



Dear Parents/Carers,

It seems a while since we have released a newsletter to you; it is hoped that, as we bring more normality back to our school community, we will move back to more regular, newsletter-type, communications as well as our more formal letters etc.

We hope you are all well. At the time of writing, I hope to send out a letter specifically around Christmas. As a church school, this is a special and important time of the year; a year in which, traditionally, parents and carers enjoy coming in to school to celebrate the birth of Jesus and to revel in the hope and joy that such a time of year promotes. Whilst we are not able to celebrate Christmas as we would normally, it does not mean it will be any the less special. We have plans to adapt our traditional activities to ensure the children leave for their holidays feeling as festive as they would in the years previous.

As we move out of lock-down again and back to the original Autumn guidance for schools, I will write to update and remind us all of where we are with COVID arrangements, before going into the break, as well as how the Spring Term may look. It will be important that all families know how to contact the school if there are any specific COVID cases so that we can assist with track and trace, especially in the week leading up to Christmas Day and then to support the start of term in the new year.

I am sure you are all looking forward to enjoying the festive break. It has been a very challenging term and the staff will be ready for a break on December 18th. If there are successes to share, do drop them a line or catch them on the door to let them know. For schools, this year has been unprecedented but the professionalism and dedication shown by each and every staff member has been admirable in difficult circumstances. We are deeply committed to giving all of the children the very best so any positive feedback would be well received...

Wishing you all a happy end to term...

James Blackmore
Headteacher

Phrase of the Fortnight



Reminder of Staggered Start/Pickup Times for after Christmas:

- Reception - Reception gate (8.45am-2.45pm)
- Y1 - KS1 gate (9.00am-3.00pm)
- Y2 - KS1 gate (9.15am-3.15pm)
- Y3 - KS1 gate (8.45am-3.00pm)
- Y4 - KS2 gate (9.00am-3.15pm)
- Y5 - KS2 gate (9.00am-3.15pm)
- Y6 - KS2 gate (8.45am-3.00pm)

What's coming up

Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day	Wednesday 16 th December 2020
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	19 th December 2020 – 3 rd January 2021
INSET Day	Monday 4 th January 2021
School Starts	Tuesday 5 th January 2021

Headteacher: Mr James Blackmore Chair of Governors: Mr Paul Spencer

A: Bridgwater Road, Bathpool, Taunton, Somerset TA2 8FT **T:** 01823 412582

E: office@wm.oak.education **W:** www.westmonktonprimaryschool.co.uk

West Monkton C.E. Primary School Newsletter

Where everyone has the courage and confidence to fly.

Parent Board

Parent Board is made up of parents from across the school. Parent representatives have opportunity to ask questions, celebrate success and raise concerns about general school life and issues. Our next meeting is in the final week of term - please see the school website for more information about how to get in touch.

Family Learning

During the Autumn term we have embraced online Family Learning Opportunities! We have held phonics and reading workshops for adult learners. We look forward to a time where we can invite parents into school but for now I am grateful and proud of our commitment to learning!

Upcoming opportunities

E-safety workshop yr5/6 - Tuesday 8th December - see Dojo for more information.

E-safety workshops for KS1 and Yr 3/4 in a January!

Healthy eating workshops and Maths workshops are also being planned!

Lucy Lawrence
Year 1 Teacher and Family Learning Coordinator



Pastoral and Safeguarding

Hello everyone!

I would like to take this opportunity to explain our 'Follow the Rainbow' system that is in place at school. The children will be getting a refresher of our system during a collective worship in the coming week, but we wanted to make you aware of what this means. Throughout the school there are posters for children to see in order for them to identify key adults who wear a rainbow lanyard. These adults form our safeguarding team for the school and children will be reminded that if they have any worries or concerns then they can come and find one of the adults to speak to. We want to ensure that the children 'stay safe and speak out'. This rule also applies to all of our families across the school, so if you ever feel you need to talk or share any worries then please look out for myself, Mrs Newstead and Mr Blackmore who will be wearing a rainbow lanyard. Alternatively you can phone the school and ask to speak to a member of the safeguarding team.

I would also like to share some useful links that may be of use to you at home:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/underwear-rule/>

<http://clevernevergoes.org/why-clever/>

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Pailing
Deputy DSL

