

Newsletter No 14 18/12/2020

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Christmas Message

Dear parents and children

In this, our last newsletter of the year, we want to say a huge thank you to you all.

It certainly has been a challenging year for us all, but I am very proud of what we have achieved together, and this is due to the enthusiasm and energy of our pupils, the dedication of staff and the ongoing support that we receive from you, our parents.

We have been particularly impressed by our pupils this term; they have adapted so well to the many changes in school, have embraced new ways of learning and have enjoyed and made the most of being together again.

We are all ready for a rest, but we will be back in January, full of energy and ready to face any challenges that may lie ahead!

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful 2021.

Love and best wishes from Mrs Brown and all the staff
at Thurgoland Primary School
XXX



This week's special mentions:

Class R – Arthur, Sophie, Chloe, Oscar

Class 1 – Hector, Sonny, Ella, Penny

Class 2 – Wilf, Harper, Betty, Max

Class 3 – Brody, Sam, Hope, Olivia S

Class 4 – Tegan, Aran, Archie, Elsa

Class 5 – Connie, Zach, Lottie, Ollie L

Class 6 – William, Daisy C, Lucy, Claudie



Contact Tracing during the Christmas Break

We have been asked by the Department for Education and Public Health England to provide a track and trace service for the first 6 days of the Christmas holidays.

This means that **you will need to inform the school:**

- If your child has **Covid symptoms**, then **tests positive for Covid and was in school in the 48 hour period before the onset of symptoms.**
- If your child is asymptomatic and **tests positive and they have been in school within the 48 hour period before the test was taken.**

In the above cases, please email the school as soon as possible via office@thurgolandprimary.org providing:

- Your child's name and class
- Date the symptoms started
- Date of the positive test
- Date of the positive result

Following a positive test, we will get in touch with anyone your child has been in contact with. Identified contacts will be informed that they will need to self-isolate for 10 days.

If your child is a contact, we will get in touch with you via text and email. Please check your emails regularly during the first week of the holiday.

School staff will be administering track and trace up to and including Christmas Eve.

We sincerely hope that you all stay healthy and safe and will not need to use this service!

School will NOT need to be informed:

- Where a pupil tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed **symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school**
- Where a parent tests positive but the child does not develop symptoms

In these cases, parents should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

If pupils are ill or self-isolating and will not be able to return to school at the beginning of the new term, please inform us in the usual way, by email or phone call, by 8:30 on Monday 4th January.

Message from BMBC

Winter grant scheme for parents

Earlier this month, we launched a COVID-19 winter grant scheme focused on providing support to households in the borough with children who access Free School Meals.

Families will receive a £15 voucher for each child for each week of the Christmas and February half-term holidays. There will be no need to apply if you are already receiving free school meals. A letter which will detail how to access the vouchers will be sent to families before the Christmas break.

If you think your child may be entitled to a free school meal, please go to www.barnsley.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals or search for 'Free School Meals' on the Council website.

Additional funding will be provided to help the same families eligible for Free School Meals with fuel and energy costs over the winter months. Families will be able to claim a one-off grant payment of £80 per household.

If you received the £15 payment for October half term, you do not need to apply as we already have your details, and a payment will automatically be made. If you did not receive a payment in October, you will need to apply for the winter grant payment.

For more information, please go to www.barnsley.gov.uk/money-advice-and-support or search 'Money advice and support' on the council website.

Sheila's Sporting (ish) News

'Twas the week before Christmas and all through the School
The pupils were following the new Co-vid rule.
In bubbles they floated like 'Will-o-the Wisp'
With safety and hygiene the top of their list.

The Hockey sticks hung on the railings with care
Knowing soon that the children all would be there.
The silence is broken from class they are freed
And hurtle excitedly, all at great speed.

The ref starts the game and the thrills they begin
As each team is certain it's they who will win.
From sweet little children they soon start to change
Into confident warriors with skills they have gained.

They laugh and they shout as determined they play
The sport that they love each and every day.
Bad tempers and arguments are never allowed
For sure of these sports stars we really are proud.

So... 'twas the week before Christmas and what do I hear?
Our Superstars saying to YOU loud and clear A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS 🎄🎄🎄
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR 🎉🎉🎉

Hmm, maybe I have actually lost the plot in this, my last newsletter of 2020, but I want to say how very proud I am of the achievements and performance of every single one of our children who has taken part in so many different sports this year. The standard achieved, brought about by listening and learning, has been fantastic!

Well done once again TEAM THURGOLAND our very own SUPERSTARS 🌟🌟🌟