect" which looked at friendship. The children produced a fingerprint friendship tree to recognise this.





Peace

Compassion

Integrity

Trust

Forgiveness

Responsibility