



10th December 2021

Dear parents and carers,

Too many times over the last couple of weeks I have had to use the word 'challenging'. The end of last week and the beginning of this week unfortunately meant that this word again has had to be used too many times! Thank you to everyone in our school community for their support and understanding over this tricky time. We hope that we have now turned the corner with regard to infections in our school but we will continue with the measures already outlined in previous communication.

We are really sorry and disappointed to have had to cancel our planned nativities and carol concerts but due to the measures we have had to implement, coupled with very high pupil and staff absence we hope that you understand that we had little choice. Next week we hope to pull something together and record a Christmas offering. We don't know exactly what this will look like yet but we still wanted to try and do something – this is likely to look different from class to class.

In more exciting news, we were really pleased to receive a delivery of 30 new Chromebooks into school. We are working hard to enhance our curriculum with the use of integrated technology and these will help build our capacity to do this. This is an area which we plan to continue to focus on and develop further. Here you can see Kian, one of our ICT Technicians, expertly checking that they were all working smoothly! [In addition to this, the PTA have also bought us 6 new IPADS for which we are really grateful.](#)



Next week we hope to embrace Christmas more fully and have outlined a plan of what is happening in this newsletter, this includes Christmas Lunch, Christmas Parties and hopefully a Christmas quiz!

Best wishes

Mr Hick

Term Dates

Term dates for this year can be found [here](#). The last day of this term will be Friday 17th December and the start of next term will be Tuesday 4th January.

Friday 18th February is an inset day and the school will be closed to children.

Christmas

Thank you for everyone's understanding with regard to the changing of our Christmas plans. We are as disappointed as you no doubt are. At the time of writing we are hoping to still be able to record a nativity by the Acorns, who have been less hit by pupil and staff absence. In key stage 1 we are planning to record and share some singing and Christmas learning, whilst in key stage 2 we hope that it will be feasible for each class to contribute a song to a recorded 'virtual' carol concert. All of these ideas could be subject to change but we will do our best to spread some Christmas cheer, even if not quite how we would all want it!

Next week, we also have a number of other things which we would like to do, to try and make the last week of school, this term, a fun and enjoyable time for the children. Below is an outline of this:

- Monday 13th December - Recording of Acorns nativity
- Wednesday 15th December – Christmas lunch and jumper day. Please book through ParentPay.
- Thursday 16th December – class Christmas party afternoon. This will be a non-uniform day and each class will give some further detail early next week.
- Friday 17th December – Last day of term. Mr Hick's Christmas quiz and assembly! This will be via Zoom and I hope to be able to share the link for anyone who may be isolating.



Remote Learning

Our policy with regard to this can be found [here](#). Remote learning will be available for when individual children are in isolation and when they are well enough to learn, this will be available through the child's class page (tapestry in Acorns). Level 1 provision is where there are individual children isolating and the rest of the school is operating as normal. Level 2 provision would be actioned in the event of a class closure or a whole school closure.

Christmas Food Vouchers

Our local authority has once again provided funding to facilitate Free School Meal provision (for those in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals) over the holidays. We have used the WONDE platform and they will be issued electronically via email on Monday. The vouchers will be valued at £30 per eligible child to cover the two-week holiday period.

Swimming

We have booked swimming for our year 5 and year 6 children. This will take place at Truro Leisure Centre next term and be led by qualified swimming teachers. The Leisure Centre have changed how they do this and although different feedback from other school is really positive. The children will go swimming every afternoon for an intensive two-week block. Dates and times below:

- Year 6: Week beginning Monday 24th Jan and Monday 31st January
- Year 5: Week beginning Monday 14th March and Monday 21st March

To help support this we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £8 per week to help cover the cost of coach travel to and from the pool. We will put this on ParentPay soon.

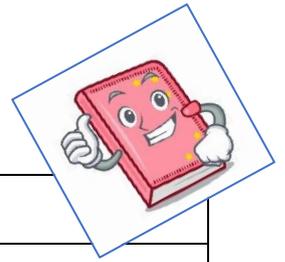
Breakfast Club

Breakfast club has started and bookings can be made in the same way as we now do for Chatterbox, through Parent Pay (**last bookings by 3.15pm the day before**). The club runs from 7.45am through to the start of the school day and we are providing the children with a drink and a choice of cereal or toast (or both if they want!). It is being run by Mrs Dicker and Mr Smith and there is a session charge of £3.50 per day.



COVID Support

This can be a confusing time for some children and they may have lots of questions during this time. At the bottom of this newsletter there are some links to useful resources to help support in conversations with your children.



Dates For Your Diary

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| 15.12.21 | Christmas Lunch and jumper day. |
| 16.12.21 | Class Christmas parties and non-uniform day. |
| 17.12.21 | Last day of Autumn Term |
| 4.1.22 | First day of Spring term |
| 18.2.22 | Inset Day – School closed to children. |



GOLDEN AWARD WINNERS

| | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| ACORNS | Mia & Sophia |
| SEEDLINGS | Dylan & Anneliese |
| BUDS | Alfie & Lauren |
| YOUNG OAKS | Rex & Alfie |
| BUR OAKS | Nancy & Jack |
| RED OAKS | Leo & Aaron |
| MIGHTY OAKS | Roan & Libby |



COVID – Links to support children and families:

- Supporting parents and carers video – click [here](#).
- Helpful information to answer children questions about coronavirus – click [here](#)
- Talking to your child about the coronavirus – YoungMinds – click [here](#)
- Worries about the world - Childline advice page – click [here](#)
- Coronavirus comic strip – NPR – click [here](#)
- Tips for if you're worried about the coronavirus - Newsround video – click [here](#)