

St. Andrew's C of E Junior School Newsletter

Newsletter 18th December 2020
Issue 8

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Headteacher's Message

These are such strange times with COVID but lately we have been filled with joy when we see the kindness and compassion of others. We have had so many donations to school for our children with so many people wanting to reach out to brighten the Christmas for our families. I want to say a big THANK YOU to:

The Friends of St Andrew's
Central Methodist Church
Touchstone
Design Glass
Morrisons
Staff at both schools
Families at St Andrew's

Their kindness and generosity has been heart-warming, every child in school has received something extra this Christmas. I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and hope that you get to spend it safely with your loved ones. We will look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 4th January 2021.

Happy Christmas everyone. 😊



May my friends and family be blessed.

May whoever is feeling weak during the festive season be given strength.

May all of those who are carrying heavy burdens this Christmas have their load lightened.

Amen

Thank you

Thank you for your kind donations for our Christmas jumper non uniform day.



We raised over £120 for Overgate Hospice!

Christmas Raffle

The Friends of St Andrew's would like to say a huge thank you for all the generous donations received for the Christmas raffle. All of the 33 prizes have now been claimed.

Together we raised a fantastic £662!

Reporting of COVID cases over the Christmas holidays

With COVID cases still high in Calderdale, we need to do all we can to help reduce the risk of spreading the virus over the Christmas holidays. As school closes over the Christmas period, it continues to be very important that you let us know if your child has tested positive for COVID (Coronavirus) and may have had contact with other children in our school whilst infectious.

If your child tests positive for COVID, having started to feel unwell in the last few days of term or over the first weekend after the end of term it's really important that you let us know as they may have been infectious whilst in school and other children or staff may need to self-isolate. **Please contact school via our text messaging service on 07786 201172.** Your messages will be picked up daily and responded to in the run up to Christmas. We will seek advice from Public Health and will alert others who are required to self-isolate.

From Christmas Day onwards, the school does **not** need to be contacted if your child tests positive for COVID-19. From this date until the return to school, you should follow any advice given by NHS Test and Trace and provide them with any information they request.

A letter with full information has been sent home by text to all parents. For a copy of the letter please follow the link below:

<https://standrews.calderdale.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/18-Dec-2020-letter-re-Covid-over-Xmas.pdf>

Year 6 SATS

End of KS2 statutory assessments in maths and reading will take place the week commencing 10th May 2021. However, the grammar, spelling and punctuation test has been suspended for 2021.

Please can we remind parents of the importance of not taking your child out of school during this very important time.

Merry Christmas from your School Nursing Team

Your school nurse is still available for help during the festive season. Please see the ChatHealth leaflet attached to this newsletter.



Help available to families at Christmas.

Brighthouse Food Bank will continue to help families in need over Christmas and don't want anyone to go without food during the holidays.

If you need help, please contact them via the contact details on their Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/BrighthouseCentralFoodbank/>

Their contact telephone number is 07540 306496



Christmas Carol Service with a Twist for 2020

This year our Christmas carol service was a little bit different! Children from each class were chosen to read prayers and readings to re-tell the story of the Nativity.

Due to COVID restrictions the children have not been allowed to sing together. Instead each class signed to the soundtrack of a popular Christmas carol. The whole service was seen by all the classes via Microsoft Teams.



Message from the Calderdale Public Health Team

The Government's announcement that we can form a "Christmas bubble" over the festive break gives us all a much longed for opportunity to meet up with friends and family, some of whom we may not have seen for many months. It is important though that we do this as safely as possible, so as not to put those we love at increased risk.

- Christmas bubbles can be made up of people from up to three households. You can only be in one Christmas bubble though, so you can't change your bubble from day to day.
- If you're meeting indoors over Christmas, try to keep some distance from others; keep windows open as much as the weather allows; wash your hands often; and wipe down frequently touched surfaces regularly.
- If anyone in your household develops any of the three main COVID-19 symptoms, arrange a test and don't meet with friends and family.
- Look after friends and family who are clinically vulnerable by reducing contact with them.

Remember, you don't have to meet up with others over the Christmas break if you don't feel comfortable doing so. Unfortunately, **COVID-19 hasn't gone away**. If you are struggling, there is help available:

- **Calderdale Council COVID-19 support: 01422 392890**
- **Citizens Advice: 0300 330 9048**
- **Healthy Futures Calderdale (for families with school-aged children): Tel 0303 330 9974 or text 07480 635297 (young people) or 07507 332157 (parents/carers)**
- **Childline: 0800 1111**
- **Samaritans: 116 123**