



Bishops Tawton Primary School Newsletter

<http://www.bishopstawton-primary.devon.sch.uk/>

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Friday 18th December

Dear Parents/carers,

We have come to the end of a very challenging and unusual term. The whole school staff have all worked incredibly hard to ensure the children have been safe and that school has been as normal as possible for them. We are lucky to have such an amazing team of people putting your children first.

We have missed some of our usual Christmas events but we've adapted and enjoyed new activities and have made Christmas in school a fun time with lots of smiles and laughter. There are some photos on the class blogs and on our [gallery](#).

Thank you for all your support throughout this time, we appreciate how strange it has been for you being less connected with the school day and we are very much looking forward to being able to welcome you back on to site and to some fun events next year. A big thank you goes to our 'virtual' PTFA who have organised the Christmas shop and arranged for presents for all the children from Santa.

You may be aware that the government continue to request support and provide guidance for schools, this will take the form of mass testing at secondary school level from January. As a learning community we are working together to ensure that this process is manageable and we will update you as when the primary schools are requested to do the same.

Christmas dinner

Thank you to everyone that helped make our Christmas dinner a success. A special BIG thank you to Jacqui and Susie for their hard work in the kitchen, preparing and cooking the dinner.

From the PTFA

Thank you so much to everyone who supported us through the Christmas cards this year - with your help we have raised £82. We apologise for the hold up with deliveries and want to thank the office staff who helped us get it sorted.

Thank you also to everyone who has enjoyed the Christmas market event. It was more challenging to do it remotely but hopefully all the children enjoyed choosing and decorating the bag for their gifts. Special thanks to staff in school for helping us get things sorted and to the whole PTFA team for their help making this a success!

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas from the PTFA and looking forward to sharing some great fundraising events in the New Year!

Breakfast Club/Cabin Club

Mon-Friday: 7.45am - 8.35am

Mon-Thursday 3.15pm-5.30pm

Friday 3.15pm - 4.15pm

All Bookings must be made using the [online booking system](#) and paid for in advance, bookings for the week commencing 4th January **will be closed at 2pm today** as we have limited places and are full on some days. You can now book up until February half term to guarantee your child's place. Collection from cabin club is from the back gate, please ensure you are wearing a face mask when collecting.

Attendance

The [government expects](#):

- Schools and local authorities to:
- Promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence;
- Ensure every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled; and,
- act early to address patterns of absence.

- Parents to perform their legal duty by ensuring their children of compulsory school age who are registered at school attend regularly.
- All pupils to be punctual to their lessons.

Mrs Clark has been checking all of our children's attendance details. Please refer to our school [attendance policy](#) for more information.

Positive COVID-19 Tests over the Christmas holidays

Can we please ask that you are extra vigilant regarding Covid protocol for the last few days of term and over this weekend. As a school community we have all worked very hard to keep the children safe and it would be great if they can all have a Christmas holiday without needing to self-isolate.

We will continue to monitor our admin email address for the first few days of the Christmas holidays. We ask that if any children test positive for COVID during the first four days after we break up, until Tuesday 22nd December, you contact the school on admin@bishopstawton-primary.org and provide us with the following details; your child's name, the date of the positive test and when their symptoms began. We will contact parents of children who need to isolate once we have liaised with the DfE and or SW Health Protection Team.

If your child or someone in the household develops symptoms or tests positive later on during the Christmas holiday, please ensure that they complete the full isolation period before returning to school. Email admin@bishopstawton-primary.org or ring the school office at the start of term to let us know that they are isolating.

GDPR update

There is an updated privacy notice now available on the [website](#), if you require a printed copy then please contact the office.

Dates for your diary

Monday 4th January: First day of term

15th-19th February: Half term

(Term dates are on the [website](#))

School opens on the 4th January, please remember to follow our protocol, if your child is showing any symptoms please keep them at home and inform the office.

In the meantime, I hope you are able to have a restful Christmas and that you are able to spend it with your loved ones.

Mrs Melanie Smallwood