



Dear Parents and Carers

This is the last newsletter of the autumn term, but also the last letter of 2020... what a year! Thank you so much to our families for all their support, cooperation and positive feedback since March of this very odd year. To our newer families, thank you for your patience and understanding joining our school at a time when our usual ways of doing things have been a little altered. One of the things I am most looking forward to when community transmission risk levels are lower is being able to welcome you into the school building to see your children's learning and speak to staff face to face without freezing outdoors! We have never had such a short diary dates section in our newsletter.

This week I was pleased that we were able to have our **Christmas dinner** with the full team back in the kitchen. School Council will be pleased that the crackers this year didn't have plastic toys and it was good to see the children taking more time with the mottos and jokes written inside. Thank you Mrs Taylor and the team!



Thank you for all your generous donations to our **Reverse Advent Calendar!** They are now off to Rainbow Junction at All Hallows to help with feeding local people over Christmas and into the new year.

We enjoyed some very special visitors yesterday as Santa and Tricky Pixie (from Alive and Kicking) popped in to help **Keep Christmas Cracking!** A show, party food at lunchtime, Christmas clothes and classroom games all contributed to a fun Christmas celebration.



Our children in Y4 and Y6 have been busy bringing Christmas cheer this week to Wheatfields Hospice and Grove Park Care Home. We couldn't visit in person, but we were able to zoom our **Carol Singing** instead. We received lovely feedback and thanks from both settings and we look forward to re-establishing our choir for in person singing next year.

**FOSOPS WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO THEIR ZOOM QUIZ,
FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!**



MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER 6PM-7PM

**Please bring a pen and paper and wear your
Christmas gear!!!**

FOSOPS have also been thinking about ways to let families celebrate together safely. The quiz next week will be on Zoom and can be accessed using the link or codes below:

Meeting ID: 969 9898
0985
Passcode:
FOSOPS

[Zoom link](#)

Isolation dates for people in contact with a **positive**

COVID test have now reduced to 10 days. When we contact trace due to a positive test result, we look for everyone who has had close contact in the two days preceding the test or the symptoms, whichever comes first. That means that if any member of our school community develops symptoms over the weekend (and subsequently tests positive) or has a test this weekend and it is positive, they must let us know for contact tracing. Obviously we sincerely hope that we will not have to do this over the holidays, but please email (do not phone) if you need to let me know of a positive test result. We understand that rapid, repeat testing (instead of isolation) is being rolled out to schools in January, but this will initially be in secondary schools only.

This term we were very sad to say goodbye to **Mrs Brenda Farnhill** who has supported children's learning across school in class and in her Word Wizards club. She has also been working hard behind the scenes on our website. She and her family are starting a new chapter in her native Ireland and we will miss her. She writes, "Goodbye and best wishes to the wonderful Shire Oak community. I have loved being a part of it and though excited to be returning home, Yorkshire and its wonderful people will always have a special place in my heart. Thank you for your kind gifts and good wishes. Happy Christmas everyone from Mrs Farnhill."
Y3 will be joined by Miss Geneva Mate in the new year.



Have a lovely happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

Jane Astrid Devane



Jane Astrid Devane
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DIARY DATES

Monday 21 st Dec	FOSOPS are organising an online family quiz evening. Details to follow!
Monday 4 th January *	Back to school – watch out for extra-curricular afterschool clubs letter this week
Thursday 7 th January *	Open Morning Q&A on Zoom for prospective parents, 9:15am.
Friday 8 th January 2021	10 th Birthday Party at HEART. Children who are 10 years old around this time are invited!
Tuesday 12 th January *	Catch up session for Y5 flu vaccine sprays. Only children previously registered will be seen.
Wednesday 13 th Jan *	Y2 and Y3 virtual author visit
Wednesday 13 th Jan *	Maths meeting for Reception parents and carers (online)
Thursday 28 th January *	As we still cannot book the training we need, this training day has been postponed.
w/c 8 th February *	Writing Week
Tuesday 16 th March	TRAINING DAY TBC (school closed to children)
Wednesday 16 th June	TRAINING DAY
Monday 26 th and Tuesday 27 th July *	Unless we are able to book the appropriate training earlier in the year, we are likely to use these two dates as TRAINING DAYS (TBC)
https://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/children-families-and-carers/schools-and-learning/school-calendar term dates	
* means added or changed since last newsletter TBC means this is yet to be confirmed and may have to change	