

Christmas

at

Cavendish Close Infant and Nursery School

13th December 2021 Update

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to share with you some changes to our Christmas plans. It's going to be a busy week in school with lots of fun festivities. In line with our COVID Risk Assessment, there will be minimal mixing between classes in school. Some children find the change in routine and the excitement about Christmas overwhelming and so we will continue to keep school as calm as possible.

Due to a significant COVID 19 outbreak in one of our classes, some children will not be able to join us in school this week as they need to isolate. The rapid increase in cases in one class has taken us all by surprise as we have maintained a high level of safety measures with regular hand washing, good ventilation, and enhanced cleaning. We have not experienced an outbreak before. As close contact children accessed PCR tests as requested, several asymptomatic children tested positive. Those who received a negative PCR result are continuing to access daily lateral flow tests this week as they could still become infectious. The pandemic continues to restrict our lives. We all want a safe and happy Christmas.

Schools have been encouraged to consider switching the last few days of term to remote education. This would make Friday 17th December the last day that the children were in school. This would allow families to significantly reduce their social mixing on the days leading to Christmas when there is likely to be intergenerational mixing. This would be the safest end to a long term and a decision that would be fully supported by Public Health advisers. We are expecting to receive information about this in the coming days and we are also closely monitoring cases in our school community and neighbourhood. A decision will be made on Wednesday 15th December and parents and carers will be informed.

I would like to personally thank all parents and carers for being so supportive and understanding. It's been an incredibly positive term in school with all children achieving their best outcomes in a safe and happy environment. We are all ready for a very well-deserved break. I would like to wish you and your family good health and happiness this Christmas.

Kind regards,

Mrs C Diffin

Headteacher

On Friday 3rd December, children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 enjoyed a professional **Pantomime** production of **Cinderella**. Thank you for contributing towards the cost of this amazing experience. The performances were thoroughly enjoyed by all the children who joined in so enthusiastically! Having two performances meant that each class could have their own space.

Children can wear their **Christmas jumpers** on Friday 17th December.

Children should wear their usual school uniform with their Christmas jumpers.

Nursery have made a '**Christmas Celebration**' **presentation** to send to their parents and carers electronically.

All children can bring in one **Christmas card** for the class display. Christmas cards will be opened, talked about, and read before being displayed.

Every class has taken a fun **class Christmas photograph**.

All classes in school (except Class 4) will share a **Christmas assembly** with their parents and carers in the hall this week.

COVID safety measures: Strictly **one visiting parent/carer** per child only. No younger siblings are allowed. **Face masks** must be worn as well as **social distancing**. Visiting parents/carers should carry out a **lateral flow test** and secure a negative result before coming to school.

No photography or videography is allowed for safeguarding reasons.

Monday 13th December – The three Reception classes separately.

Thursday 16th December – Two Year 1 classes separately.

Friday 17th December – The three Year 2 classes separately.

All children will make a special **Christmas card** for their family.

All children will make a 2022 **Calendar** for their family.

Every class has created a **Christmas classroom door**. Winning classes have received a prize today.

All children will write a **letter to Santa Claus**. Santa will then visit us (hopefully) and bring a **letter and present** for every child in school.

All school children are invited to have **Christmas dinner** on Wednesday 15th December. Nursery, full time children can have Christmas dinner. This will be our **Christmas Kindness day**.

Friday 17th December we are celebrating the **Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day** charity appeal. Children will be invited to bring in charity donations.

In Nursery, the Christmas party will be on **Wednesday 15th December**.

In school, every class will have a **Christmas party** on **Wednesday 15th December**. There will be lots of Christmas songs, dancing and games. PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE.

Children can come to school in their Christmas party clothes with sensible footwear.

Miss Doxey will play '**Away in a Manger**' on her flute as the children leave school on the last day of term (weather permitting).

Mrs Asghar will coordinate a small but enthusiastic Year 2 Christmas choir to sing along the start of the Christmas holiday.

A selection of photographs of children taking part in Christmas activities will be sent to the **Derby Telegraph** today for their Christmas special on 17th December.

Mrs Howett has led a wonderful **Christmas Club** for a group of Year 1 children.

