



Parent Link

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Issue 7
18th December
2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Whilst these past two weeks have been dominated in school by the total of 18 confirmed cases between staff and pupils, and outside school by news of entering tier 3 and last minute guidance from the government about testing and returning in the New Year (to date I fully expect to be welcoming children back on Wednesday 6th Jan and I have nothing concrete to state about testing in school) – the newsletter this time around is going to focus on two beacons of light at this time – our amazing pupils and our wonderful staff.

Christmas jumpers, Christmas doors, Christmas performances, the panathlon challenge question and answer session (with some top athletes), Santa visits (a different staff Santa in every bubble – don't tell the children!), charity work and donations – there is actually too much to cover in this newsletter! We have been very lucky to be given a donation from Bucks Badgers who funded the children's Christmas gifts and further toys as presents from the Salvation Army.

At the end of this term I wanted to make a special mention of Lynda Boucher, who has decided to leave. She joined the school in April 1998 so has committed over 20 years service to our children and young people. It is with real sadness that we see her go, and wish her well for the future. We hope that when the pandemic has finished, we'll see her back in school again.

My best wishes to everyone over the Christmas holidays.
Bradley Taylor (Headteacher)

Please note that school will reopen to pupils on Wednesday 6th January 2021

Spring Term 2021 dates

Wednesday 6th January – Friday 12th February 2021
Monday 22nd February – Thursday 1st April 2021

Christmas Jumper Day!



← Tweet



Panathlon Challenge ✓

@Panathlon

Our ambassadors

[@nathanmaguire2](#) and

[@FreyaLevy](#) loved today's Zoom Q&As with Squirrel, Red Kite and Eagles classes at Chiltern Wood School in Bucks today!

We especially loved the question to Nathan: "Does your wheelchair go to the carwash to get cleaned?!" 🗣️

14:43 · 17 Dec 20 · [Twitter Web App](#)

Downley Site Door off!

Everyone entered into the spirit and worked hard to produce some wonderful decorated doors.

Meadow class set the challenge and we were impressed with what everyone did. We couldn't find a judge, so we decided to give everyone a certificate for their hard work. Thanks to Hazel for co-ordinating and certificate making!



News from around the school

Rainbow

My thanks to you all for supporting the Rainbow team during this tricky time. We thank you for the messages of support we have received and the well wishes to our team. As you know a number of our team and children are still recovering and we continue to send them our very best. The wonderful children in Rainbow have once again made us incredibly proud with dealing with the latest challenge. This would not have been possible without all you have done and we thank you. Whilst we had planned our end of term very differently we have still had some wonderful 'wow' moments which included a pets zoom session, some Christmas baking and some wonderful intensive interaction sessions from those who returned to school. Have a wonderful Christmas, take care and stay safe. Hannah

Coppice

Thank you so much for all those that were able to join our first ever Virtual Christmas Celebration - the children worked so hard and had soooo much fun! If you missed it I am sure the children will be happy perform for you at home!

Thursday morning we had the opportunity to talk to 2 professional athletes Nathan Mcquire and Freya Levy.

Our very own Santa visited on Thursday afternoon to drop off some presents!

Hope you all have a happy and safe Christmas! Salma

Little Wings

We want to say a big thank you to all the Little Wings families for your continued support over this term. Communication between home and school is so vital to ensure we're all on the same page and can support learning best. We really appreciate your openness, shared ideas, and shared successes (particularly over periods of isolation) and we hope to continue to build upon these in 2021. Wishing you all a lovely and restful winter holiday and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday 6th January. Claire

Treetops

This term has been a real challenge for all us but thank you all for your support. This week classes have enjoyed having a visit from Father Christmas, class parties and Hawk and Eagle made a Christmas lunch which smelt lovely. Wishing you all a good Christmas and look forward to seeing you next term. David

Woodlands

This year, the run up to Christmas has been like no other. Here is what some of the Woodland Department pupils have been doing over the last couple of weeks:

Communicating

Helping to wash hands

Responding to Christmas lights and Christmas themed 'little rooms'

Intensive Interaction

Self-isolating and learning at home

Touching switches, touch screens or accessing Eye-Gaze Technology

Making Christmas cards, decorations and exploring Christmassy themed messy play resources

Attending to sensory stories and music sessions

Season's Greetings! Wishing you all a healthy and happy Christmas break. Amanda

Gemstones

A very Merry Christmas from all of Gemstones.

Please have a relaxed and safe holidays, we are looking forward to seeing you all back in January.

The Teachers have been very busy planning our next topic. It all sounds very exciting! Sarah



Help over the holidays

Don't struggle over the Christmas holidays for food. Help is at hand.

Buckinghamshire Council has a dedicated Helping Hand phone line for households worried about food or warmth over the winter season. They will ask questions about your circumstances so that they can provide the best advice and help. They can direct you to agencies and organisations who can offer help and support and may offer direct support with food, energy and water bills or other essentials.

You can contact them on: [01296 531 151](tel:01296531151)

(Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5:30pm, Friday, 9am to 5pm. The support line is closed on Christmas day, Boxing Day, Monday 28 December and New Year's Day. In an emergency, you can contact the out of hours team on [0800 999 7677](tel:08009997677).)

You can also use the Bucks Family Information Service online database www.bucksfamilyinfo.org to find your nearest foodbank.

Gemstones Department

This is the picture drawn by
Husna in Ruby class



Treetops Department –

Hawk Class and Eagle Class
made Christmas lunch



Gemstones Department – Opal Class supporting Wycombe Angels

All throughout December, Opal class have been collecting and making gifts for the charity, Wycombe Angels and their Shoebox appeal. In total, Opal class made 13 boxes, filled with thoughtful items for the elderly and vulnerable children this Christmas. On Sunday, we met at the drop off point and handed our boxes in, Owen was such a great ambassador for our school. The charity was so overwhelmed with the generosity and kindness of the pupils in school, as are all of the staff in Opal class.



This Christmas Show will be saved to a secure area on our website, password protected – information will come through to you all on parentmail as to how to access it in the New Year.



Gemstone Christmas performance

