

Drayton Junior School

Newsletter December 2020



The final weeks before we break up for the Christmas holidays are always a hectic time, as we try and keep over 340 excitable children focussed on their lessons. This year has certainly been no exception and there has been a wonderful atmosphere in the school as we prepare for the festive season.

Despite all the restrictions, we have been focussing on what we *can* do rather than what we are missing. As such we have had great fun with "Buddy the naughty elf" creating mischief' our fun jumper day, Christmas lunch, virtual panto, class advent, festive doors and of course our virtual carol service which I would like to thank Mrs Leigh and Mr Silvester for putting together.

I feel that not being able to see as many people as we usually would this year has helped to remind us of what really makes this time of year so special. I have spoken with the children about when I look back over the "number" of Christmases I've experienced and I can honestly say that I can recall about three gifts I've ever been given. What I do remember, however, is time spent with family watching a film, going for a walk, having a meal, playing a game and those unique quirky family traditions. This is true about my family as a child and my own family now.

From many years' experience I know that when the children return in January these are the things they will talk about and remember, rather than how much was spent on them. So I do hope you all manage to get to spend some quality time together this year, whilst following national guidelines, and the family fun outweighs the family disputes, although I cannot guarantee those will not happen at some point in the Oldham household!

As always, I want to thank you for your ongoing support of the school during this challenging term. I know children have been coming home muddier than usual, due to the need to use the field, and that eating lunch in the classroom is never fun. Although on the plus side, children coming to school in their PE kits has been a revelation and has saved so much time.

Finishing on the positive, it is clear that whilst we must remain vigilant, the end is in sight now and next year can hopefully see normality return. Therefore, on behalf of everyone at the school I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and peaceful New Year.

PLEASE SEE IMPORTANT INFORMATION BELOW REGARDING WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR CORONAVIRUS DURING THE HOLIDAYS.



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What to do if your child tests positive for coronavirus during the holidays

Should your child develop COVID symptoms during the first **48 hours** of the holiday (the contagious period) **and subsequently receives a positive test result**, you should contact the school in the usual way using admin@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk. We will then notify any child who needs to self-isolate.

If your child tests positive having developed symptoms after 5pm on 20th December, there is no need to contact the school directly.

Parents and carers should follow instructions provided by the NHS Track and Trace Team who will decide if the school still needs to assist in identifying close contacts. The school will check for any messages until 3.00pm on Christmas Eve, when the 6 day notification period ends

If you receive a positive test result after Christmas Eve please notify the school when we reopen on 4th January.

Please note you will only need to notify us if there is a positive result for your child.

There is no need to contact us to tell us your child is being tested, they have a negative result, a family member has tested positive but not the child, they are showing symptoms and you are getting a test etc

Windsor Castle

We had a zoom call with a man in Windsor castle who started to explain all about the history of the castle. He started with showing us all of the different types of knights of the past on pictures. Afterwards he told us some information about how they lived and protected the castle. They showed us lots of weapons like a flail, mace, sword, bow and arrow, crossbow, halberd and spear. He even showed us the guards walking outside of the castle in their big red suits. We even got to see a peek of the castle, he even said that the Queen lives three doors ahead of the castle. He showed some of the armour that they would use in the fight. There was a helmet, sword, shield and a metal chain that goes round the neck.

We all loved it. It was lovely even though we couldn't go for a school trip. It was so much fun.

By Isabelle Carver & Lily Palmer. (5S)

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School Dinners

If your child has school dinners we would be grateful if payments are made prior to your child having their meal. This can either be by bank transfer, cash or cheque.

Thank you

Emails

If you need to email the school please do not reply to the email that the newsletter came from as currently these emails are not coming through. Please email us at admin@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk

Thank you

Diary Dates

December

Friday 18th Last Day of term

January

Monday 4th First day of term