



Friday 27th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you

I would like to send an enormous thank you to all the members of the school community who have continued to pass onto myself and other staff members either in the playgrounds, through Class Dojo or email their positive messages of thanks about school and school life. It means an enormous amount to all the staff and we are extremely grateful. Thank you.

Christmas

Although adults have had to make many changes to their lives during the course of the pandemic, so have the children. They won't have attended birthday parties in the same way as they would usually have and other similar opportunities they have missed out on. As a result of this and the Christian nature of our school, we feel very strongly about the children being able to enjoy a range of Christmas opportunities during December and for the enjoyment of these experiences and reflecting on the message of hope, love, joy and peace. Some of these events are reminders and some of them are new.

- The children have been given a Children's Society Candle and Rev John Parker has produced a short video which has been shared with children and families to outline the work of the Children' Society which we would usually reflect on during Christingle Service. If families would like to give to this charity that we would usually support at this time, please return the cardboard candle to your child's class with a donation inside by 10.12.20.
- Christmas cards can be exchanged within class bubbles from week commencing 30.11.20. Please bring the cards in on Mondays only each week marked with the recipient's full name on the front. These will then be given out in class on Thursdays.
- Foundation Stage 2 and KS1 Christmas Dinner will be on 09.12.20 and KS2 will be on 10.12.20. We have split the Christmas dinners this year so the children can fully enjoy the experience whilst working in the way in which we currently have to organise dinners. A Christmas menu will be emailed next week re options. Children can wear their Christmas jumpers on the day of their Christmas dinner. We aren't going to ask for a charitable donation for this as there are other opportunities for families to donate this year.
- All children will watch a pantomime in their classrooms on the large screens. Thank you to the PTA who has paid for this opportunity for the children.
- All the children will have parties within their class bubbles in Covid-secure ways. Further information will follow about this.
- The children will make calendars and cards for their families in their class bubbles.
- Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 will produce Nativity productions filmed in class bubbles but put together so there is a year group production. The film will be shared on year group pages on Class Dojo. We will use the permission parents and carers have already given for this. If you haven't given permission for your child to appear in this way, we will telephone next week to find out how you feel about it.

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- KS2 will produce a carol service, singing in their class bubbles in Covid-secure ways. This will be shared through Dojo either as an audio file or as a film. If it is a film, we will go through the same checks as Foundation Stage and KS1.
- A number of parents have asked if they can give gifts to staff in school which is a lovely thought. If parents would like to do this, it can happen as normal as parents and carers will see the relevant staff at their classroom doors or the entrances to school.

Foundation Parents' Sessions

Foundation Stage parents' meetings are next week on Tuesday and Thursday. Miss Rockett, Miss Thackery and Mrs Horner will telephone during the time window which has been communicated with parents through text. They are looking forward to celebrating the children's developments so far and what they are going to learn next.

Drop-off at the rear of school

Please arrive after 8.30am to drop-off older children or to line up in the car park at the rear of school in the morning. The children go into their classes at the following times:

- Year 6 and Year 5 – 8.35am
- Year 3 and Year 4 – 8.40am

At the end of the school day we will continue to try to be as accurate as we can be to the allocated times to support families with multiple collections and other commitments. However, I'm sure parents and family members understand that with handwashing before the children leave and other tasks to complete, this won't always be possible.

Yours sincerely

Paul Beevor
Headteacher