King Street Primary & Pre - School

High Grange Road

Spennymoor

County Durham

DL16 6RA Telephone: (01388) 8160781

Email: kingstreet@durhamlearning.net



11th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

There is such a wonderful Christmas feel around school this week with lots of fantastic activities going on and some Christmas music too. It is a lovely end to the school term after what has been a very difficult 9 months. Thank you to each and every one of you for the support you have given school, the work you have completed with your children at home and the way you have stayed positive despite all of the restrictions and new regulations we have faced. I would also like to say a big thank you to all of our staff who have worked so hard to make this term so enjoyable and these wonderful festive events happen. It is credit to you all that the children are still smiling and enjoying each day in their own little bubbles, quite safe and happy. We have lots more planned next week with parties and activities so I think they will be well and truly in need of a rest by the end of term. Look out for their lockdown T-shirts and their Christmas decoration, cards and cooking- we have it all to come. Please remember it is Christmas dress down day on Wednesday16th (also Christmas Lunch day) and children are welcome to come in casual clothes with a Christmas theme. Christmas jumpers are not essential and we welcome tinsel in hair or other creative Christmas ideas.

Due to a slight technical issue we have had to move the screening of the panto from today to next week but rest assured, the children will get to watch it. We have the popcorn and Haribo ready. Christmas parties are Thursday 17th December and children can come to school dressed in their party outfits. Uniform is not required.

Free Schools meal voucher- Christmas holidays

An email has been sent to all families who we have registered as Free School Meals regarding provision over the holiday period. If you are already entitled to Free School Meals but have not had an email, please contact the school office. kingstreet@durhamlearning.net

If you are not entitled to Free school meals but feel you may need support over the holiday period, please do get in touch. It is confidential and we want to help any families struggling to manage. Everyone deserves a lovely Christmas.

Government announcement about training day

You will no doubt have read or heard that at very short notice the Government has offered schools the opportunity to swap a training day from later in the year and bring it forward to the Friday 18th December. This was designed so school leaders did not need to be available for work on Christmas Eve to support the track and Trace system but we **will not** be changingour training days for this year and will continue to close at the end of the school day on Friday 18th December. Training days are carefully planned for specific times to meet training needs and school development and it would be inappropriate to change them at the last minute. It would also leave a huge number of families in difficult circumstances trying to organise childcare with only 1 week of notice.

School Facebook page

We now have lots of families joining us on our Facebook page and our newsletter is shared on the page each week. Don’t forget to have a look at what we have been up to. We have also shared a link to all of our Early Years information for any families who have children who would be ready to start Nursery or Reception next year. Please do share the link with anyone you know with a child of this age and if you or they have any questions about our EYFS provision, please contact school and ask to speak to Louise Whitfield, our EYFS leader.

Covid reminder

Please do still ensure in the last week of term that you follow the Government guidelines and if your child presents with any of the Covid symptoms, they must not attend school. If anyone in the household has symptoms, the whole household must self-isolate to keep others safe.

Whilst we finish for the Christmas holidays on 18th December, it is still important that if your child receives a positive test anytime between the 18th December and the 23rd December, you must still inform the school by email so we can liaise with Public Health Track and Trace. Please use the title ‘Positive Covid Test’ in the subject line so these emails can be easily identified. This does mean that all parents and carers must continue to check their emails up until 24th December. Thank You. The school email is kingstreet@durhamlearning.net

New proposed Ox Close Primary School amalgamation

Just a reminder that you have until Sunday 13th December to read and respond to the consultation for the proposed new school on the Durham road site (next to our school field). After this date no further information will be considered. The details were in the newsletter last week.

Church nativity

I mentioned in my last newsletter that St Andrew’s Church are holding a nativity on 24th December and they invite you to join them. I know they already have lots of enquiries so please do get in touch with them quickly to book yourself a place.

As always, if you have any queries or concerns please contact the school office or the class teacher through your child’s eschools account.

We look forward to spending our last week of term with the children and whilst Christmas will be different this year, we hope you all have a wonderful, well deserved festive break and we will welcome children back to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021. We wish for a very peaceful and positive New Year.

Yours sincerely

J Bromley

Headteacher