



Welcome back to school, and a happy new year to you all!

I hope that you had an opportunity to spend some time doing nice things over the festive holiday.

Over the next two weeks I will be without one of my 'right hand people', as Miss Cargill has been called for jury service. We are covering her teaching with a known supply teacher, and I'm sure the children will be intrigued to know more about how the justice system works. However, please bear in mind that she won't be available for her other duties over the next fortnight either. Mr Hughes and I will certainly miss her, so please be kind to us!

Dr Mitchell

**Diary Dates:** *(New dates will be in red)*

- **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 7pm, phonics meeting for Y2 parents and carers – date changed!**
- **Thursday 27 January, Bedtime Story Club**
- **Thursday 10 February, Bedtime Story Club**



- **14-18 February, Half Term, school closed to pupils**
- **Monday 21 February, INSET, school closed to pupils**
- **Week beginning 28 February, Parent/Carer consultations – either in person or by phone TBC**
- **11 April – 22 April inclusive – Easter holidays**
- **Wed 27 April, class photos**

## Learning Round Up

Reception have been on a bear hunt! What did they travel through...? What did they find...?



Year 1 have been observing ice in science and have been looking at maps in preparation for their new geography topic. They've also learned about syllables and have been using musical instruments to help them sound these out.

Year 2 have been collecting wintery vocabulary and learning about similes to write winter poems. The weather has meant they didn't need to imagine the cold! They also had a competition to see who could make the most waterproof shelter!



## Varndean Schools Listening Citizens Campaign

We have been asked to share this campaign with you, as it is an initiative to make our local area better. The students and staff at Varndean would be grateful if you could complete this very short survey to help them in their project.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeEHFLWfiurecIKCO2BOe1D0jy0zVbSBQyfpwIUkKwG60yXbg/viewform>

## School Council

School council met today and made the decision for the school to support Raystede Animal Welfare as our charity for this term. They are also looking forward to getting involved in making travel to school safer and healthier for all. Watch this space for more details of both projects!

## Chair of Champions

**Libby, Puffin; Louie, Hedgehog and others – names next week!**

and a special mention to the children who helped Miss Cargill and Miss Harrex with book sorting today: Anya, Indie and Nsanji

