



Term 1 Week 13: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December

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It's beginning to look like Christmas! <u>Welcome to our weekly newsletter</u>.

In school this week the naughty elves have been up to lots of mischief in some classrooms whilst the children have been working really hard. A usual there has been a really lovely atmosphere in school. I really enjoyed showing around families, whose children will be starting with us in September, for the first official visit to school.

The other naughty but bigger elves (aka the staff team) have been really helpful and are definitely on the good list for decorating the school this week. Despite the strange times we find ourselves facing I am delighted that we have still really tried to make the school have the 'magic of Christmas' despite Covid restrictions. We all want the children to have a wonderful experience at this wonderful time of year!



Oh Christmas Tree!: I am so very pleased that we have got our traditional real Christmas tree in place. Unfortunately this vear we haven't had a tree donated to us by Carlton Towers, so I am exceptionally grateful to the Friends of School for paying for the wonderful tree (bought locally from Carlton Garden and DIY) that now has pride of place in the school hall. It is huge, brilliant and beautiful. Mr Cooper and I had a real challenge on hands to successfully set up such a huge tree (14")- we had to call for back up!

## Other news:

- <u>Reflection garden</u> Mrs Pierce and Mrs Pemberton helped to prepare the 'chalk boards' for our Reflection Garden over the weekend. On Wednesday and Thursday we had our 'chalk artists' adding artwork to the reflection area and windows around it. The project is progressing. Photos will be shared upon completion of this exciting development. Thanks to all involved so far.
- <u>Academy Conversion</u>: behind the scenes I have been working really hard with our school Governors, solicitors, and Selby Educational Trust (SET) colleagues on the final formalities of our academy conversion – this is still expected to be processed in time for the 1<sup>st</sup> Of January 2021. More to follow in the next 2 weeks!
- Christmas Raffle:



## Next week and beyond:

We have only two weeks left of term. Next week is normal teaching and learning week, as well as our termly assessment week. The final week of term is a Christmas focussed week.

Our Christmas focus week will include:

- Christmas art and activities during the week:
- Calendars & Card making
- Fun afternoon ( to replace Christmas party)
- A Virtual Pantomime, paid for by Friends, with each class (or bubble) choosing an afternoon to watch. Sweets and drinks also provided by Friends
- A virtual assembly from Mary from Kings Church & an virtual assembly from Reverend Becky
- Friday 18<sup>th</sup> is Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch last day in school.

A reminder that Christmas cards are 'allowed' this year. They are collecting and placed in a box within each classroom. These will be distributed on a Monday mornings (after 72 hours of quarantine). Last date for bringing cards in is Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December to be handed out Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>.

<u>Reminders:</u> We would appreciate your support with the following things:

- Please make children are wearing their PE kits on the specified days. A reminder on PE days that girls and boys with long hair need to have it neatly tied back for safety reasons. If a pupil has their ears pierced they should be able to remove them themselves on the day or have plaster/tape to cover them up.
- Ear Piercing we have heard from one of sports coaches that there is discussion (not fact yet) that children may soon be told that they will not be allowed to take part in P.E. (which of course is a compulsory National Curriculum subjects) if they are wearing earrings. This might be worth anyone who is tempted to get theirs pierced over the Christmas break to wait until the summer!
- <u>Covid Restrictions</u>
  - No unnecessary items should be brought into school if anything is brought in it will be 'quarantined for 72 hours'
  - On leaving school please do not congregate with other parents or block exits this is particularly important in Covid times.
- <u>Safety and wellbeing</u>. Children in Year 4 and under should not be left alone at drop off times and should be accompanied by an adult into school

Have a safe and happy weekend. Keep safe!

Jon Watson

Head teacher

Developing lively, inquiring and creative minds