



Willoughby Primary School

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Head Teacher: Miss Beatrice Smith

'Learning For Life'

2021 December

Dear Parents/Carers

I write ahead of the busy end of term with updates and news in this, the final edition of the newsletter for 2021.

Although we are still operating to the Outbreak Management Plan for the next week or so, we aim to keep things as normal as possible for the children in school. With this in mind, we are trying to maintain the traditions that are so important to the children, particularly at this time of the year. So, we will be building up to Christmas in the usual, exciting way (with a few alterations!)

This issue contains:

- COVID 19 update
- Key Dates and Times to the End of Term
- Christmas Fair
- Christmas Post box
- First Aid
- FOWs News
- Thank you for support
- Nativity
- Willoughby Award Winners
- Drumming & After School Clubs
- Emergency Closure & Text Messages
- Finally...

COVID 19 Update

I would like to thank all the parents, staff and children for the response we have had to the recent outbreak at school. Fair to say, the virus spread rapidly and forcefully throughout the KS2 class (and a few R and KS1 pupils) with dramatic speed. Although the majority of people were mildly affected by the virus, some have been more affected than most and have taken longer to recover. Thankfully, we have not had any serious illnesses.

The school has been extremely well supported throughout this chain of events by the Chair of Governors, Sander Tiel, who calmly made sure that all the correct procedures were followed and that the school received all the support it should from the Local Authority. I am very grateful to him for his help and assistance at this stressful time.

We are currently still operating under the Outbreak Management Plan and we intend to keep most of the measure in until the end of Term.

In the meantime if your child has symptoms please keep them at home and book in for a PCR test. Current guidelines are as follows.

- Anyone with symptoms needs to take a PCR test and wait for the results: [Online coronavirus test booking service](#)
- The symptomatic person must follow the isolation guidance: [Isolation guidance](#)
- You should notify school and keep school updated on progress
- A negative PCR means a return to school
- A positive test means following self-isolation protocols for 10 days: [Stay at home guidance](#)
- School will provide a home learning schedule if/when the pupil is well enough

Key Dates for the Rest of the Term

<u>DECEMBER</u>		
Thurs 2 nd	-	KS2 - Wake & Shake with Mrs Brooks @ 8:30am
	-	Sam Clements Club
Fri 3 rd	-	Christmas Fair in school
Mon 6 th	-	KS1 & R Swimming (3 of 8)
	-	Nativity Dress Rehearsal
	-	Christmas Club (4 of 4)
Tues 7 th	-	KS1 & R - Wake & Shake with Mrs Brooks @ 8:30am
	-	Nativity filming in the Church
Wed 8 th	-	Nativity 2.45 pm on the school playground
Thurs 9 th	-	KS2 - Wake & Shake with Mrs Brooks @ 8:30am
	-	Sam Clements Club
Fri 10 th	-	Christmas Jumper Day
Mon 13 th	-	NO SWIMMING
Tues 14 th	-	KS1 & R - Wake & Shake with Mrs Brooks @ 8:30am
	-	10:15am - Panto @ Loughborough Town Hall - Aladdin
Thurs 16 th	-	KS2 - Wake & Shake with Mrs Brooks @ 8:30am
	-	Christmas Party Day (letter to follow)
Fri 17 th	-	Break Up for Christmas Holidays
<u>JANUARY</u>		
Mon 3 rd	-	Holiday in lieu of New Year's Day - School Closed
Tues 4 th	-	INSET DAY
Wed 5 th	-	SPRING TERM 2022 BEGINS

Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair this year will still go ahead in its adapted form.

KS2 are busy creating, making and promoting their games, and will set them up in the KS2 classroom on Friday 3rd December. Everyone will have some refreshments and prizes are up for grabs!

Thank you to those of you who have already sent in things for the hampers. We still need donations of chocolates, books and toys.

Christmas Post Box

We will once again have a Christmas post box available in school for children who wish to send each other cards. Please can you ensure if your child is sending cards that they include first name and surname initial on the envelope along with year group.

To help with Year groups and numbers:

Reception	7 pupils
KS1	Year 1 - 7 pupils Year 2 - 7 pupils
KS2	Year 3 - 5 pupils Year 4 - 6 pupils Year 5 - 6 pupils Year 6 - 8 pupils

First Aid



Learning first aid is part of the National Curriculum for Primary and Secondary Schools and we had a visit from Mr Blount from the Wolds Community First Responders on Thursday 4th November. This is a charity affiliated to the East Midlands Ambulance Service. The course content covered learning how to do CPR and use a defibrillator as well as some basic First Aid.



In school, we have five members of staff who are first aid qualified: Mrs Dornan and Mrs Brooks have Pediatric First Aid Training, which is a 3 day intensive course renewed every 3 years. Mrs Ridgway and I have a First Aid at work qualification. (I renewed mine recently week and was amazed at how much I needed to refresh my knowledge.) Finally, Mrs Griffin who is our most qualified First Aider and has been taught by Mr Blount himself.

FOWs News

It has been another busy month for FOWs, working hard as usual behind the scenes. The water cooler and the Timestables Rockstars subscription have been subsidised, we are now the proud owners of a new globe in KS2 and Reception have replenished some of their animals all thanks to the generosity of FOWs and their fund raising.

The Halloween competition was a great success. The winner were:

R & KS1: Billy	Yr 3/4: Erin	Yr 5/6: Izzy
Karl	Jessica	Duke
Jacob		

FOWs are also running their popular Christmas competitions again. These are -'Create an eco-friendly Christmas decoration' and 'Make some magical Christmas music!' Entries need to be in by Friday 10th December.

All of these activities require a lot of time and effort and I would, once again, like to say a huge 'Thank You' to the wonderful FOWs members for all that they do. We are all very grateful for your support.

Thank you for Support of our Charities

Thank you as well for your on-going support for all the charity events we carry out as a school to raise money for those less fortunate than ourselves. Thinking of others is an important part of our 'learning for life' message.

Firstly, Jane Watson would like to say a huge 'thank- you' to everyone for supporting her London Marathon run. By completing our own mini marathon, we raised £127 which Jane added to her total for the Alzheimer's Society. Altogether now she has raised a whopping £1500. Well done Jane! The Harvest collection for Sopina raised £111.50 which will go towards her sponsorship money for the year. Our Plan International display has been updated with the children's drawings and some information about Sopina.

Children in Need raised £70, which was impressive considering half of the school were isolating. Thank you to all of you who sent in money (and the photographs too!) Finally, a reminder that Friday 10th is Christmas Jumper Day in support of 'Save the Children'. This proved very popular last year and we want to repeat it. Children can come to school in a Christmas top/jumper and bring in £1 donation. Mrs Affleck has been keeping the website blog posts up to date with lots of activities so do check them out on the school website.

Nativity

The Nativity has always been a very special event in school and despite current conditions we all felt very strongly that we needed to perform it in some way or another. Songs and performances by KS1 and Reception of 'The Nativity' will form a virtual Nativity that will be filmed by our drumming teacher Jake. You will be able to watch this via a private YouTube link which we will send you in an email. We are also aiming to do an outside performance on the playground which you are all invited to (weather permitting). We all felt it was so important to still honour the Christmas story in this traditional way and I hope you enjoy this special part of Christmas.

Willoughby Award Winners

Congratulations to our recent winners of the Willoughby Award, awarded for effort in work, behaviour and other aspects of school life:

5/11/21	Amber (Y4)
19/11/21	Imogen (Y2)
26/11/21	Izzy (Y6)

Drumming & After School Clubs

Drumming lessons will continue on Friday mornings in school in the New Year. These lessons are excellent fun and Jake, the drumming teacher, is always popular with the children. If you would like to sign your child up for January please see the flier at the end of this newsletter (or look at the one on the school notice board).

We have a new after school opportunity starting on Tuesdays in January-a performing arts club. The theme is Be Bold, Be Brave, Be You with a focus on confidence building. It's longer than the previous Disney Dance club and will last for 1 ½ hours, from 3.30pm -5pm. This will be run by Emily Horobin from Rattle & Roll and is open to all children in the school who wish to sign up. The information will be emailed to all parents and is attached to this newsletter.

Clements Coaching will also be back in the New Year. From January, Sam's club will continue on a Thursday. Sam will be sending out his sign up letters in the usual way so look out for those arriving in book bags.

Finally, we will also be running Board Games & Construction club in school on Wednesdays (letters to follow next term).

In summary:

Tuesday - Be Bold, Be Brave, Be You (all pupils Reception -Year 6)

Wednesday - Board Games & Construction club (Yrs 1-6)

Thursday - Clements Coaching (Yrs 1-6)

Friday am - Drumming

Emergency Closure & Text Messages

Now that winter has arrived I thought it best to remind parents of our emergency closure procedure. If for any reason we feel we may need to close, Miss Smith will liaise with the Chair of Governors, Sander Tiel, to make a decision.

We have the following procedures in place if we have to close the school at short notice (e.g. heating/electrics failure, severe weather):

- We will inform you via the text messaging service.
- A notice will be posted on the school gate by Debbie Brooks, to inform all parents that school is closed.
- We will also get it announced on local radio station, BBC Radio Nottingham and a notification will be on their website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/nottingham>

We do not operate a phone chain so if you have problems with your mobile signal you might like to make a private arrangement for a parent friend to inform you.

Finally, I would like to thank every one of you, from all the staff at Willoughby, for the continued support and well-wishes we have all received this term. Our recent visit from the Ofsted Inspection team showed us just how much appreciation we have from all of our parents-thank you. As soon as I have the final report from the Inspection I will share it with you.

I am sure we will all be glad to see the back of what has been another extremely difficult year. Here in school we all feel very fortunate to have had the day to day normality of the children. Their enthusiasm, optimism, innocence and often silly questions have kept us all going and kept us all smiling!

The community spirit and collective support that Willoughby always provides underlies everything and reaffirms what a special place it is.

I would like to finish by wishing you and your family a very Happy Christmas and joyful New Year.

Yours sincerely

Beatrice Smith
Head Teacher



ON THE STAGE: Be Bold, Be Brave, Be YOU

For children in Reception – Year 6

We are delighted to be running our '**Be Bold, Be Brave, Be You**' themed On The Stage club in the Spring Term. This club is a combination of dancing, drama and singing with a specific focus on building confidence and will draw on the best bits from the Moana, Spirit and Marvel movies.

On the Stage will run after school 3:30pm-5:00pm on **Tuesdays for Reception – Year 6**. Each session costs £8 and the club starts on 11th January (Full details can be found on our website). **We accept all childcare vouchers and payments can be made in instalments. No payment is due until January.**

To sign up please visit www.rattleandrollperformance.com (you will need to register first if you haven't previously). To go straight to the class use code OSWIPS1.

We will follow all Government guidance to keep everyone safe.

If you have any questions please contact us on enquiries@rattleandrollperformance.com or call 07722 014301.

Thank you and best wishes,

Katy Emmerson
Rattle and Roll