



Isaac Newton Primary School

Headteacher: Mr C Heathcote

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Dear Parent/ Carer

I just wanted to briefly write to you to explain what will be happening in school over the festive period. Unfortunately due to Covid-19 we have had to make a few changes, which has also meant the cancelation of all Christmas performances. I know many of you and your children will be disappointed by this so we have done our best to ensure that we can still celebrate Christmas at school in some way. We are also hopeful that Christmas performances will be able to continue as normal again next year and we are planning on organising two Nativities so that our current EYFS children will have the opportunity to perform their Nativity when they are in Year 1. Other things that will be taking place in school are as follows:

Christmas Cards- these can still be brought into school to be given out to children within your child's class bubble only. All cards must be brought in by **Thursday 10th December** so that they can be 'quarantined' for at least 72 hours before being handed out. Unfortunately, we cannot provide you with a list of names from your child's class due to data protection.

Christmas Class Activities- we cannot hold Christmas parties this year as we usually would do. Over the next few weeks teachers will be planning Christmas crafts, showing a Christmas film and organising other similar Christmas themed activities. We need to ensure that all activities are in-line with our Covid-19 risk assessment and this is very challenging for things such as 'party games' as they can involve a large number of children touching the same object, for example. We also have to limit items being brought in from home such as 'party food'. These are some of the reasons as to why we have unfortunately had to cancel Christmas parties.

Christmas Pantomime- We have booked a 'virtual' Christmas pantomime this year. This will be shown to all classes within their class bubble at some point in the final week of term- it will be based on the story of Sleeping Beauty. We will not be asking Parents/ Carers to contribute to the cost of this as we have paid for it from our PTA funds.

Years 5 and 6- will be creating class Christmas cards and these will be sent home to Parents and Carers.

Years 3 and 4- will be recording a Christmas dance routine and this will be made available to Parents/ Carers via your child's Microsoft Teams account (this is the platform that we use for remote learning).

Years 1 and 2- will be creating class Christmas cards and these will be sent home to Parents and Carers.

EYFS- will be recording videos of Christmas songs and rhymes which will be made available to Parents/ Carers via the 'Evidence Me' app. A letter has already gone home regarding this.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all once again for your support during these difficult times. I have been incredibly proud of how the school community has pulled together during the pandemic to help minimise the disruption to the children's education. I am pleased that the future is now looking much more positive and with a vaccine now available, I sincerely hope that we will be in a position to begin to return to normality by Easter if not sooner. On behalf of the Isaac Newton staff, I would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas (when it arrives) and hope that your children continue to have an enjoyable last few weeks of term. School finishes on Thursday 17th December and we return again on Monday 4th January.

Kind regards

Chris Heathcote
Headteacher

