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## December Newsletter 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is difficult to believe that we are in December already! It has once again been a wonderful start to the new school year despite all the complications.

I would like to thank all our staff for their hard work and all our parents and carers for their hard work and support as we know working together means success. We have all worked together to ensure the wellbeing and the continued academic progress of all our pupils. The fact that we have had such an amazing term is due to our amazing partnership.

### Covid Update

As you will be aware following guidance from Public Health Dorset we have decided not to hold gatherings with parents at present. We will video the Christmas productions and put them on the school website. We will also not be holding the Christmas market but the raffle will still go ahead. We realise that this is disappointing but the safety of everyone must be our priority.

It is also very important to stay wrapped up as the seasonal weather continues to be very changeable. Please make sure your child has a coat every day, even if it seems sunny in the morning. Please also name all items of clothing – it is then very easy to return a lost item of clothing to a child. Also, children do need a pair of sensible school shoes which are waterproof, as well as PE plimsolls and trainers. Our site means that every class has to move around outside between classes and the hall, and it is important for children to have the right kit at the right time.

### Reports

At the end of this term all teachers will be sending out a short report on how your child is progressing and what their English and Maths targets are. I hope you will find this useful.

### Goodbye

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Pitman who leaves at the end of this term for a new venture. We thank her for all her hard work and contributions to the school, and wish her well.

### Climate Change

A huge thank you to all the families that have sent their pledges to #Do1Thing to support our whole school focus of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle this term. We have over 30 families actively making a difference – well done! Each class has been working hard on their pledges too.

### Shoeboxes

Thank you so much to everyone that donated a shoebox this year. We had a bumper year and the Rotary club were so impressed at the generosity of our families at William Barnes. Thank you again for your kind donations.

### Dates for diary

6/12/- Non-school uniform

14/12-Christmas Panto in class

15/12-Xmas Lunch

16/12-School ends at 3.15pm



### Hidden Angels

The Town Council have hidden Christmas angels around Sturminster Newton. See how many you can spot in December.

### PTFA Events at Christmas

On **6TH December** we have a non-school uniform day for children to bring in prizes for the raffle. This could be food, drink, xmas decorations, toiletries, toys and puzzles etc. Each class has a different colour. **Reception**-Purple **1**-Green **2**-Yellow/orange **3**-Blue **4**-Red **5**-Silver/white **6**- Gold. Thank you for your continued support.

### Clubs Finishing

After school clubs (Apart from After School Club!) will not run during the last week of term (from 13th December) unless the teacher informs you otherwise. Clubs for the spring term will not be on for the first week of the term. Letters will be sent out advising you of which clubs will be run at the beginning of next term.

### School Car Park Barrier

This is being installed at the beginning of December. We will keep you updated on this as the car park will not be able to be accessed by anyone other than staff. Parents with emergency needs will need to contact the school office to arrange for their child to be dropped off early and picked up later if absolutely necessary.

### Christmas Lunch

This year, our whole school Christmas lunch will be in the school hall on **Wednesday 15th December**. Don't forget that you need to order your Christmas meal by Wednesday 8th December. A letter has been sent out regarding this. The children can wear non-school uniform- particularly Christmas jumpers! We will not be having parent helpers in this year.

### Christmas Panto

Our whole school interactive Pantomime is on **Tuesday 14th December**. This year it will be Jack and the Beanstalk, and it will be shown to the children in their classrooms.





### Sports Ambassadors News

Sports Ambassadors A note from all of the sports ambassadors, We would like to let you know that sports ambassadors are trying to get many of our pupils to be more active. We have been working hard to think of different activities to make their sporting life more exciting. The sports clubs your child might be interested in taking part in are Basketball, Football, Tennis, Dodge ball, Tag Rugby. There are some other clubs that go on in the summer time and are not suitable for the winter. Usually every term you will receive a clubs letter in which you can sign and give in for your child to go every week. We would like to try and encourage all of you. Thank you from the Sports Ambassadors.

### School Closure

In the event of closure we will inform Dorset County Council and the information will then be available on the website and on the local radio stations, Breeze and Heart. We will also text all parents to inform them of the closure.

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December is the last day of term – we finish at 3.15pm for the Christmas holidays, and we are back at school on Wednesday 5th January 2022.**

I would like to thank you all for the support you have given to make this term so successful. The children have all been a credit to yourselves.

I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year. We hope that the New Year will bring health and happiness to all.

Best Wishes

Karen Wrixon

Headteacher

