



St Mary's CE VC First School

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Newsletter 6 - 2020/21

17th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have all enjoyed a happy and healthy last week of term. The children all enjoyed their Christmas Party Day yesterday with lots of fun, games and a virtual video message from Father Christmas! I am sure that the excitement will continue to grow as Christmas Day approaches!

Thank you to all of you who supported our fund raising for 'Save the Children' through 'Christmas Jumper Day' last week. We managed to raise a wonderful £224.00 and have shared this with the children! If you would still like to donate, the link to our page is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/cjd200001201>.

All classes enjoyed a virtual visit from the 'Life Education Van' at the end of last week. A letter from Coram Life and information regarding the programme for Personal, Social, Health and Emotional development will be emailed to all families today.

We all joined together in school this morning for our Christmas Carol Service via Google Meet. The Powerpoint including the carols and children's art work and the staff readings will be available on our school website tomorrow if you would like to look with your child(ren).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during this most unprecedented year. Thank you for supporting your children in all of their learning both at home and in school. I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and hope that you are all able to spend time with some members of your families if not all.

I will look forward to our continued working together in 2021 and hope that you all have a safe and healthy start to the New Year.

Yours sincerely

Suzanne Garner



'I'm Gonna Shine' DVD

We will send home DVDs in children's bookbags tomorrow for those families who have ordered a copy. Please look out for them and enjoy watching over the Christmas break!

Parking

Many families make good use of the Community Hall Car Park for safe parking at drop-off and collection times. However, it has been mentioned by residents of the new housing estate that parking along the entrance to Harvest Hill is unsafe and restricts access. Please ensure that you park safely and consider residents when choosing where to park. Thank you for your support with this matter.

North Street Crossing Patrol

From January 2021 I have been asked to inform you that there will no longer be a School Crossing Patrol on North Street. I have been informed that National Guidelines adopted by Dorset Council have a threshold of at least 15 children crossing to be justified. The numbers have been around 15 at best for some time, but since the new Community Hall car park has been made available to parents dropping off and collecting, that has significantly affected the numbers crossing, which can be as low as 6. I would like to thank Tanya Brueton for her efforts carrying out this role for the past few years in a whole range of weathers!

Coronavirus Update

Please keep us updated throughout the Christmas break of any positive cases of Coronavirus for your child or household. From Saturday 19th December until Christmas Eve, we are required by Government to notify close contact families of any Covid 19 positive test from staff or pupil. We will be monitoring the office email daily: office@charminster.dorset.sch.uk for any notifications of a positive Covid 19 test from our school community - please do email us if this happens to your child. In the event of us receiving a positive test that requires us to go back into the last week of term and notify close contacts, we will do this by email and text, telling you which year group the student is from (or if it is a member of staff). Please check your email once per day with this in mind. We continue to be required to contact Public Health in the event of a positive case during this first week of the Christmas break. Daily email checks by you at home are important as it would be very time consuming to phone all of those involved. Thank you in advance for supporting us with this.

Future Dates:

18 th December 2020	Break-up for Christmas Holidays
21 st December- 1 st January 2021	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
4 th January	Spring Term Begins - children return to school
26 th January	The Wonderful Wizard of Oz - Cinematic Theatre Performance for all Bubble groups
11 th February	Individual Photographs
12 th February	Staff Training Day - no school for children
15 th -19 th February 2021	HALF TERM
1 st April	Break-up for Easter Holidays
2 nd -16 th April 2021	EASTER HOLIDAYS
19 th April	Summer Term Begins
31 st May- 4 th June 2021	HALF TERM
23 rd July	Break-up for Summer Holidays

