



# ADDINGTON NEWSLETTER



**December 2019**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

We are finally at the end of what has been an incredibly busy term. All classes have completed festive activities, either a trip out with their class or a visit from Santa, or visiting the reindeer that came to school for the day!

Besides the Christmas activities, earlier in the term we had our first KS3 performance based around the curricular theme of the term: Space. All pupils took part, and the audience were also given an opportunity to join our Immersive Theatre lesson for pupils in Cherry and Holly class. This was a wonderful opportunity to see what all groups had been working on during the term and next term it will be KS2's turn to showcase their curricular through the Creative Arts.

The many other events throughout the term are detailed by the Departments on the following pages and I would like to thank all the staff involved in the teaching of such a rich and varied curricular.

The new build continues to be on course for completion in May and a very large hole has appeared on the field into which the new building, being built off site, will be placed in the spring. Our current year 11's and FE pupils are becoming very excited about their new building and the School Council have asked if they can be involved in the naming of it – I'm sure they will come up with some great ideas!

Finally, I would like to say thank you to one of our teachers, Nicole Wisdom, who is leaving at Christmas. Nicole has led our Autism Service for the last 9 years and I know the families that have benefitted from her excellent support will agree that she has been a huge asset to the school and we will be very sorry to see her go. I wish her every success in the future and know that her successor, Louise Duran, will be taking over a highly organized, well respected service in January.

All that remains is for me to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and look forward to seeing pupils return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

**Sara Attra  
Headteacher**



## Dear Parents/ Carers

The end of the Christmas term and everything at school is looking, and feeling, very festive!

Don't forget to check the Parent Support page on the Addington website; it has information that may be helpful over the Christmas period, both for the good times and the more challenging ones.

We were able to hold both a basic Makaton course, and a Christmas coffee morning with our colleagues at Bridges resources centre this half term. We did have to squeeze both into one week; not ideal, but thank you to everyone who came along!

If you need to contact us, and are unable to reach us by phone, please use the PSA mailbox to contact us by email. This is;

[psa@addington.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:psa@addington.wokingham.sch.uk).

Here is hoping that however you celebrate this time of year, that it is a happy and restful experience.

Best Wishes,

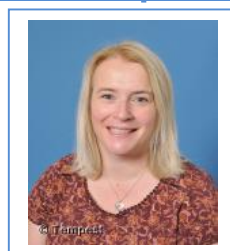
**Lucy & Ellie - Parent Support Advisers**

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## Our Senior Leadership Team



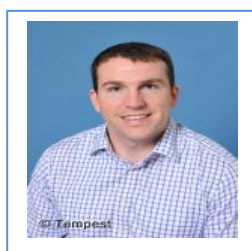
**Sara Attra**  
Headteacher



**Lynda Wood**  
Deputy Head



**Eirfron Watkinson**  
Assistant Headteacher



**David Maycock**  
Assistant Headteacher

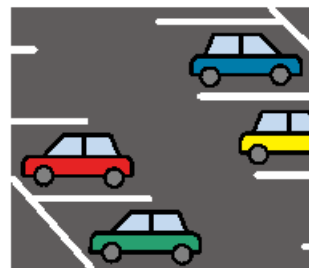


**Sue Tod**  
School Business Manager

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# CAR PARKING REMINDER

1. All drivers **must** use the one-way system marked out by the cones and road markings
2. **Only** park in marked spaces and not on the end of rows
3. All pedestrians **must** use the zebra crossing and the pavement when walking children to and from the site. DO NOT WALK on the road by the side of the gates where there is **no pavement** as a short cut. This is very dangerous and could result in an accident



## Addington Youth Club

Managed and staffed by  
Wokingham Bracknell & Districts Mencap

Wednesday evening 7pm to 9pm  
Fun for all youngsters from Year 9 up

Look out for the activities planned for the current term,  
come along and try a session.

Contact Wokingham Mencap on 0300 777 8539 for more information.

### School Dinners

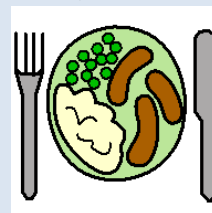
This is to inform you that all school lunches must now be paid for online. The school will no longer be able to collect cash on a daily basis.

You will need to register online if you have not done so before. **A letter with your personal log on details has been sent home with your child.** If you have previously logged on to the Tucasi system but have forgotten your password, please follow the instructions on the login screen.

As a reminder:

Primary lunch is £2.05

Secondary lunch is £2.25



Please remember that money for school dinners should be paid **in advance**.

If you have any problems, please contact Wendy Dixon on [office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk).

## New Building Update!



Site of new building

## Parent Contact Information

We want to cut down on the amount of paper we send to parents and to get in touch more electronically via emails, texts and our school website [www.addington.wokingham.sch.uk](http://www.addington.wokingham.sch.uk)).

Apart from the money saved on printing costs, electronic communication is instant. In order to do this we need to be kept up to date with your latest email address and mobile numbers.

If you need to update us please email: [office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk)

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## School Mobile App

Our School Mobile App can be downloaded from the links below.

[iTunes](#)

[Play Store](#)

Once you have downloaded the School Jotter app **you will need to select “Addington School” from within the app.**

The school mobile App is **FREE to download** and enables you to receive news updates and alerts on your phone or other mobile device. You can also view our newsletters and see photos of the students.



## Headteacher's Award Winners



Congratulations to the following students who achieved awards for the first half of the Term:

### **HEADTEACHER AUTUMN END OF TERM AWARD**

#### **Winner**

Alyan Kayani

#### **Runners Up**

Bradley Oxley  
Jake Bridgeford  
Bruce Smiles  
Sam Hardman  
Ege Cetin  
Daniel Meriacre  
Chloe Weavers  
William Kinge

### **Headteacher Awards (4 November to 20 December 2019)**

#### **Key Stage 2**

Daniel Kral  
Ria Lakhanpal

#### **Key Stage 3**

Ege Cetin  
Laurence Parsons  
Lloyd Locke

#### **Key Stage 4**

Chloe Weavers  
Ryan Skevington

# Inter-house Gingerbread Competition

## November 2019



We hosted our first ever Gingerbread Inter-house competition recently. Over 200 students participated in the competition. It was lovely to see all the finished biscuits and all the different designs and amazing Gingerbread houses. Everyone enjoyed the baking, decorating and eating.

The results were as follows:



- |                                     |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1st Place - <b>Yellow Tigers</b>    | - 80 House Points |
| 2nd Place - <b>Blue Sharks</b>      | - 60 House Points |
| 3rd Place - <b>Red Eagles</b>       | - 40 House Points |
| 4th Place - <b>Green Crocodiles</b> | - 20 House Points |

Our judges also awarded 4 Highly Commended Certificates to the following individuals/class:  
Amber J (Poppy), Charlotte W-P (Lily), Rowan N (Sycamore) and the whole of Kite class.

A huge thank you goes to **Amanda** for all her **hard work**, the house captains who helped set up the display and our very own Addington School Judges - Mary, Pru and Paul (aka Tom, Sean and Ben!)







# SPORTS PAGE



## Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

In the second half of the Autumn term, our D of E students have been out walking in all weathers. We had a wet walk from school to Palmer Park and back and, in contrast, a beautifully sunny but cold walk along the Thames and canal from Thames Valley Park to Reading and back. We also discussed what sort of food they will need on their expeditions, followed by making Trail Mix and investigating recipes at the Go Outdoors shop.



## Gold School Games Mark Awards Presentation

The P.E team recently attended the Wokingham Sports Awards to be awarded the Gold Sports Games Mark plaque. This award celebrates Addington School's commitment to the development of sport across their school and in the community.







## **Football Tournament at Madejski Stadium**

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November we took 2 6-a-side football teams to Reading football club's Madejski Stadium. The competition was split between Reading FC's indoor dome and their out-door training pitch. The Amber Team played 7 matches and the Green Team played 6 matches against other SEN schools in the area. The Green Team played really well and nearly won the competition but came a close third. The Amber Team were very happy because they scored 7 goals and won 2 games. All the games were keenly contested. Well done to all the players who put in so much effort.



## **Primary Boccia tournament - Dec 2019**

Congratulations to our 2 Boccia teams who participated in the School Games Boccia competition against 10 other Wokingham primary schools at the Bohunt School. They did Addington proud.







## Indoor Athletics Competition



On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November Rowan Class represented Addington School in the Berkshire Primary indoor athletics competition which was held at Maiden Erlegh School. We split into a boys' team and a girls' team, each taking part in 5 track races and 5 field events, including: chest push, javelin, long jump, vertical jump, stride jumps and speed bounce. Our students competed against mainstream schools and did very well. All the students had an enjoyable time. Thank you to Maiden Erlegh School for hosting the event.

## National Special Schools Swimming Gala Final



9 of our students participated in the national Panathlon swimming finals at the London Olympic Aquatic centre in November. They really enjoyed their swimming and came 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the country. Well done to all.





**Special Olympics**  
Great Britain



## **Play Unified Basketball**



On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 6 students from Swan class joined together with four students from John Madejski Academy to form a team to represent Wokingham at the Play Unified basketball festival at Wexham Secondary School in Slough. We played against unified teams from the other Berkshire areas. The festival was organised by the Special Olympics and sponsored by Hasbro. When they weren't playing they were able to access

a number of games supplied by the sponsor. All the students had a good time playing basketball and were thrilled with the free 'goody bag' also donated by the sponsor.

One of our students won an award for her kindness and resilience during the day.



## **Scooter Hockey Competition**

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November Sycamore class took part in a scooter hockey competition at Brookfields School against other SEN schools from the area. Addington split into 2 teams which meant that each team played 5 games. Despite playing against year 11 students, the games were very competitive but fair. All the students had an enjoyable morning. Thanks to Brookfields for organising the event.







## **Touch Rugby Festival**

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Decemember, we visited Loddon Valley Lesiure Centre to take part in a Touch Rugby festival organised by London Irish. The team played 6 matches against other local SEN schools. The Addington team did really well, winning all their games and having lots of fun.





## Early Years

We have had a really lovely, busy half term leading up to Christmas. We spent November learning all about autumn, collecting and exploring colourful leaves, and creating firework artwork. All the children have been learning colour names and playing different games exploring all the colours around us. We have enjoyed exploring colour through stories and watching colours as they are mixed together.



Before we knew it, it was December, and we learnt Christmas songs and signs, made lots of Christmas crafts, and cooked yummy festive treats. All the classes enjoyed their Stay and Play sessions, where it was so lovely to see so many of you.

Many of our children also went to TVAP this term, and for some, it was their first trip offsite. The children and staff all loved their experiences there, and we have been very proud of the children's behaviour.



We also had a visit from reindeer, where we were able to stroke and feed the reindeer. Another exciting guest was a visit from Santa, who gave the children small gifts. We finished our half term with a delicious Christmas lunch, and classroom fun.

Have a lovely, restful Christmas break. We look forward to seeing you all in January.

From all of the Early Years team







## Middle School News

Middle school have taken up lots of opportunities for curriculum enrichment this term both in school and off site.



Rowan class got creative at their Textile workshop at Reading University



Key Stage 3 have been involved in a creative arts project Moon Zoom culminating in an exciting live performance to parents, peers and other schools.



Sycamore class had a work experience visit to Pizza Express





In December we have enjoyed a variety of festive experiences



Head to Head Theatre delighted us with their pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk. It was a very interactive and sensory experience and everyone got involved

Cherry class had more fab, festive and sensory experiences on their visit to 'Lapland'



Thanks to Addington School Association the whole school were lucky enough to have a visit from two reindeer who stopped in on their way to the North Pole to help Santa. Chestnut class impressed the handlers with their extensive knowledge about reindeer and their habitat.





Finally, a visit from Santa himself. He came on Christmas jumper day to visit the Primary classes and rewarded our hearty singing with a gift of chocolate or bubbles for everyone.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a fabulous new year!



Yvonne Edwards  
Head of Middle School



# UPPER SCHOOL

## Upper School - Work Experience



Working in a café requires lots of skills – greeting customers, following health & hygiene rules, taking food orders, preparing food and handling money. Our Upper School students have been learning and practising lots of new skills in local cafes.



Students have been developing IT skills in work experience. At Cisco, Upper School students worked in the Tech Team for 5 days to learn about Cyber Security. In Woodley Town Council, there has been a placement to learn about office skills, finance and local services.

## Cisco WEX Week

Daniel and Vincent had the opportunity to be involved in the Work Experience week at Cisco. They integrated with other students from Mainstream schools across the Berkshire county. They worked with the Tech team, learning about Cyber Security, what Cisco do to prevent this and the processes that happen with larger companies and what they have to do in order to protect themselves from security threats. The students fully immersed themselves into the experience, they made some friends from other schools, even going on the help them if they got stuck with a task.

## Upper School - Community Superheroes



We enjoyed a Work Ready Day visit from the local PCSO'S as part of our 'Community Superhero' project. We enjoyed learning about their jobs, the equipment they carry and the uniform they have to wear.



We had a visit from another Community Superhero – volunteer Gary who works with 'Search and Rescue' Teams. Students loved hearing about rescue events and learning more about protective equipment and staying safe.





## Upper School Students.....Superheroes in Disguise!



Students wrote to parents asking for donations to help local groups helping the homeless and vulnerable. We would like to say a huge thank you for everyone's generosity.



Students sorted, counted and bagged up gloves, socks, chocolates, underwear, deodorants and some clothing. Everything has been donated to Piaroo's wish and New Beginnings to distribute at their upcoming Christmas events. Students have loved having the opportunity to be Community Superheroes and to make a difference to the lives of others. Thank you to everyone who supported this project.





## Upper School - Helping Local Superheroes



Our Annual MacMillan coffee morning was a huge success and combined with the Shutters staff café morning raised over £600 for a fantastic group of Community superheroes - the Mac Millan nurses.





## Upper School Bake-Off.....watch out Mary Berry!



We loved our first ever whole school Gingerbread inter-house competition! We baked gingerbread people, and made a gingerbread house, and enjoyed decorating them!





## Upper School - Christmas Fayre



It just would not be Christmas at Addington without the annual Christmas Fair hosted by Upper School students. We enjoyed making craft items including salt dough candle holders and decoupage sweet bowls to sell at the annual upper school

Christmas Fayre! We

enjoyed running a 'guess who lives in the gingerbread house' competition, to win our class gingerbread house!



also





## Upper School – Christmas Celebrations



Upper School students have been enjoying



Christmas social traditions. We have enjoyed trips, seasonal events and even some seasonal cooking. Memorable days have included Aladdin at Windsor Panto, watching The Grinch at the cinema and even some Christmas Shopping.





## Upper School - Supported Internships

It has been an exciting term for Supported interns from Year 13 and Year 14. At Wokingham Borough Council students are coming to the end of first placements; this has included working with the Land Based Services team at Dinton Pastures, the Library placement and working in reception and the offices at Shute End. In Sodexo at J&J students are preparing for new challenges in their catering,



post-room and security placements. Meanwhile, interns at the National Grid have celebrated the end of their first placements. In just four months we have seen huge progress with interns' professional skills and levels of independence.





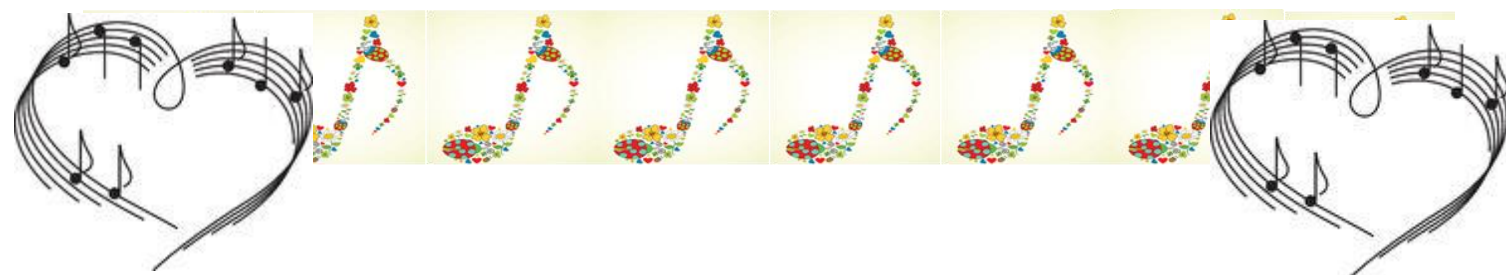
## Upper School – Out and About

We enjoyed seeing the visiting reindeers.

We have also been developing work skills and have been busy making arts and crafts for the FE Christmas Fayre.







# The Creative Arts Page

## Music

This term has been full of music and as the term draws to a close the music team have been busy singing festive songs in the school and the wider community. Some students have continued their work on our Space theme, playing pieces from Star Wars. Our students on the sensory curriculum have continued exploring music about Every Day Heroes, and our younger students have been singing songs based on the changing weather.

The Addington Band enjoyed performing at the Addington Association Christmas Concert on Monday and showed how they are improving their instrumental and ensemble skills.

Once again this year we have been out and about in the community carol singing. Groups have been to Twyford Age Concern, The National Grid, Shute End, The Birches and Johnson and Johnson. Sadly this year our school trip to sing at Woodley Precinct was cancelled due to the bad weather but many students enjoyed singing around the Addington Christmas tree for the afternoon. Students have really enjoyed sharing their Christmas cheer in the wider community!



## Art

To mark the centennial anniversary of WW1, some of our students produced a beautiful poppy wreath made of clay poppies. This has been displayed at the Oakwood Centre in Woodley which was visited by some classes and staff during November.



### Moon Zoom

Our Key Stage 3 students took part in their production of Moon Zoom, telling the story of the lost alien. They all showed off their acting skills and we were really proud of the way they delivered their lines. Our immersive theatre was also featured, as Holly and Cherry classes shared their work within the show. The show included songs they have been learning in music lessons and art work was also on display. They performed to our students, to visiting local primary schools and to parents and friends of Addington. It was great to show case the creative arts talents of the students.



### Soundabout Day

Some of our sensory and complex needs classes joined a sensory music session led by Soundabout. It was all about a snowy winter evening, and they enjoyed the songs and props.



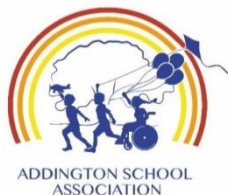
### Arts Awards

We are really proud of the successes of our Arts Awards students. Some students in Key Stage 3 have now achieved their bronze award and some in Key Stage 4 were successful at silver level. This is a real achievement – well done!

From the Creative Arts Team, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Rhona, Sean, Jules and Martin*





# News from the Association

Email: [AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com)

December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Addington School Association has a dual role; to raise much needed funds for the school and to provide social events that foster relationships between our families and others associated with the school. **I'd like to think that we've achieved both aims in this last half term.**

So how have we done this? Well, it's been a busy, busy half term! Since the last newsletter in October we've held the school disco, the Christmas Fayre and lastly (everyone's favourite) the Christmas Carol Concert! It's been truly lovely to see the children having a great time at the disco, see so many families attend the Fayre and to see so many of the wider school community having a fantastic and festive time at the Carol Concert. In addition to the above we've run the a very successful Christmas Hamper Raffle.

We clearly couldn't have achieved any of this without your support. We've been overwhelmed by the kindness shown by everyone who donated to our 5 themed donation weeks and to the many, many people who bought raffle tickets and also persuaded friends and family to buy tickets! It had been our most successful raffle ever with ticket sales exceeding £1,300!! **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**

All money raised at these events will support the school. For example, this could be for the purchase of the next mini-bus, or maybe equipment for the new sensory playground. Or maybe it might provide the children with a wonderful experience like having reindeer visit for a day. At this time of year, I'd like to take the opportunity to also thank the small band of people that make up the Association for their efforts throughout the year. So, to Sara, Tony, Ellie, Viv, Sandra, Ann, Colin, Samii, Terri, Jason and Sarah – you all have my thanks for your support and dedication.

If you would like to know more about the Association, please just let me know. We are a small group and would welcome anyone who would like to join. Please can I continue to encourage as many of you to help us with 'Our Challenge'. It would be wonderful if as many people as possible sign up for the following websites that donate a percentage of any sales to the Association. Neither require any time commitment or require you to spend money that you wouldn't be spending already!

**EasyFundraising** - use the link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/addingtonschoolassociation/>

**Amazon Smile** - use the link <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1088765-0>

Finally, on behalf of the Association, we would like to wish you all a happy and relaxing festive break and looking forward to seeing you in 2020!

Dawn Adams  
Chair – Addington School Association

You can contact us either via

School on 01189669073  
Email [AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com](mailto:AddingtonAssociation@gmail.com)  
Our Facebook page

You can donate to the Sensory Garden project via our JustGiving page.

## ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2019 - 2020



Addington School

### AUTUMN TERM 2019

Staff Training Days – (closed to pupils)	Tuesday 3 September & Wednesday 4 September 2019
<b>Term Starts</b>	<b>Thursday 5 September 2019</b>
Staff Training Day (closed to pupils)	Friday 25 October 2019
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 28 October to Monday 4 November 2019 inclusive
<b>Term Restarts</b>	<b>Tuesday 5 November 2019</b>
<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Friday 20 December 2019</b>

### SPRING TERM 2020

<b>Term Starts</b>	<b>Monday 6 January 2020</b>
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2020 inclusive
<b>Term Restarts</b>	<b>Monday 24 February 2020</b>
<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Friday 3 April 2020</b>

### SUMMER TERM 2020

<b>Term Starts</b>	<b>Monday 20 April 2020</b>
May Day Holiday (closed to pupils)	Friday 8 May 2020
Half Term – (closed to pupils)	Friday 22 May to Friday 29 May 2020 inclusive
<b>Term Restarts</b>	<b>Monday 1 June 2020</b>
<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Tuesday 21 July 2020</b>



# ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES 2020 - 2021



## AUTUMN TERM 2020

<b>Staff Training Days – All Staff</b> (closed to pupils)	<b>Tuesday 1 September &amp; Wednesday 2 September 2020</b>
<b>Term Starts</b>	<b>Thursday 3 September 2020</b>
<b>Half Term – (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Monday 26 October to Monday 2 November 2020 inclusive</b>
<b>Term Restarts</b>	<b>Tuesday 3 November 2020</b>
<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Friday 18 December 2020</b>

## SPRING TERM 2021

<b>Term Starts</b>	<b>Monday 4 January 2021</b>
<b>Half Term – (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February 2021 inclusive</b>
<b>Term Restarts</b>	<b>Monday 22 February 2021</b>
<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Thursday 1 April 2021</b>

## SUMMER TERM 2021

<b>Staff Training Days – Teachers Only</b> (closed to pupils)	<b>Monday 19 April 2021</b>
<b>Term Starts</b>	<b>Tuesday 20 April 2021</b>
<b>Half Term – (closed to pupils)</b>	<b>Friday 28 May to Friday 4 June 2021 inclusive</b>
<b>Term Restarts</b>	<b>Monday 7 June 2021</b>
<b>Term Ends</b>	<b>Wednesday 21 July 2021</b>