

Dream, Believe, Achieve Together



Newsletter
Tuesday 1st
December
2020

● ● ● 3 weeks to go!

Hello everyone, I really can't believe that we are only 3 weeks away from the end of term. Where has the time gone? I can honestly say it has been such a wonderful term so far especially having the children back in school as much as possible. What a delight they are and given the current pandemic, I don't think a day goes by where we are not grateful to be surrounded by their positive outlook on life and sense of enthusiasm. It really is a breath of fresh air!!!!

Covid-19 Update ● ● ●

Just a few reminders everyone. Following the 2 positive cases we have had in school recently, the message below from Cheshire West and Chester is just as important as ever: This week the borough's COVID-19 infection rate has been the highest in the Cheshire and Merseyside area. We can all play our part to turn this around by following these simple measures.



- Wash your hands frequently
- Wear a face covering
- Make space by keeping a two-metre distance from others
- Get a test if you have COVID-19 symptoms by calling 119 or visiting [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus).
- Pupils and families are also reminded to follow the COVID-19 safety measures we have in place at our school.
- All adults to wear a face covering when visiting or entering the school/early years premises including outdoor yard areas.
- Parents/carers to arrive and leave promptly when dropping off/collecting their child – please do not congregate and maintain social distancing as we know that the virus is easily transmitted from person to person.
- In schools/early year settings where it has been agreed that a parent/carer can enter the school premises for drop-off and pick-up, only **one adult** should enter.
- In Years 5 & 6 pupils are to avoid congregating outside school and mixing with pupils from other class bubbles and should go directly home.

● ● ● Community Support Projects

Even though it is a challenging time for so many people locally, nationally and internationally, I'm still incredibly proud of our children for being involved in a number of local community projects. Here are just a few things we've been doing recently:

Chester Cathedral Christmas Tree Festival – groups of children from Years 4, 5 & 6 have been making decorations for our Christmas Tree that will be displayed at Chester Cathedral from Thursday of this week. They have decided to keep it colourful and to bring some brightness into our lives! Tweet us any pictures if you go along and visit the tree and don't forget to vote for us too!

Chester Cathedral Children's Chapel Stars – staying with the cathedral the children of Pluto and Neptune have been asked to design some stars that will be displayed in the children's chapel at Chester Cathedral over the Christmas period.

Sealand Road Covid-19 Test Centre – you may be aware that a new test centre for Covid-19 has been set up at the Park and Ride on Sealand Road. We have made many posters to go up there full of colour and positive affirmations to keep people smiling at a difficult time.

Kind Hearted Fundraising Thank You! ● ● ●

I'm always so humbled by the kindness of our school community, especially at this time of the year. Thank you so much for supporting the many projects we have going on at the moment. For Children In Need we raised a staggering £487.20, this is brilliant and very much appreciated!



Present Appeal & Countess of Chester Money Boxes

Dee Point Present Appeal

Thank you so much to all of you who have kindly donated on ParentPay to support our appeal to provide Christmas presents for local families. It is extremely kind and we have been blown away by the generosity shown by so many. We have already reached our target of £500 and this will make such a huge difference to Christmas for a number of our families.

Countess of Chester Blue Skies Money Box Appeal

We have started to receive a number of the money boxes back in school, all decorated really uniquely to help us create our own little village. Please remember the last day for these is Friday 11th December.



Providing MORE for our patients

Breakfast Bagels



Ever since we started up the Bagel Bus over 2½ years ago, we have been very fortunate to have had funding from a charity to help us run it for free. This funding is due to come to an end in December but we have been fortunate enough to negotiate a deal with the current supplier and with some careful budget planning in school we are able to carry on providing free bagels across the school. I'd like to say a special thank you to Mrs Gill who has worked tirelessly on the Bagel Bus project since the very start and I know how much it is valued by the children and families in school.

Christmas Gifts for Staff in School

As a school we are always genuinely humbled by your generosity and kindness when it comes to supporting us and also when buying gifts. Seriously we do not expect anything and we do this job because we just love it, however I know that a number of you have been asking about buying gifts for staff this year. If you want to show your appreciation then gifts can come into school and we will safely quarantine them for 72 hours before staff can take them home. For this to happen safely before the end of term, any gifts would need to be given by Tuesday 15th December.



Santa visits Blacon – Sunday 20th Dec

Along with this newsletter you will have received another attachment from the Chester Round Table. They do an awful lot of fundraising locally and they have asked us to let you know that Santa will be visiting Blacon on the date above between 5 – 9pm. The leaflet tells you all about the visit to Blacon, how you can donate if you'd like to and how you can see Santa in a socially distanced manner! Even Santa has to follow Covid guidance!!



Christmas Performance with a difference...

I'm always really conscious of asking for money to support school projects but we're really hoping that your £1.50 donation to the Christmas Performance this year will make a difference. We are not having a normal nativity as we have done each year but basically each class will be doing a performance of a kind. It may be a song, a poem or something else. These will be recorded and edited for you to keep. By making a small donation you are contributing to the cost of us being able to put this together using our friends at Hi-impact. We hope it will go some way to sharing the spirit of Christmas with you, even though it won't be in person, you will get to see the amazing children, all 16 classes that we get to work with each and every day.



And Finally...

That's it for this week everyone, a bit Christmas heavy but I hope it keeps you informed. You'll have noticed the scaffolding has gone up for the roof replacement; this work will start next week but should have minimal disruption to learning. I will keep you updated on progress. Thank you all as always for your amazing support, it is much appreciated.

Keep smiling everyone; stay positive and let's enjoy the week!!

Kind regards

Dave Williams (Headteacher)