



St. Helen's Primary School & Cygnets Flying Start

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Professional Teaching Awards Cymru Winner 2017

17th November 2020

Dear parent/carer,

This letter is available to listen to and add subtitles in a language of your choice via our YouTube channel. This can be found at: <https://youtu.be/VxauobnY3p8>

Thank you

Your support during this difficult time has been greatly appreciated by myself and the staff. It has been a difficult time for everyone and the school has had to operate in so many different ways. Your patience and willingness to do things in many different ways is a true credit to you all. Your willingness to wear masks and make so many sacrifices has really helped in so many ways. As always, the strength of the school lies in the whole community working together.

Christmas activities

I promised I would write to you with more arrangements as they were made. Christmas this year will look a little different due to the restrictions placed on the gathering of people. However, we are determined to make it as enjoyable and memorable for the children and our community as possible. There are many difficulties faced, for example we cannot sing unless very stringent control measures are in place such as ensuring the children are 2m apart, they all face the same way, it should be outside and the area has to be cleaned afterwards!

In light of this, we have put the following arrangements in place:



Dress the Christmas tree event

This is always one of my highlights of the year! We cannot have parents in the school for this event due to Covid19 restrictions. However, we are determined it will go ahead but in a different way. We will be having a real tree in school and plain decorations will be sent home on Monday 23rd November. The children can decorate them at home with your help and bring them back in by Monday 30th November. The children will then put their decorations on the tree. We will photograph the tree for you and share them on our Twitter feed.

Visit by Father Christmas

We are very fortunate that Father Christmas has agreed to visit us on 9th December. He will bring a gift for all children and we look forward to seeing him. We will be making a grotto on the Infant yard to make him very welcome. The children will be able to see him from a social and safe distance!

Christmas Activities week

During the week commencing 7th December there will be lots of fun Christmas activities for the children. The activities will be based loosely around the poem 'twas the night before Christmas'. There will be lots of fun, glitter, paints and glue! The Y6 will undertake a performance of the poem which we will video and share with their parents. This will go some way to make up for them missing our traditional big performance. Lots of photographs will be taken that week and we will put them into presentations to share with you. I'm sure you'll enjoy seeing your children having lots of fun during this week.

Pantomime

Again, we usually love a visit to the Grand Theatre to watch the pantomime. This has been cancelled by them this year as currently, live performances are not allowed in Wales. However, I have purchased tickets to a live online performance of Cinderella on 16th December. The children will watch the pantomime in their classes on the big screen and can bring a bag of sweets in for the performance if you so wish. There will be no cost for this as it is a gift from the school.

Important dates

Monday 23rd November – Plain decorations sent home to decorate
Monday 30th November – Decorations have to be returned to school
Wednesday 9th December – Father Christmas visits the school
Monday 7th December – Christmas activities week
Wednesday 16th December – Online pantomime for all pupils (sweets can be sent in)
Friday 18th December – Last day of term, school closes for the 2 -week Christmas holiday
Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd December – school closed for pupils (INSET days)
Monday 4th January – school closed for pupils (INSET day)
Tuesday 5th January – school starts back for all pupils after the holidays

Stay safe,

Mr. M. S. Thompson
Headteacher

