



Newsletter

Term: Autumn 2020

Issue No: 7

Date: 4th December

Dear Parents and Carers

You may be aware that on Sunday 29th November the government made a decision to update guidance with regard to this Christmas period. It included the possibility of audiences attending school events such as nativities in Tier 2 areas, subject to appropriate safeguards. As the need to socially distance would still have been compulsory, it would have been impossible for us to achieve fair and equitable access for parents, without the need to repeat the performance numerous times. This was simply neither fair nor practical given the other restrictions and procedures we are also having to adhere to currently. Ordinarily, this week would have been the week of our junior Christmas production, followed by our infant Nativities in Church next week. As such, we have continued with the plans that we had agreed before this very late change to DfE guidance; and actually, without the time taken up by rehearsals, the children have continued full pace with their learning. This has been a distinct bonus following the lockdown of last academic year. The filming for our end of term video has taken place over the last two days and I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Berwick and Mrs Knapp, as well as the children, for undertaking most of this outside in rather cold and wet weather! We will send a link out to parents during the last week of term, so that you can watch the class performances for this year from the comfort of your home.

Christmas Events and Reminders

- Our children's traditional Christmas school lunch/jumper day is on **Friday 11th December**, so please send your child into school wearing their bright and colourful jumpers that day. Please also remember that due to current circumstances, we are **unable** to open up the Christmas Lunch to those children that currently bring in a packed lunch.
- Children are able to bring in Christmas cards, but only for children within their year group bubble (or site bubble for Leigh and Betchworth). Please ensure cards are brought into class no later than Monday 14th December. Cards will be distributed and brought home on Friday 18th December.
- Thank you to all of the class reps who have sourced Christmas films for the children. Each class has a film afternoon planned for before the end of term...with a small gift for each child from FONDS.
- Please note the last day of term is Friday 18th November. School will finish at 1.00 Years R, 1 and 2 and 1.15 for Years 3 - 6.
- Monday 4th January is an INSET Day. Children will return on Tuesday 5th January 2021!

Polite Request

We understand that children like to bring sweets in to share with their friends on the occasion of their birthdays. However, at present this is not possible. We try to ensure that anything we send home has been 'quarantined' for at least 72 hours. Apologies for any disappointment this may cause, but thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Parent Teacher Consultations - Feedback

Following on from our virtual Parent Teacher Consultations earlier this half term, we are keen to seek parent feedback, with a view to continuing with this system next term. We realise that holding these sessions remotely does not allow parents to look at books. However, as soon as it is practicable we will organise an opportunity for parents to visit classrooms with their children to share and celebrate their achievements. In the meantime, we would be very grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete the feedback form by clicking on the link below.

<https://tinyurl.com/yynfzq>

Wishing you all a restful and hopefully snow free weekend.