

17th December 2020

Dear Parents,

This is the last letter of the term and as I am writing the Government have just announced the new tier level for our area. I would like to thank all of you for your support of the school over the past months, as we have tried to do all we could to keep everyone safe. I know that I have sent you numerous reminders about social distancing and sensible parking, in addition to encouraging an approach in which we all follow the rules to enable the children to be in school and both them and the staff to stay well. I am now hoping to get to Sunday afternoon without needing to send a 'required to isolate' message to anyone. Fingers (and indeed anything else possible) firmly crossed!

Last week Y2 really enjoyed a virtual visit from Florence Nightingale – the actor was excellent and the children engaged with some great questions. On Monday it was Christmas Craft Day and all the children were proud to bring home their work. They all were able to watch the animated nativity story of 'Census Sums' voiced by Y2. Our huge thanks to Mrs Damon and her husband for all their work to produce this. Everyone was enchanted.

The children have really had a good week of learning whilst wearing their festive attire, and have fitted in making a card and a calendar. Today is a highlight of the week as they have watched a movie this morning as an end of term treat, before savouring their Christmas Lunch – which looked lovely. The PTA have kindly provided every child with a cracker, which the children will be bringing home this evening. These have been quarantined in school for the last couple of weeks and then given out today. The crackers and activity sheets which were part of Christmas Lunch will also be brought home at the end of the school day for the children to enjoy at home.

I would like to remind you that the school day will finish an hour earlier tomorrow to allow the staff time to organise and clean the classrooms prior to the Christmas break - Y6 at 1:30pm; Y5 at 1:35pm; Y3 at 1:40pm; Y4 at 1:45pm; Y2 at 1:50pm; Y1 at 1:55pm; and YR at 2:00pm.

I do hope that you will all be able to relax and enjoy a quiet celebration of the festive season. Unprecedented seems to be the word of 2020, and that will also apply to this most special time. However, it does not diminish the warmth with which I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe, healthy and happy 2021. The pause button I explained to the children way back in March continues to be pressed, but gradually there are glimmers of hope and, with care, life will gradually begin to have areas we might recognise as normal. We look forward to welcoming the children back at their usual start times on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Mrs K. Tamlyn

Head Teacher