



Broadwindsor Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

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Beaminster
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“Learning and growing together”

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3.12.20

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children were super excited on Tuesday when they saw our Christmas tree in the hall. Thank you to Mr Allan for supplying the Christmas tree from Beaminster Christmas trees. Our collective worship this week is focused on advent and the countdown to Christmas. School is a busy place full of play rehearsals and the making of Christmas decorations along with all our usual learning too. The children have been telling me about their advent calendars and we have been sent an exercise calendar from the local Sports Coordinator which we have attached to the Parentmail which you might want to try out each day until Christmas.

With national restrictions lifted yesterday and news two vaccines have been given the go ahead shows us all there is some good news on the horizon. We also know the next few months are not going to be easy with challenges still ahead. The message of looking after each other and showing kindness wherever we can is still most important. With Dorset now in Tier 2 we need to continue our vigilance and follow guidance to protect all our community. A link to the new guidelines can be found [HERE](#). In addition, at the bottom of that guidance, is a link to guidance on forming a Christmas bubble during the period 23rd-27th December.

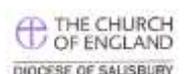
Please look on the school website if you need to access support around your own wellbeing. You can also contact your child's teacher via the appropriate class email if you are concerned about your child's well-being or on our website there are links to the School Nursing team and West Locality team which is the new name for the Family Partnership Zone. Staff continue to be on playgrounds before and after school if a quick word is required, taking the necessary social distancing measures. If you need support in other ways you are more than welcome to email office@broadwindsor.dorset.sch.uk and staff in school will do their best to respond and help as soon as possible. In situations which require a more urgent response phoning the school office will be more appropriate.

Flu Vaccines

The School Nursing team will be coming to school after lunch, on Friday 11th December to administer the flu vaccine. Offer letters have been sent out to all parents. The Nursing team have advised that online consent can be given up to 2 days before the 11th. If you have any problems with completing the form online, there is a helpline number we can issue. Please contact the school office if you need this help.

Anti-Bullying Week

We had our anti-bullying week on the week beginning Monday 16th November which started with pupils coming to school in odd socks to raise awareness against bullying. As I said in the previous newsletter, Mr Draper is



our anti-bullying champion and leads on our strategy in school. The children took part in a range of activities including an assembly and follow-up learning within the classroom. Our Anti-Bullying Policy is on the website for your reference.

Learning in School

This week in school we are reviewing learning from this term in our assessment week. This will help us prepare for next term and ensure children receive the support and help teachers prepare learning sequences for the spring term. The school has had a small pot of money to provide catch-up which by the end of the year will equate to £8,000. We have invested a chunk of this money in employing an additional teacher to work with children across the school mainly in Key Stage 2. Mrs Bryant will work with our pupils for three mornings a week from January during the Spring term.



Chance to Shine Cricket coaching continues with Key Stage 2 with the final session for Mrs Taylor's class next Monday. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this experience and have shown some great improvement in cricket skills.

Forest School continues on Friday afternoon for William Barnes pupils with the last session being on Friday 11th December.

Mr Leader is continuing to run a football club for Year 5/6 class each week at lunchtime starting Thursday this week.



We had Ryan Hobby our local Sports Coordinator in school yesterday to run a final for the local schools Virtual Quadkids. All our children have taken part in four athletic events and from this children with the best scores were put forward to the final yesterday. All children taking part will receive certificates.



Christmas Play

As you already know our performance will be performed in class bubbles and rehearsals are well under way with filming planned to begin the end of next week at the village hall.

Please look out for details of costumes from your class teams. Once all classes have performed their parts, we will put the film together. On the last Thursday 17th

December we are planning a Premiere of the play where all the classes in their separate bubbles see the finished production. To celebrate this day we would like children to come in their Christmas Jumpers and be really 'christmasy'. To avoid the school handling unnecessary money if you are able to send a charity contribution to Save the Children or a charity of your choice that would be great.

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 16th December

Christmas Lunch will be served in school on the last Wednesday before the Christmas break. Details have been sent out to you to order lunch and the strict deadline set by Local Food Links is 9th December. If you have any problems with ordering online, please get in touch with the school office.

Christmas Tree – decorating assembly

Parents will know that it is our annual tradition to invite parents to a special assembly where the children have their decorations added to the tree. We are unable to invite parents into school to watch the decorating of the Christmas tree this year but plan to film each class and then we will let parents have a link to this video. Decoration making is well under way and the classes in turn will be putting the decorations on the tree in the next few days.



Christmas cards

Last year, we had one big post box in the hall for children to post Christmas cards to each other. This year, each class will have their own post box, situated outside their classroom doors in the hall and children can bring cards from tomorrow onwards. We will organise the children so that they can safely deliver their cards during the school day. In order to allow for quarantining time, the last day for posting cards in school will be **Monday 14th December. Children will bring cards home and open them safely with you at the end of term.**

All the above Christmas arrangements are subject to national Government guidance and availability of staff so your understanding of any short notice changes is appreciated thank you.

Deadline for applying for a place for September

If you do know any families with pre-school children in our locality please do spread the word about our school. There still looks like at the moment there are places for pupils in September if we are your first choice. I am very much happy to talk to parents over the phone about our school. January 15th is closing date for school applications for starting school in September 2021.

Finally a quick reminder that the Tempest photographer will be in school **tomorrow morning** and the children will have their individual photographs taken. Children will stay in their class bubbles to have these photographs. Please can all pupils come in their school uniform this Friday (children doing Forest School or PE should wear uniform top half, PE kit/Forest school wear bottom half). Only Year 6 children will have the option to have pictures with their siblings as other years will have future years to do this. **If you would like a sibling photograph and your child is in Year 6 please email or call the school office.** As we had to postpone the date for the photographs, there is a tight turn around deadline for free postage on orders back to school – all parent orders will need to be back to the school office **by the morning of Wednesday 9th December** as this is the day when the orders will be collected.

Thank you for continued support,

Philip Smith
Headteacher

Dates for the diary

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| Friday 11 th December (after lunch) | Flu Vaccinations for all pupils – letter sent |
| Friday 17 th December | Last Day of Autumn term |
| Monday 4 th January 2021 | INSET Day – school closed to pupils |
| Tuesday 5 th January | School opens for Spring term |

