



In this issue...

Head's View

Laps to Lapland
Years 4 & 6 Residentials
Dance Umbrella Refund
MaD Club Christmas Cards
Neal's Yard fundraiser
Forest School Dates
Upcoming Dates
Letters Sent

Special Awards

Special Award Winners this Week

Willow 1	Quinn B
Willow 2	Anya H
Yew 1	Jaxon N
Yew 2	Phoebe R
Oak 1	Jacob K
Oak 2	Joshua B
Cherry 1	William B
Cherry 2	Tyson G
Beech 1	James K
Beech 2	Flo H
Maple 1	James B
Maple 2	Nicole C
Red 1	Sophie S
Red 2	Felix S

Friday 20th November 2020

Well Done!

01225 840324

www.combedown.com
office@combedown.com

FROM MRS GASCOIGNE, HEADTEACHER

Term 2 Issue 3 2020

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers

We have had a busy week in school exploring Anti Bullying and Road Safety. We started the week wearing odd socks to show that difference is OK and to be celebrated. It links to the book we shared at the beginning of the year "All are welcome".



We also launched our Laps to Lapland. We are grateful to the parents who have given their time and expertise freely to produce the posters. They look amazing. Mr Withers, our CEO, commented on this on Thursday when he visited. DO clock up your miles as you move around dog walking, cycling, running and so on!

We have launched our food bank for Christmas parcels and received lots of food - thank you so much for your generosity. Please do continue to contribute if you feel able.

In addition, there have been several generous donations to support the Guitar workshop and afternoon concert for today. So many parents understand how tricky things are at the moment for others and are able to make a difference. It is COMPASSION in action.

We have received lots of encouraging comments about the photographs taken in school by our visiting photographer. He managed to turn things around really quickly so that orders could be placed before Christmas. I believe, in the challenging circumstances of COVID safe practice, he did an amazing job. Thanks Nick.

Thank you for all the encouragement and appreciation that the school is receiving. So many people are showing compassion and understanding for the added stress that school staff are under at the moment. It may seem like the school is all back to normal, and that is what we want the children to feel.

Con't

Mrs Gascoigne's "Golden Book"

Congratulations to the following children for receiving a Golden Token this week: Abbey T (Y1), Eva P (W2), Lucy P (Y1), Freja J (Y1).

Contact the Governors via feedback@combedown.com
Contact the PTA via combedownpta@gmail.com
Contact the Prayer Group via prayergroup@combedown.com

However, there are so many things that staff are doing in order to maintain the health and safety of the children as well as support their emotional and social development which has been affected by the lockdown situations we have been in. On top of all that, the staff are working tirelessly to ensure the children are receiving great quality teaching and learning opportunities. Your support and understanding are really appreciated.

We are still experiencing some very inconsiderate parking and dropping off near the corner of The Avenue and Church Road. Please think very carefully about how your parking affects others. I do not want an accident to happen before parking behaviour changes. No one should be parking or dropping off in a manner that makes crossing the road difficult. All drivers must abide by the rules including those with a disabled badge. Once you have dropped your children to school, at the correct time, please do not stay to chat and cause congestion. We have reported our concerns to B&NES parking services who are going to be visiting the area. They have also suggested that if parents have concerns about parking around the school site they contact the local Councillors for support. Their details can be found here: <https://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgmemberindex.aspx?bcr=1>. Thank you for your support, together we will solve the problem.

Mrs Gascoigne, Head Teacher

Laps to Lapland virtual challenge

Our Laps to Lapland virtual challenge launched this week and we would like to thank both the children for their enthusiasm and to all who have donated to our JustGiving pages. The challenge is running until the 9th December so there is plenty of time to get those sponsored kms in and help us virtually reach Lapland. Please follow this link if you would like to donate:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/combe-down-primary-school-pta>



We'd also love to receive photos of you clocking up the kms. Here is Betsy in Year 5 adding some kilometres on her bike!

Our SupportCombeDown2020 JustGiving page is also live for anyone who would like to do a general donation to help raise funds for books and forest school.

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/supportcombedown20>

If you would prefer to buy/donate books please go to the PTA section of the school website where you will find all the relevant information.



Year 4 and Year 6 Residential Visits 2021

We emailed all Year 4 and Year 6 families on Wednesday of this week to gauge the likely take-up of a residential visit next year. If you have not already completed the short survey please do so as soon as possible (the links were contained in the emails). The present Government guidance is that overnight residential visits cannot go ahead, but we are planning for all scenarios, including that this guidance may change by next Spring/Summer. We will not confirm our booking of any residential visits until we have received confirmation from our insurers that any payments will be refunded if the visit has to be cancelled. The current dates which are pencilled in with the providers are 19th-21st May 2021 for Year 4, and 12th - 15th July 2021 for Year 6. Thank you to those parents who have already completed the survey, your responses and comments are very helpful.

Dance Umbrella Refund

If you have not yet responded to the emails from us requesting your bank account details to enable us to make a refund payment to you, please do so as soon as possible. We cannot refund anyone until all bank details have been received. The PAT Finance Team will then upload all the details in bulk, to enable a BACS Run to be made. The spreadsheet containing the bank account information is stored and emailed to PAT Finance using password protection.

Support MAD Club’s School link with your Christmas Cards and Gifts this Year Experience the Real Africa (ETRA) - ETRA (Uganda) & ETRA (UK) in support of Glenburnie Butega School

The School in Uganda that Make a Difference Club were establishing a link with before Covid - we had just got our first pen pal letters back! - have been closed for a long lockdown due to Covid and have had to begin building bigger classrooms as their rooms were too small to be allowed to re-open under the Ugandan Covid restrictions. They have also had to house, feed and shelter 30 of their pupils who are orphans and had no home to lockdown in. They have this Christmas related initiative to help raise funds and perhaps you could support it and buy a few cards or gifts through them. See attached details and order forms. Last year MaD club sent the children Christmas cards we had made - this year we can send each other cards and gifts knowing they too will get our love in the process. Thank you for helping if you are able.

Claire Morrish, Children’s Minister



Last chance this week to shop with Neal’s Yard and raise funds for the PTA

The link below is available until 9pm to shop with Neal’s Yard. If you are not ready to place an order at the current time, there will be another opportunity at the beginning of December.

<https://uk.nyrorganic.com/shop/rosemeadowslynn/party/W001565635>

Upcoming Dates (subject to change, please always check the website):

December 2020

- 14 DEC** Christmas Jumper Day
⌚ 08:30 - 15:30 | ☑ Whole School
- 17 DEC** End of Term 2, 3.15pm
☑ Term Dates
- 18 DEC** Inset Day - school closed to pupils
⌚ 08:45 - 15:15 | ☑ Staff training Day

January 2021

- 04 JAN** Term 3 starts, 8.45/8.50am
⌚ 08:45 | ☑ Term Dates
- 04 JAN** PAT Inset Day - School Closed to Pupils
⌚ 08:45 - 15:15 | ☑ Staff training Day

February 2021

- 12 FEB** End of Term 3, 3.15pm
⌚ 15:15 | ☑ Term Dates

Forest School Timetable
Term 2

	09.00 – 10.30	10.45 – 11.45 10.45 – 12.00	13.00 – 14.00 13.15 – 14.15	14.00 – 15.00 14.15 – 15.15
Monday, 23 rd November	Year 2	Year 2	Year 4	Year 4
Friday, 27 th November			Year 3	Year 3
Monday, 30 th November	Year 1	Year 1	Year 5	Year 5
Friday, 4 th December			Year 6	Year 6
Monday, 7 th December	Year R	Year R	Year 4	Year 4
Friday, 11 th December			Year 3	Year 3

Support the PTA when you shop online by clicking via **Amazon Smile** or signing up with **The Giving Machine**.

Letters home this week:

None this week

Follow us on Twitter:

@CombeDownSchool
 @CombedownFS @CombeDownYear1
 @Combedowny2 @Combedowny3
 @Combedowny4 @Combedowny5
 @CombeDownY6 @CombeDownPTA