

# Drayton Junior School

## Newsletter November 2020



I hope you are all well and coping with the current national lockdown.

We are continuing to function as best we can but with cases on the rise I thought it may be useful to remind you as to when a child should be kept off school under the government's latest guidance. This will be because:

- Someone in their household becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough, a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in their normal sense of taste or smell.
- Someone in their household has a confirmed case.
- A member of their household is being tested, in which case they will need to self-isolate until the test results come back.
- They have been notified by Track and Trace that they need to self-isolate due to potential contact with a confirmed case.
- They have been asked to self-isolate by school due to potential contact with a confirmed case.

Remember that should any of the above apply to your child we have remote learning plans in place for them, in order to minimize the impact of being away from school.

This year we have started to turn our thoughts to Christmas a little earlier than we would normally, due to the fact that whilst our usual Christmas events will be on hold – performance, carol service, school lunch in the hall, tree in the hall etc- we are determined to do our best for the children, as I'm sure you will agree we could all do with having something to look forward to at the moment. Therefore, this year we will be having a virtual pantomime (oh yes we will), a Christmas/fun jumper day (information to follow); a class bubble Christmas tree to decorate; best decorated bubble Christmas door competition; covid friendly carols; bell ringing at Badgers Wood Care Home; class quizzes, as well as a virtual performance of Mary's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. In addition to this you will have had a letter allowing you to order a take away Christmas lunch for your child on 10<sup>th</sup> December to eat in their classrooms.

On the subject of food at Christmas, we made contact this week with some families about food hampers which the local churches will be providing over the festive season. I fully appreciate that things are difficult for a number of families at the moment so if you didn't receive a letter but feel that you would benefit from a hamper this Christmas please get in touch by the **27<sup>th</sup> November**.

In addition to this if you think your child could be entitled to Free School Meals please click on the following link to the Council website to find out if your family is eligible

<https://fiso.norfolk.gov.uk/synergy/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx/>

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Many of you will know about the link the school has with the local Badgers Wood care home. It is strange to think that this time last year we were performing with the residents in our intergenerational choir at the Christmas lights switch on at the Forum.

However, you will be pleased to learn that despite the need for residents to shield during this time we have kept in touch via Zoom, letter writing and we aim to bell ring some carols, for the residents to watch through the window, at Christmas. You may have seen the piece about our link on Look East.

This link was set up by the Friend in Deed charity which is run by ex-pupil Kelly Lindsay. Kelly is trying to expand the work they do and recently asked me if I could help her to promote it. Therefore, please see below her message about the next steps the charity wishes to take. Kelly writes:

A new project has been launched called "All Ages Love Learning" which will allow more of these activities to take place.

You can find out more about the project, and pledge if you or your workplace are able, at the following link [www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/friendindeed](http://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/friendindeed)

Friend in Deed are CrowdFunding towards an intergenerational learning project

Please pledge your support at [www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/friendindeed](http://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/friendindeed)

If you know people that work for Aviva UK please share this information with them because they get free votes for causes that provide a monetary donation.

Thank you,

Kelly Lindsay

Director, Friend in Deed

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the only way we are able to get the children outside and socially distanced is to keep our field in use, which would usually be closed at this time of year due to the mud. With this in mind, I would like to thank you for your patience, as children come home far muddier than usual, and for providing your child with some indoor footwear – which have proved interesting - so the school classrooms don't resemble Carrow Road at 5pm on a Saturday!

At the moment we are finding lunchtimes difficult as the children only have half an hour outside, with their bubble, and in a restricted part of the playground. They are required to spend the other half of the break sat in the same seats, eating their lunch in the classrooms, whilst waiting for their turn outside. Consequently, the children find this part of lunch extremely boring. To try and combat this we have been using BBC i-player so the children can watch something, should they wish, whilst waiting to go out. This certainly isn't something we would normally do as such occasions are saved for end of term treats etc but at the moment we are in far from normal times.

I hope you can understand that as a school we are simply trying our best in very challenging circumstances. As soon as all children are once again allowed to eat in the hall we will return to our usual lunchtime expectations.

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Thank you to all those who made a contribution to this year's Poppy Appeal and Children in Need day. I'm pleased to announce that we raised £288.92 for the **Royal British Legion** and £372.35 for **Children in Need**.

## Learn Something New Challenge!



3H took up the challenge to “learn something new” for Children in Need by making Pudsey Bear pom poms. Most of us had not made pom poms before. First you cut out 2 cardboard circles with a circle in the middle so they look like donut shapes. Next you have to tie them together with yellow wool and then wrap the wool through the hole. Keep wrapping until the middle is fully closed. Now cut around it and take out the cardboard circles. Now it should look like a big fluffy ball. Use black felt and make a nose shape and a white piece of felt and cover it with random spots. Make the spots colourful. Now with yellow felt make ears and stick on all the pieces and you are done.

By Abigail and Ella 3H

## Diary Dates

### December

Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas School Lunch
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of term