

### 2020/21 Issue 6 - Friday 27th November 2020

## **Covid Update**

Covid cases in South Cambridgeshire have fallen in the last reporting week. Nevertheless, from 2nd December Cambridgeshire as a whole has been placed into the new <u>Tier 2</u> which restricts indoor meeting amongst other things. Schools will continue to be open and operate within our current framework.

### **Children in Need**

As promised, I can now reveal that you raised a total for £140 for Children in Need this year – thank you so much.

### **Christmas Events**

We have a number of our traditional Christmas events in the diary – here's what we have at the moment:

- **EYFS and KS1 Christmas Production.** The children in Class 1 and Class 2 are busy practising for this year's Christmas Production, *Children of the World*. We are hoping to share this with you by video on eSchools as live performances to an audience will not be allowed.
- Christmas Crafts: Our traditional Christmas Crafts afternoon will be on Monday 14th December. Children will remain in their classes for these activities and, sadly, you will not be able to attend to help out as in previous years. Children will being their crafts home after the session.
- **Christmas Jumper Day:** On Thursday 17th December, children will be able to wear their Christmas jumper to school to support the children's charity, Save the Children.
- Christmas Lunch: Our school Christmas Lunch will also be on Thursday 17th December. The PTFA have generously donated crackers for the children and HCL will be putting on a special Christmas lunch. We won't all be able to sit down together, but there will still be sprouts to enjoy!

## **Christmas Cards**

Children will be able to bring in Christmas Cards for each other starting in December. We are happy for children to exchange cards within their bubble. Where children want to send cards between bubbles, the post box will be in place by the blue entrance doors. We will delay distributing cards for a few days in order to "quarantine" cards. Therefore, the last posting day for the post box will be Tuesday 15th December.

#### **Christmas Gifts**

I know that some of you like to share a card and/or a gift for teachers and other staff at Christmas. The staff really appreciate the thought, though they do not *expect* to receive anything: we love working with your children too much! As with the children's cards, we will attempt to "quarantine" items and so it would be great if you could send cards for teachers up to Tuesday 15th December, so they can sit for a while before being moved or opened.

## **Diwali Dance Workshops**

Last time I was able to share a Class 1 picture of these dance workshops. Here's a photo of Class 2 children enjoying this activity.



## Congratulations to...

- Edward, William and Zac (Year 6) for their Gold Award in this year's **Mathematical Association Primary** Maths Challenge
- Charlotte, Luke, Thomas and William (Year 5) for their Gold Award in this year's Fowlmere Maths Challenge.

If you have anything you would like celebrating in our Congratulations to section, please email me at head@fowlmere.cambs.sch.uk with the subject, 'Newsletter'.

## **Reminders and Notes**

Please send Christmas Dinner booking forms back to the school office by Wednesday 2nd December. Please note that you do not need to return a form if your child usually has a school dinner.

### **School Office**

This week we welcomed Vimi back to the school office on her normal Monday to Wednesday days. Having someone in the office every day has made such a difference. I am grateful to everyone who has helped cover, to Vimi for doing so much work remotely in difficult circumstances and to all of you for helping keep the office workload as low as possible.

# **Phonics Screening Check**

Normally, children in Year 1 receive a quick Phonics Screening Check during the summer term to check that they are on track with their phonics, help us identify any children who may be

struggling and, of course, give the government some data to mull over. This check was cancelled last year, but we have been asked to carry out the check for all children in Year 2 this half-term.

We will be carrying out this check next week (to be fair we have already completed a much more detailed phonics check for all children in Key Stage 1 as part of our Recovery Plan) and will share the outcomes with you before Christmas. It's a simple check which children usually enjoy!

### **Mini-Medics First Aid**

Children in Years 3 – 6 are receiving some First Aid Training on Fridays in November and December. Last week, Year 6 learnt about emergency First Aid, including how to bandage by practising on a teddy. This week it is the turn of Year 5 and next week it will be Year 3 & 4's chance.

### **PTFA Virtual Balloon Race**

Don't forget that the PTFA are holding a virtual Balloon Race. Sign up, choose your balloon characteristics, decorate it and track its progress. All for just £3! The race begins on 1st December and lasts for 7 days and there are prizes for the winners. But be warned, the teachers are looking to win! Follow the link to register your balloon. <a href="https://ecoracing.co/user/page/984">https://ecoracing.co/user/page/984</a>

## **Dates for your diary**

Friday 27th November Year 5 Mini-Medics First Aid

Monday 30th November Year 2 Phonics Checks this week

Tuesday 1st December PTFA Balloon Race Launch

Friday 4th December Year 3 & 4 Mini-Medics First Aid

Friday 4th December Kelly Coghlan (MVC) visiting Year 6

**Tuesday 8th December** EYFS and KS1 Christmas Play (shared by video on eSchools)

Wednesday 9th December Class 4 Visit to Airfield Museum

Monday 14th December Christmas Crafts Afternoon

Wednesday 16th December Flu vaccinations for all yeargroups

Thursday 17th December Wear a Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 17th December Christmas Lunch

Friday 18th December Last Day of Term

Monday 4th January INSET Day (School Closed)

Tuesday 5th January First day of Spring Term

Stay safe and well.

With best wishes Mr Philip Atkin

Headteacher