



## DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER No 4

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

The end of term has finally arrived and again we find ourselves so proud that we have managed to keep the school open. Whilst we have had a few positive Covid cases in school, our numbers have remained significantly lower than those in the schools around us and the disruption to learning has been minimal. Staff are continuing to test twice weekly and regular handwashing, rigorous cleaning and avoiding mixing as much as possible across year groups, has helped to reduce transmission when positive cases have arisen.



I would like to publicly express my thanks to the school staff who have all worked so hard to keep the school running smoothly and the learning as rich and stimulating as possible for the children, whilst complying with the Covid rules and juggling their own family dynamics. They are a great team to work with.

Thank you also for all the support you give to your children and to the school. Your patience, understanding and words of support during this last term has made the world of difference!

### FEPIS Christmas Fundraisers

A big thank you goes out to the FEPIS team, who despite the barrier of not being able to run the traditional autumn term events, have found new ways of continuing to raise much needed funds for the school. It's so lovely that we have still been able to have some Christmas events at this very special time of year!



## Christmas Performance Videos



I am sure that you have all enjoyed the Christmas performance videos, which were shared with you earlier this week. It was lovely to see the children dancing and having fun, and we hope that a little of the magic of Christmas was captured through these for you.

Thank you to Mrs Payne, Miss Skillern and Mrs Lilley who coordinated their year group performances and to Mrs Goodens, Mrs London and Mr Lake (our resident producers) who put together the final videos.

## Open Mornings & Class Assemblies

Next term we are hoping to be able to have class assemblies and to combine these with class Open Mornings. In this way, we hope to be able to have parents in school, in reduced numbers, while still keeping everyone as safe as possible. Teachers are currently planning the best dates for these to take place and we will let you know as soon as these have been confirmed.



## Site Gates & Fencing

Work will resume on replacing fencing and gates around the school site in January. It will initially begin at the Junior school end and there may be disruption to the normal entry and exit routes upon your return after the holiday. Signage will be in place and we will endeavour to keep you informed of any significant changes.

Work is planned to begin at the Infant end of the site on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022 and will involve closing off some pathways and gates. The new gates will be operated electronically and the driveway will no longer be accessible as a walkway. There will be a permanent one-way system of entry and exit in place, in line with the current system, in order to keep pedestrian traffic moving freely and safely.

## Spotlight on Safeguarding

As part of our Personal and Social Health Education and through our Right to be Safe we discuss, in an age appropriate way, with the children a variety of ways to help keep them safe, including road safety, stranger danger and the PANTS message to help stay safe from abuse. For this month's spotlight, as children are spending more time at home you may be interested in looking at the resources that are on the NSPCC website which offers parent support when having conversations at home with their children.



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

*Lucy Owens*  
*Designated Safeguarding Leader*

## Reminders:

### Junior School Transfer/ Reception 2022

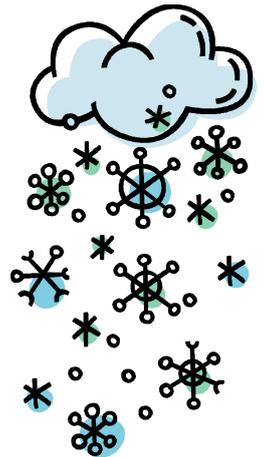


Please note that the **deadline for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. For those of you who have younger children due to start school in September 2022 please make sure that you apply for your place by the closing date of **15<sup>th</sup> January 2022**. These deadlines are extremely important and we have had parents in the past miss out on places as their paperwork was not submitted on time.

### School Closure Procedures

We can assure you that we do not take the decision to close the school lightly and only do so when deemed absolutely necessary.

If the situation does arise, please check the school website. If we have your mobile number then you will receive a text message via the 'Call Parents' alert system. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Fiona Waller and Mrs Sue Woodcraft who send out the alerts and update the website in order to inform parents and staff as quickly as possible.



### Governors' Corner

Wishing all of you, our staff, children, families and friends, a very happy Christmas and a healthy and hopeful New Year.

We hope you stay well and safe during this festive season.

From all the Governors.

*Sue Nelson*  
*Chair of Governors*

### Dates for your Diary

Attached are some dates for you to note on your calendar, please check each newsletter for any updates or amendments.

On behalf of the staff and myself, we would like to thank you for all your cards, gifts and kind words and to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Claire New*

Claire New (Mrs)  
Headteacher





## Diary Dates

**The term will restart for the children on Wednesday 5th January 2022**

<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	-	<b>Inset Day school closed to pupils</b>
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	-	School reopens to pupils
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	-	YR WOW start – wear favourite shoes
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	-	Open Morning for prospective parents
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	-	YR Fairytale Workshop – details to follow
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Half Term starts at 3.15pm

### **Half Term – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February inclusive**

<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	-	<b>Inset Day School closed to pupils</b>
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	-	School reopens to pupils
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	-	World Book Day – details to follow
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Parents Consultations via zoom
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Parents Consultations via zoom
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Parents Consultations via zoom
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Red Nose Day – details to follow
		JustDifferent visiting Year 2
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Term ends at 3.15pm

### **Easter Break – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April inclusive**

<b>Other INSET days:-</b>	-	<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022</b>
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