



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is the last day of term today and we are all looking forward to our Christmas holidays. I have sent a letter to you separately about what to do if your child develops symptoms and tests positive for the virus in the next few days as I don't want the last newsletter of 2020 to be dominated by coronavirus procedures.

Today, has epitomised everything that is good about our school community. We have been outside singing and performing Christmas songs so we could safely spend the last day of term together sharing what we have learned and having some fun. We have worked very hard this year to hang on to those 3 key priorities; **learning, safety and fun** and I would like to thank all of my colleagues for doing such an amazing job to support the children and for showing great versatility and resilience along the way.

I would also like to thank you all for your patience, kindness and support this year. A massive positive to take forward is the sense that we have come closer together as a community and will be stronger moving forward. Our response to the pandemic has been a unifying collaboration and everyone should feel very proud of what has been achieved so far. There is still a long way to go, and we will need to remain vigilant in the days and weeks ahead, but I hope you all have a lovely Christmas with your families and look forward to seeing you all safe and well in the new year.

Merry Christmas, best wishes and many thanks!

**Andy Mitchell - Head Teacher**

## What's Going On .....

Thursday 17th December -  
Last Day of Autumn Term

Monday 4th January -  
Teacher Training Day

Tuesday 5th January -  
First Day of Spring Term for pupils

## Special thanks...

Following on from the above, we would like to say a huge thank you to all those who work so hard to bring a big of extra sparkle the primary school experience through our PTA—'Friends of Woodloes'.

Not a group to rest, Lockdown and Tier 3 restrictions didn't stop them, and during our first term they held a pumpkin carving competition and have brought us the Virtual Panto with sweets, and organised for our Christmas designs for cards and mugs to be made. We are very grateful for all their hard work and look forward to the New Year to see what they have instore for us!

A final big thank you goes to our team in the kitchen who prepared, cooked and packaged over 250 takeaway Christmas dinners today, which were thoroughly enjoyed by the children! Well done Deborah, Sarah and Hayley!



**Year 1** are very proud of all the children who took part in an online production of Cinderella! It brought a tear to all our eyes to see all the talent, hard work and incredible organisation (from the grown ups) to create such an amazing show. Well done and thank you to you all.

## Governor Focus

On behalf of all the Governors at Woodloes, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas! 2020 has certainly been the most challenging of years, and as you may know, the governing body was stood down for several months from March. However, I am delighted to say that we have now resumed our duties under interim arrangements, focussing purely on the quality of education in school. The governing body met this week and were pleased to hear that the children have adapted amazingly well to all the challenges they have faced this year, and are on track to catch up in 2021. Enjoy your holidays!

**Louisa Farino - Chair of Governors**

## Attendance News



Highest class attendance for last week—Class RC & 3C (Mrs Connelly & Mr Clark) with 100%!

Whole school attendance to date - 95.6% (school target 96.5%)

## What I love about Woodloes .....

In Year 6, if we don't understand something in maths, we start off with it the next day and then it usually makes sense!

Logan, 6BU



**Friends of Woodloes** would like to thank Father Christmas for taking time out of his very busy schedule to speak to all the children via Zoom yesterday! He was disappointed that he couldn't meet the children in person but grateful for modern technology, which still allowed for him to connect with everyone!

We would like to thank the members of Friends for making the above happen (and providing a little treat for all the children too) and also thanks go to the relevant staff in school, who took time out of their busy schedules to organise the above.

Finally, a thank you to Friends for the virtual panto that all the children enjoyed last week!

### Focus on Excellence

Year 3 have been getting festive this week and are really excited for the Christmas holidays!

We made some sock snowmen out of rice, pop up Christmas cards and Christmas biscuits to eat at our class parties.

It was particularly impressive to see the children apply their design and technology skills to all our craft activities.

We hope you all have a Merry Christmas!



### Other News .....

**Woodloes Primary - Give a little love project** This week, we have been delighted to support local charity Age UK by making 100 Christmas cards for elderly, local residents which are going to be delivered in the post. Children from all age groups have worked diligently to produce some very creative and cheery Christmas cards and messages, which we are sure will certainly brighten up someone's day once they arrive through the door.

We have also had the pleasure of supporting another local charity, Kissing It Better, who support the welfare of local NHS staff at Warwick Hospital, something which is currently vital. We were asked to produce 200 hand written thank you letters for people working at Warwick Hospital which are going to be part of a gift bag created by the charity to thank these key workers for all of their hard work over the last few months. We are absolutely thrilled with the heartfelt messages our children wrote and that we were asked to support a charity which is very close to home for everyone here at Woodloes Primary.

Well done and thank you to all of our children for these acts of kindness towards our local community which are much needed during these difficult and challenging times.

Mrs Helen May  
**English Subject Leader**

**Warwickshire School Health & Wellbeing Service (WSHWS)** are aware that after a year of upheaval and uncertainty, lots of parents/carers are trying to support their children with issues including challenging behaviour, difficult emotions, sleep disorders and many others. Help is available for Warwickshire families and WSHWS have posted an article - <https://www.compass-uk.org/news/parents/help-at-christmas/> - to inform parents/carers of how you can seek advice from their service and Family Lives, an organisation they are working with to provide a wider level of support. The article also contains useful websites, other local services and self-help resources.

**School Lunch Menu** Educaterers will be continuing their current lunch menu in the Spring Term (deli bag menu), which is available to all children from Reception to Year Six. The current menu(s) will be continuing on the existing 3 week rotation basis, re-commencing on Tuesday 5th January with the 'Week 1' option etc.

**Request from Saplings Pre School** Do you have any boys toys, such as tool kits, tool bench, hammers, or water play, that your child no longer plays with? If so, Saplings would welcome them from you! Thank you