



# Stillness Junior School

## Newsletter

### December 2022

**Value of the Month: Kindness**

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#### Merry Christmas

It has been a very busy, successful term for our Stillness Community.

I would like to say a big thank you to the staff, children, parents/carers and governors for all their hard work and support this term.

On behalf of everyone at Stillness Junior School, may I wish you and your families a happy and peaceful Christmas, and best wishes for the New Year.

Our new term begins on **Tuesday, 3 January 2023** and we look forward to seeing our children return refreshed and eager to learn in the new calendar year.

Merry Christmas!

**Mrs M Nichol**  
**Headteacher**



#### Pre-Loved School Uniform Exchange Launch

We know the cost-of-living crisis is affecting all households across the UK so we have in stock a selection of branded and unbranded pre-loved school uniform from Y3 to Y6. We cannot guarantee we will have the size you require as we rely on donations, however you are free to pop in and see what we have.

We will happily take in any of your unwanted pre-loved uniform to add to the pile for other parents to enjoy. We hope this uniform exchange will allow families whose children have outgrown uniforms to hand them in while accessing uniforms in larger sizes without having to buy new clothes and cut down on waste.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

**UNICEF: Article 39:** *(rehabilitation of child victims)*  
Children neglected, abused, exploited, tortured or who are victims of war must receive special help to help them recover their health, dignity and self-respect.

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#### **STILLNESS NEWSLETTER**

If you wish to contribute to the newsletter, the deadline to submit your articles for the next publication is the penultimate week of every month

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#### Website Updates!

I am excited to share the updates we have made to our Curriculum & Assessment section on the school's website.

Aligned with the school's intent statement *to encourage pupils to become ambitious, curious learners who can make a positive contribution to the school and local community...*

We have developed our curriculum to be broad and progressive ensuring that all pupils can achieve their full potential. Under each subject, you will find an Intent, Implementation and Impact statement. Each Subject Lead has outlined what pupils will learn through our rich and varied curriculum; what scheme of work is being taught and what development of knowledge and skills our children will leave Stillness with. In addition, you will find an Overview guide detailing the sequence of units being taught. In some subjects you will find Knowledge Organisers, which are a summary of key information about the unit of work and can be used for pre-teaching or recapping what your child has learnt in previous years.

If you would like any assistance navigating the curriculum content, please get in touch!

**Mrs L Threadgold – Y5 / Curriculum Lead**  
**[Y6@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:Y6@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk)**

#### Children in Need Day

A big thank you to everyone who supported our recent Children in Need Day. Together we raised a grand total of £484.46.

Thank you.



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## Headteacher's Award

**Rafferty (Devonshire Class)** for having a positive attitude to his learning and always being keen to improve his work. Well done!

**Mia (Grierson Class)** for the improvement in her change of attitude. You are trying really hard to do the right thing and make the right choices

**Kyla (Grierson Class)** for her fantastic English writing this term. You are taking on feedback and it is paying off!

**Mihir (Gabriel Class)** for his fantastic contributions in both guided reading and science! Keep it up Mihir.

**Denis (Montague Class)** for writing an emotive and complex creation story in RE

**Felix (Bexhill Class)** for constantly contributing in all subjects

**Shams (Bexhill Class)** for showing confidence in all lessons

**Teddy (Bexhill Class)** for showing high levels of engagement during Topic lessons

**Rafferty (Devonshire Class)** for showing high levels of engagement in all lessons

**Edie (Devonshire Class)** for giving 100% in all her learning this week. Well done!

**Sophia (Wyleu Class)** for always having a positive learning attitude and being a great role model.

**Gregor (Wyleu Class)** for always having a positive learning attitude and sharing all of your knowledge with your peers.

**Beatrice (Gabriel Class)** for your fantastic piece of English writing this week. You are making a real effort to meet your targets and you should be proud of yourself!

**Logan (Grierson Class)** for helping out Ms Gayer when she was getting the science equipment – you showed wonderful manners.

**Bea (Montague Class)** for supporting Mrs Nichol with the Deputy Headteacher interviews

**Albie (Devonshire Class)** for supporting Mrs Nichol with the Deputy Headteacher interviews

**Kameron (Montague Class)** for impressing Mrs Nichol during an Ambassador meeting – showing kindness and respect

**Jeziah (Bexhill Class)** for completing Maths questions of a higher level and getting them all correct!

**Isobelle (Bexhill Class)** for Maths. Her attitude and perseverance is really showing now and she is getting more confident all the time.

**Edie (Devonshire Class)** for always being polite and pleasant and completing all tasks with enthusiasm and effort.

**Anna (Devonshire Class)** for working incredibly hard in all her lessons this week. Well done, you have been an absolute star!

**Alex (Devonshire Class)** for an excellent biography in English. We knew you could do it – well done!

**Leon (Netherby Class)** for an amazing piece of writing in science about the different types of rocks.

**Ercan (Grierson Class)** for your hard work in all subjects this week, in particular Maths and Guided Reading where you worked independently.

**Ajarie (Gabriel Class)** for showing a fantastic improvement in his Daily Mile. Your stamina is becoming better each time – well done!

**Ben (Montague Class)** for writing an interesting and complex Anne Frank Biography, demonstrating his excellent WW2 knowledge

**Elly (Montague Class)** for writing an interesting and complex Anne Frank Biography, demonstrating her excellent WW2 knowledge

**Matteo (Bexhill Class)** for writing an interesting biography on Anne Frank

**Krishain (Devonshire Class)** for excellent writing and a tremendous effort to include key features. It was a joy to read.

**Austin (Devonshire Class)** for excellent writing and a tremendous effort to include key features. It was a joy to read.

**Jonah (Grierson Class)** for your fantastic participation in White Rose Maths Tutoring this week. Your tutor was really impressed!

**Cianna (Wyleu Class)** for always being willing to help and ready to learn. You have tried really hard to complete work independently this week.

**Joshan (Wyleu Class)** for taking ownership of your learning and being more independent in English this week.

**Innis (Gabriel Class)** for your fantastic participation in lessons and the effort you have made to improve your focus during English lessons. Well done you!

**Mia (Grierson Class)** for your fantastic participation in White Rose Maths Tutoring this week. Your tutor was really impressed!

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**Mia (Grierson Class)** for your fantastic participation in White Rose Maths Tutoring this week. Your tutor was really impressed!

**Hetvi (Montague Class)** for being a joy to be around. Her polite, pleasant nature sparkles all day every day!

**Erin (Bexhill Class)** Mrs Renner-Thomas has been impressed with your confidence and enthusiasm towards every school day!

**Leon (Bexhill Class)** for constantly showing effort and enthusiasm across the curriculum

### **Online Safety Tip of the Month:**

Things you can do together:

Encourage them to tell others if they know something is fake

If they have shared fake news with others, it is important to correct their mistake and let people know the article or post was untrue.

#### **Use real examples to help them spot fake news**

Show them real-life examples of fake news online so they are better equipped to spot it if they come across it. You could gamify this by selecting certain posts on your social feed and asking your child whether they would share it or not and the reason why. You could then follow up with a discussion into the best ways to check if something is real or fake online.

#### **Discuss where you get your news from and why**

Take some time to show older children how you choose which sites and apps to get your news from and explain why you believe they are credible. This could be a good way to lead into a conversation about how they get their information and why they think it's trustworthy.

#### **Teach them how to report fake news**

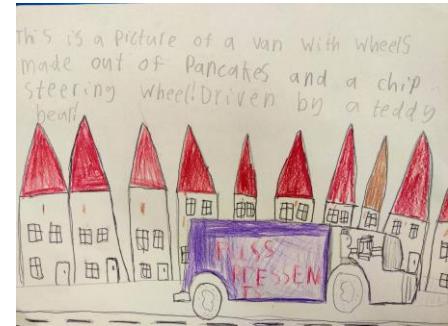
In addition to addressing the impact of fake news on your child, it is important to make sure they know how to report it to stop it from spreading further and affecting other people.



## Art with Mr W Hayn

### Drawing Like Leonardo

In Y3 the children have recently completed a series of drawings which they began in September, with each lesson focussed on different drawing exercises practiced by none other than Leonardo da Vinci, and his apprentices. The exercises that Leonardo used focussed on a variety of themes, such as practicing to draw fabric, drawing moving creatures like birds and cats, designing new inventions, contour drawing, and practicing to draw from memory. Here are just a few examples of the many drawings that the children produced!



### Overlapping Expanding Designs

In Y4 the children have been exploring the work of Wassily Kandinsky, an artist who was deeply inspired by music. Design and pattern were also an important feature of Kandinsky's work, and so in an exploration of some of his techniques, the children have recently drawn overlapping patterns using pencils, pen and ink (Sharpies), and chalk. These drawings have highlighted an important attitude in making art: The need to be systematic, and also to be patient, in allowing the design to unfold. The children were very pleased with their completed designs. A larger artwork inspired by Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 is now underway. As a cross-curricular theme, Ms Mahoney will be helping the children to appreciate this piece further in music lessons!



### Eye Catching Sketch-book covers in Art

Over the past few weeks Y6 and Y5 have been working hard on designing the covers of their sketch books. The sketch books will be used throughout the year to experiment with ideas, to explore a variety of art techniques and materials, and also for preparatory drawings for larger artworks. The children's names were first carefully prepared and hand-drawn copying a 'Roman' font (It amazed the children to realise that Ancient Roman type is almost identical to 'Times New Roman' font still used on computers today); and then they were inspired by Surrealist collages to create their own (slightly abstract) colourful collages. They certainly are eye-catching.

Mr W Hayn – Art Specialist



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## News from the SCA Cheese & Wine Evening

Teachers, Parents and Carers gathered in the Junior School hall on 3 November 2022 for cheese, wine and a revealing insight into the personal lives of the Stillness team...

The evening was SCA's first social event of the school year – and it was great to see so many people from the Stillness community enjoying each other's company. Huge thanks to the teachers for sticking around after hours.

Things got started with a quiz where we learned who among the Stillness staff had appeared in a TV ad, who was an accomplished weightlifter and who had an array of colourful tattoos. We'll let your imaginations wander...

SCA Chair Mel Lee then introduced the SCA AGM, setting out plans for the year ahead. Look out for the pantomime coming up before Christmas and a host of fundraising events next year from the ever-popular Harry Potter night to a bigger, better Sports Day (this time with a juice bar!).

We also heard the latest on the Eco Garden, which should be open and thriving next year and a wonderful addition to the school's outdoor space for learning and play. Plans are shaping up for fundraising to cover planting and ongoing maintenance.

And as ever, SCA invited parents and carers to get involved. If there's anything you can do, from helping at events to dreaming up fundraising ideas or sharing your skills, please let your Class Rep know. The core SCA team is very small and the more support we can get, the more we can achieve for our school.

Thanks again to everyone for a fun night. Don't miss the next one!

From Team SCA

*You can read minutes from the SCA AGM on the school website under the 'Parents' tab. Click on Stillness Community Association (PTA).*

### Staff Recognition Box

We have now added a "Staff Recognition" box on the front page of our school website if you have a special message/thank you for a member of staff. Receiving a positive message from you really gives staff a boost.

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### Be Bright and Be Seen this Winter

Now that the clocks have gone back and it is getting dark much earlier, it is more important than ever to make sure you can be seen when you are out and about near roads.

There are loads of ways to be seen to stay safer.

1. Brightly coloured or fluorescent clothing shows up well in daylight and at dusk when you are heading to and from school.
2. If you are out and about when it is dark, wear reflective gear to make sure you can be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well. Remember, fluorescent clothing does not work after dark!
3. Do not forget to accessorise! Even small items such as clip-on reflectors, armbands and stickers on your outfit or school bag are a great way to improve your visibility.
4. If you like to cycle to school, remember that it is the law to have clean and working lights at night (white at the front, red at the back), as well as a rear reflector. It is good to fit spoke reflectors too.
5. Of course, "Being Bright" is not the only way to stay safer. If you are out at night, choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to always use the Green Cross Code.

For more road safety tips, games and videos, visit:

[www.direct.gov.uk/talesoftheroad](http://www.direct.gov.uk/talesoftheroad)



## Instagram

Thank you to everyone who has visited our Instagram site; we now have over 400 followers!

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Our Instagram continues to go from strength to strength. We have had a large number of follow requests; however, to ensure we keep the account private and only accessible by the Stillness Community, we would be grateful if you would email the main office with your request on [admin@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk). We are also receiving requests from children that will not be accepted as this platform is only for children over the age of 13.

Please keep popping in to have a look at what is going on in and around our wonderful school.

All “likes” welcomed!

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## School Streets

Just a reminder that The Lewisham School Street Programme “School Streets” is in effect. Fines will be issued for those who enter Brockley Rise from the junction with Stillness Road, without an exemption permit from **Monday to Friday** between the set times of **8.30am to 9.30am and 2.45pm to 3.45pm**. Please be aware that local residents are able to access during these hours so children should continue to observe road safety. Thank you.

## Attendance

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Our Local Authority Attendance Officer is Charmaine Holder who will be monitoring our pupils’ attendance.

## SAFEGUARDING

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### **Working together to safeguard children.**

Stillness Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and parents/carers to share this commitment.

Safeguarding is a term which is broader than ‘child protection’ and relates to the action taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility.

We are fully committed to ensuring that consistent, effective safeguarding procedures are in place to support families, children and staff at school.

### **Safeguarding Leads:**

**Mrs M Nichol - Headteacher**

**Mrs Z Renner-Thomas – Deputy Headteacher**

**Mrs P Brown – Inclusion Lead**

## Mobile Phones

Stillness Junior School is a “mobile free” zone.

Please be reminded that mobile phones cannot be brought into school for any reason whatsoever. We strongly believe that children are more at risk when they carry and use a mobile phone than it being a deterrent. Our school policy reflects this and it is a rule that we enforce vigorously.

Any mobile phone brought into school will be taken and can only be collected by a parent/carer; repeat offenders will have their mobile phone held in the school office until the end of term.

## Dinner Money

**The cost of a school dinner is £2.30 per day.**

The dinner money from **3 January 2023 to 10 February 2023** will be **£66.70**. Can parents and carers please make every effort to pay in advance.

**To improve the service we provide, Stillness Junior School is a cashless school and does not accept cheques or cash as payment.**

**This can be done online using a very secure website called ParentPay.** You all have your individual ID and Password to access this facility.

**Please note: if you wish to change your child from packed lunch to school dinners or vice versa please inform the school office in writing to avoid being charged. Children can only change this option at half term break.**

**Please Note: Dinner accounts that are more than one week overdue or in arrears will result in your child having to bring in a packed lunch or going home for their lunch.**

## Stillness Junior School Website

We are pleased to inform parents/carers that we work extremely hard to ensure that our website is up to date. Please take a minute to have a look and catch up with the latest news and holiday dates.

**If you do not wish photographs of your child/ren to be posted on this website, on Instagram, in the school newsletter or in articles that may be published in the press, please notify the school office in writing.**

## December Diary Dates

2.12.22 – SCA Christmas Film Night – 5pm to 7pm  
(*Tickets can be purchased via your child's Parent Pay account*)

6.12.22 - Y3 Devonshire Nature Reserve (Netherby and Gladiator Class)

7.12.22 – Y3 Devonshire Nature Reserve (Brightling Class)

7.12.22 – Christmas Lunch

8.12.22 – Whole School Panto (in-house) and Christmas Jumper Day

9.12.22 – Y6 trip to Natural History Museum

16.12.22 – Last day in School

18.12.22 to 2.1.23 – Christmas Holidays

3.1.23 – Children return to School