

TEMPLEMOOR INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2020



Christmas is just around the corner!

I hope that this final newsletter of 2020 finds you and your loved ones well. I would like to thank you for all your kind messages, smiles, waves in the playground and continued support of the school. I had one parent write in to say how much they miss the hustle and bustle of the 'drop off' and how they rarely have the chance to see teachers and chat, and it made me think even more about the challenges that families are continuing to experience. Without doubt, this year has been full of incredible challenges for everyone. However, the difficulties we have faced have been a testament to our resilience, compassion and fundamental understanding of each other. Templemoor really does have such a strong community spirit. We have worked hard together to keep each other safe, as well as provide the best educational experience possible for our children.

Talking of which, the children have been incredible! This term they have taken the return to school in their stride. They continue to light up the classrooms with their laughter, their energy, their

curiosity and of course, their uniqueness. They bring joy into the building that is Templemoor.

The staff have also been amazing. They have remained focused on maintaining high standards of teaching, learning, behaviour and attendance, and have embraced completely new ways of working. I am humbled to work alongside such an amazing team of talented people and would like to thank each and every one of them for their hard work, selflessness and dedication throughout the year that has been 2020.

Finally, as we approach the end of the school term, I encourage you to reflect and think about the good things that have happened this year. Looking back, it's clear that we have many things to be thankful for - my highlights include your continued overwhelming support and the smiles on the children's faces when they finally returned through the Templemoor gates after many months away. It warms my heart and makes me incredibly proud to be the headteacher of such a thoughtful and caring school community.

With very best wishes, Mr Hodgson - Headteacher





Although Christmas in school has felt a little different this year, it hasn't stopped us from having the most amazing time...!

Christmas Lunch

4 lunch sittings in bubbles, 215 children wearing the most amazing hats, a festive soundtrack and numerous Brussel sprouts! On Wednesday our Head Cook, Bernie, and her team provided the children with an exceptionally tasty Christmas dinner with all the trimmings, reminding us again of how lucky we are! Thank you to Mellors Catering for providing the children with such a delicious festive feast.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz!

The children had a very special treat today - a theatre performance in the hall! It looked a little different from our usual performances but no less exciting or engaging. The show was repeated 3 times so that we could watch in our class bubbles and only one actor attended in person (keeping his 2 metre distance from us) whilst the rest of the cast appeared on a huge screen. The show was amazing and the children absolutely loved it! A



massive thank you to M&M Theatrical Productions. We support you in these difficult times. You did an incredible job.

A Visit from Father Christmas

Today we were also lucky enough to receive a Covid secure visit from Father Christmas! All children were visited by the man himself this morning and received a present from him! We would like to say a special thank you to the Friends of Templemoor for supplying the presents, to Mrs Beck our magical elf, and to Father Christmas, who took time out of his very busy schedule to visit us! Thank you to all who made this a special experience for our children... they all had a fantastic time!

Christmas Decorations

We hope you have all enjoyed our Christmas decorations at the front of school. They have really helped to brighten up some rather dreary winter pick ups! Thank you to our hard working Friends of Templemoor and X Club Team for making our school look so festive.





Reindeer Hunt

Oh no! Santa's reindeer continue to hide in Sale Moor! Help us to find Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen and Rudolph by joining the 'Reindeer Hunt'. The Friends of Templemoor Reindeer Hunt runs until 30th December. Buy your map [here](#) for £1.50.

Templemoor Parent Survey

Thank you to the 84 parents who completed our school survey. We are grateful for your input and will communicate the results to the entire school community after we have analysed them.

Learning themes for next half term

Our exciting curriculum themes continue in the spring term:

Nursery	How does that building stay up?
Reception	Will you read me a story?
Year 1	Super Sale
Year 2	Magnificent Manchester

School Admissions Final Reminder

Trafford's on-line application system is open and Trafford residents can apply online [here](#). The closing date for admissions is the 15th January 2021.



Christmas Gifts

We are always amazed at the generosity of our parents, and this year is no exception. As we mentioned in our November newsletter, this pandemic has clearly brought with it increased difficulty and uncertainty for many people in every community and our staff felt it wouldn't be appropriate for us to accept gifts at this time when so many are struggling. We are therefore overwhelmed that parents have come together to donate money to Crisis. Together you have managed to raise a staggering £1075. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity. You are all amazing!

Staying Safe Online

One of the positives which has come from Covid is the fact that we are all using technology we hadn't even heard of last year! From Zoom to Teams, uploading and downloading content and communicating with friends and family online has become the way of the world. Whilst the majority of this is hugely beneficial and positive, there are



always the negative aspects of the internet and we would urge you to ensure your family is safe at home. Please check over your internet settings to ensure the appropriate filters are on and double check that these apply to all devices that children have access to. If children are using devices which do not have the filters (such as an adult's personal phone or tablet) please supervise them so you know what they are accessing. Often (and slightly embarrassingly for us!) the children know more about the internet than we do and they are quite proficient in navigating it so if you do need any extra help, the NSPCC has some great advice about not only the practicals of what to do, but how to support your children if issues do arise. A link can be found [here](#).

Reporting Cases over the Holiday Period

You may be aware that last week the Department for Education (DfE) instructed all schools that they will have to be on Covid Test and Trace Duty for 6 days after term has ended. The reason the DfE needs us to be on Test and Trace Duty is so we can contact anyone who had close contact with a positive case, if their symptoms appeared in the first weekend of the holidays. These close contacts will have to self-isolate for 10 days, and, as test results can be delayed, the Duty has to be for 6 days after the end of term. We will therefore contact you via text and email if your child has been a 'close contact' to a positive case and unfortunately your child will have to self-isolate for 10 days. A letter detailing the reporting arrangements was sent out to all parents yesterday.



A message from our Chair of Governors



Dear Parents/Carers.

Well, what a term this has been! I'm sure, like me, that you are glad to have reached the end of term and the Christmas break at last! It is a shame that this year we have not had the joy of our normal festive events such as the nativity assemblies and Christmas Fair but these events will return to our school life in time and maybe, after such a challenging year, we will enjoy them with renewed vigour and excitement.

We are delighted to be ending the term with no Covid positive cases within bubbles and this is testament to the rigorous plans that Mr Hodgson and his staff have put in place and your support as parents in following the rules to keep everyone safe.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Hodgson and all his staff for their exceptionally hard work this term under such difficult circumstances. They have given their 100% commitment to the school with the best interests of our children and families always at the heart of what they do.

May I take this opportunity on behalf of the Governing Board to wish you all a very safe and peaceful Christmas and New Year and we look forward to hopefully brighter times in 2021.

Judith Davenport - Chair of Governors

Starting the new term in January 2021

If, during the latter part of the Christmas holiday, your child has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19, it is very important that they do not return to school on 4th January. Please let us know if this is the case via **email only - admin@templemoor.trafford.sch.uk**, by Sunday 3rd January. Thank you for your continued support.

Covid Risk Assessment

Due to the current national situation, school will continue to run in the same way after Christmas, in terms of staggered starts and bubbles. Our whole school Covid Risk Assessment is updated regularly, and can be found on our school website. One change that has been made to the Risk Assessment this week is the fact that the period of self-isolation for Covid contacts has been reduced from 14 days to 10 days to reflect government policy.

Virtual Parent Consultations

Despite a small handful of tiny technical issues, our virtual parent consultations went well, and we have received some very positive feedback from parents. This was of course our very first time of running these meetings, and I do understand that some parents would have liked longer to talk to their child's class teacher. There will be further consultations next term, and fingers crossed we can return to face to face consultations in the not too distant future.

Year 2 Phonic Screening Check

Well done to all of our children in Year Two, who have completed their phonics check recently. We are very proud of every single one of the children. They all showed great determination to do their very best. It was brilliant watching them using their Fred fingers and their sounding out skills during their assessments - well done to everyone who took part in the test. 98.3% of children passed the test, which is a remarkable achievement.



And finally...

As we approach the end of the autumn term, I would like to wish each and every one of our families an enjoyable, restful and safe Christmas. I am sure that your children will return refreshed and eager to be back at Templemoor to continue their learning journey when school reopens on Monday 4th January 2021. As we enter into the new year, let us remain hopeful that things will start to gradually improve and we can begin the journey back to normality. What a gorgeous thought! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr Hodgson and the Templemoor Team



Spring Term 2021

Opens	Monday 4th January 2021
Closes	Friday 12th February 2021
Opens	Monday 22nd February 2021
Closes	Thursday 1st April 2021

Summer Term 2021

Opens	Monday 19th April 2021
Bank Holiday Monday (School is closed)	Monday 3rd May 2021
Closes	Friday 28th May 2021
Opens	Monday 14th June 2021
Closes	Friday 23rd July 2021