

## Newsletter - Winter Term Week 1

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PART OF  
The GALLERY TRUST

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### Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our first week back. It has once again been a week with considerable challenges around managing the fall out of Covid but we have also seen a high level of other illnesses in both staff and students. You will be aware we had to close three classes this week, and we are receiving information about new cases or suspected cases almost daily now. In order to manage this increase as safely as we can, can I ask you take the following measures wherever possible:

- If your son or daughter can tolerate testing, you test with them at least twice a week but preferably more.
- That you do not send them in if they have a cough, high temperature, or appear to have a change in taste or smell (in our experience this can mean they are off their food, or react differently to their food.) We have also seen students who are unusually tired can be showing signs of Covid.
- Can you inform me straight away on [lwawrzyniak@mabelprichard.org](mailto:lwawrzyniak@mabelprichard.org) if your son or daughter has had a positive Covid test and it really helps if you let me know if you are going for one, so I am aware we are waiting to hear.

Given the current situation, we have reinstated bubbles, we continue with our high levels of hygiene control, visitors are restricted and our staff are testing daily and are all eligible for the booster jab.

Despite the challenges of the week, we have had some wonderfully positive moments. Students have been learning about Diwali and if I dare mention the word, practice for Christmas songs has begun. As part of our 'wider world' topic, Early Years and Key Stage 1 visited the park on Thursday, learning about staying safe when crossing roads, and what is on offer in our area. The play park was very much enjoyed. Secondary students have been playing football as part of their PE this week, so everyone has been enjoying fresh air and exercise.

Please do contact us with any questions. In the meantime, happy Diwali to all of you who have been celebrating and for anyone going to fireworks, enjoy, and stay warm.

Have a good weekend and take care everyone

Best wishes

Lucy



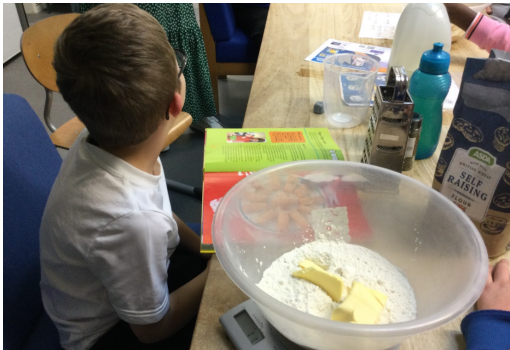
## Yellow Class



This first week back Yellow Class have been working on getting back into our routine after the half term break. We visited the Library as we do on Mondays, reading in small groups or independently. Our playground has been covered in fallen yellow, brown and orange leaves, so we used them to make beautiful collages in Art. In Science, we used oil, water and food colouring to make underwater fireworks... now we are looking forward to seeing what else this half term brings!



## Silver Class



We have returned to a wintry November but we are still outside as much as possible, exploring the changes in the weather and our environment. Pupils have been exploring the changes in the colour of the leaves and the different animals that live in our outside space. In RSE this week pupils have been learning about Diwali and the origins of the celebration. Pupils then coloured in some lovely Rangoli patterns and fireworks to mark the festival of light. The whole class went to the Dome on Wednesday morning to play football, the staff got

very involved with the match and Alistair scored a great goal. We don't know who won overall but we had a great time and everyone got out of breath! On Thursday Silver Class made some lovely shaped shortbread. Pupils weighed out the ingredients, mixed it together and then cut out the shapes before they were baked. In the afternoon we joined Bronze Class for an impromptu hot chocolate and shortbread party. Yummy.

