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### This week's virtue is "Optimism".

**Foundation stage** - This week the children have been learning about a contrasting locality, Kenya we have been looking at where Kenya is in the world and where we live. We have looked at the different homes, schools, and animals comparing them to the wild animals we see in this country.

All the children have enjoyed collaging their own Africa animals, we have lions, giraffes, and cheetahs on display.

The Reception children have been completing addition to 5 using different objects, for example, beads on a string.

The Nursery have been looking at more or less using our classroom toys looking at who has more blocks or cars. Drawing animals or faces outside with chalks and adding one more spot.

Reception children need to read their RWI reading book twice before the book can be changed parents

please can you sign in your child's reading diary that you have heard them read. This week phonic sheets will come home with the Reception children.

### Key Stage 1

**Year 1** - Year 1 have loved reading the story 'Superworm' this week. They have learned phases from the story. It would be great if you could read this with your children at home if you have the story or find someone reading it on youtube. In science this week the children have started a new topic learning about the human body and enjoyed drawing round each other and labelling the different parts of the body. If any parents are doctors or nurses and would like to come in and give a talk to the children please get in touch with Mrs Bidgood or Mrs Penrose. We will be learning about castles in history next week and will then be building castles in a few weeks so if you have any small or medium size boxes please send them in. There will be no forest schools this half term so children just need normal uniform on a Friday. They still need to wear their PE kit on a Wednesday which includes trainers.

**Year 2-** Please note PE for year 2 will now be on a Thursday until further notice. Please can children come in their PE kits on this day. We have made a great start to our History work. The children have learnt about people who lived in the Stone Age and how archaeologists have found evidence to support their theories. In DT, the children were then able to make 'Stone Age' clay pots. Very messy but good fun! We had our first Spanish Lesson at the start of the week; this is something new to year 2. We learnt different ways to say Hello. In Science, we are learning about healthy eating. The children were able to sort different foods into the correct food groups. In Literacy, we have started writing our own story based on 'The Bog Baby' and in maths; we have continued our work on money. Many of the children found 'solving money problems giving change' difficult. Please help them to practice this with their homework.

### Key Stage 2

**Year 3/4** - This week, the children have been completing their investigations linked to forces. They measured using newtons and transferred all their information into tables and graphs. In math, we have completed our multiplication and are now going to be looking at division. They have all started to challenge themselves on TTR and can challenge the teachers!

In reading, we have looked at poems and enjoyed exploring how the pattern of words changed with each one. If you have a favourite poem, please share it with us.

In writing, we are starting to put our ideas together to write to the Council to persuade them to change their mind about building new houses (scenario based).

In geography, we started to look at how coasts are formed. We explored how they are eroding and what causes this. ParentPay is now ready for contributions to be made towards Gangsta Granny.

There will be a skipping workshop at the end of January, where you will be able to purchase skipping ropes – more information to follow.

**Year 5/6** - This week we have been continuing to read 'A series of Unfortunate events' and are writing diary entries as if we were different characters in the story. In RE we are looking at the Muslim faith: so far we have learnt about the key beliefs, the five pillars of Islam and the Qur'an and will finish looking at their Mosque's and how they differ to Porthleven's Christian churches. The children have now completed their star reading test and already reading and quizzing towards their new targets. Please remember that SPaG and Maths homework is set each Friday for the following Thursday – if your child is unable to log in (they should have laminated sheets from September to help with this) or cannot access it at home please let their class teacher know.



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**COVID Guidelines - If your child has any COVID symptoms or a positive lateral flow or PCR test then please ensure that they begin isolation immediately and let the school office know. If your child tests positive over a weekend or during the day please email the school office with date of symptoms and test results.**

### **COVID update**

Dear parents and carers,

We have seen a fairly rapid increase in the number of children in school who have tested positive for COVID this week. We currently have twenty seven pupils who are absent and have tested positive.

The symptoms we have seen range from no symptoms at all to a common cold to headaches and a high temperature.

We are continuing to follow all guidance from the UKHSA (formerly known as Public Health England) and the Department for Education. These include, increased hygiene measures, face coverings for staff only in public spaces and keeping children separate as much as is possible.

### **Current isolation rules**

Pupils who test positive over the weekend must follow the current guidelines - ten days isolation unless two consecutive daily negative LFD tests are seen negative tests can start from day **six** and isolation can end on day **seven** if two consecutive negative LFD tests are returned.

### **New rules for isolation come into effect from Monday 17th January morning.**

From Monday negative tests can start from day **five** and isolation can end on day **six** if two consecutive negative LFD tests are returned.

Please be vigilant and inform school of any absence. We will continue to keep the school open under guidance from UKHSA. Thank you for your support during these difficult times.

**Reporting Absence** - It is extremely important that the school office is informed of any child absences and medical appointments. An absence text is sent if your child is not present at school and if no reason is given then it will be marked as an unauthorised absence. You can inform us by calling 01326 562249 and leaving an answerphone message or emailing [secretary@porthleven.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@porthleven.cornwall.sch.uk)

**School Dinner Menu - We will be on WEEK 3 of the menu next week.**

**Skipping Workshop - Friday 28th January 2022** - Please see the attached letter with information on our upcoming skipping workshops. The children thoroughly enjoyed this the last time we held a workshop here at school and skipping ropes can once again be purchased by placing an order via the skipping company website or dropping cash/cheque in a **clearly named envelope** to the school office. Please read the attached letter in full. Children can wear their PE kit into school on this day and will need suitable shoes e.g. trainers please.

**Bikeability - Year 6 - Friday 4th February 2022** - Martin from Bikeability will be coming in on this day to complete the course with children in Group 4. Please ensure children bring their bike and a suitable helmet in to school.

**Year 4 Swimming** - An email came home on Wednesday of this week containing a Google form to complete. Please check your inbox and let the office know if you haven't received it.

**Turtles PE Day** - Turtles PE day will be on a Thursday from now on. Children can wear PE kit into school for this day and need to wear suitable footwear please.

**Lost Property** - We have had an F&F green and black padded coat (age 11-12 years) handed in - if this belongs to your child please collect it from the school office.

**Parent & Toddler Group - Limited spaces - Every Tuesday - 9am to 11am - £1 per family - Please contact the school office to book your space** - Forest school activities, snack provided for children. Children will need to wear old clothes and bring coats. We will also be using our indoor spaces some weeks and if the weather is bad.

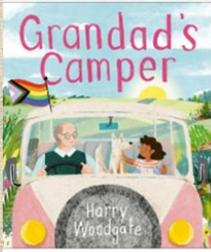
**Dogs on School Grounds** - please note that dogs are not allowed on school grounds at any time. They must be kept outside of the blue gates please.



## Book Of The Week -

# Book of the Week

## This week 3+ readers



Look inside...

**Book Information**

ISBN: 9781783449927

Publication date: 6th January 2022

Author: Harry Woodgate

Illustrator: Harry Woodgate

Publisher: Andersen Press Ltd

Format: Paperback

Pagination: 32 pages

Suitable for: 3+ readers, 5+ readers

**Tell me more...**

Celebrate love in all its forms, as Grandad tells his granddaughter about the adventures he used to have with Gramps. A long time ago, Grandad and Gramps spent many happy days travelling the world together in a camper van. But now Gramps isn't around any more, Grandad doesn't feel much like having adventures. As she listens to his wonderful stories, Grandad's granddaughter has an idea to cheer him up...






**Road Safety Talk with PCSO Julia Berry** - Police Community Support Officer, Julia Berry, has visited the school this week to talk with the children about road safety. The topics covered included the following: Walking to school safely and the best way to places where to cross the road including how to cross the road. **STOP, LOOK, LISTEN AND THINK** before crossing the road safely. Parking outside the school gates at drop off and pickup time was also discussed. The children have been made aware that the **zig zag lines/double yellow lines are in place outside school for their safety**. Sometimes it is difficult to find somewhere to park outside the school gates but please do not park on the lines.

Distractions both when walking to school and when a passenger in the car. Distractions when walking to school could include texting or listening to music on mobile phones. Distractions in the car could be parents using their mobile phones when in the car: it is illegal to do this, even when you are stopped at traffic lights.

A big distraction when children are in the car is asking the driver to look at something possibly on a tablet or fighting with siblings in the rear of the car when you are driving.

The laws on seat belts. Wearing seat belts on all journeys, no matter how short. This includes the use of seat belts/restraints or cages for dogs as this is also the law.

The laws on booster seats.....a child needs to be **12 years old or 135 cms** tall to travel in a car without a booster seat. It is also safer for your child to sit in the rear of the car.

When dogs are travelling in a car, they need to be restrained either in a cage, behind a dog guard in the rear of the car or by a dog seat belt. This is also the law.

Now that the dark evenings are here visibility was talked about both walking in the dark and also when out cycling. Often children go out on their bikes when they get home from school and by the time that they get home after playing it is dark, please make sure that your child has lights on their bike. Bike lights maybe an idea of something that could be added to their Christmas list.

The lessons have been delivered to the children to try to ensure that they are safe on the roads. There are around 160 children between 8 and 11 killed on our roads each year and we do not want your child to be one of the statistics. Please could you talk with your child about being safe on the roads to reinforce what they have learnt.

**School Vacancies** - If the position below is of interest to you please contact the school office on 01326 562249 or email [secretary@porthleven.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:secretary@porthleven.cornwall.sch.uk) for an application form:

**Lunchtime Supervisors (two positions) - 5 hours per week**

### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR:**

**Friday 28th January 2022 - Skipping Workshop**

**Friday 4th February - Bikeability**

**Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February 2022 - February Half Term**

**Monday 11th April to Friday 22nd April 2022 - Easter Holidays**

**Monday 2nd May 2022 - Bank Holiday - School closed to all children**

**Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June 2022 - May Half Term**

**Monday 25th and Tuesday 26th July 2022 - INSET days - School closed to all children**

**Wednesday 27th September to TBC - Summer Holidays**