



Nunnery Wood Primary School



Wednesday, 15th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been a busy term and the children have worked hard to close any gaps in their learning that have arisen as a result of two disrupted years. We still have a long way to go but with the children's positive attitudes and staff determination, we maintain our focus on closing the gaps. Thank you for your continued support in helping us address this. Working in partnership with their home learning tasks such as reading, times tables, and spellings enables the children to grow in confidence and ability.

Congratulations to all the children in Key Stage 1 and Early Years who performed amazingly last week. It was lovely to see the children back on the stage. Thank you to all the staff and parents who have supported these performances and helped us lower the rate of transmission by adapting to our Covid-19 measures. The children were fantastic. I was personally very proud of all the children involved.

Well done to Year 5 for organising the Christmas Carol Service, which was enjoyed by everyone.

ONLINE SAFETY

As you are all aware, because of the pandemic many of our children are utilising more technology than they previously would have done. We have been made aware of more incidents online over the last few months. Therefore, it is increasingly important that we ensure pupils are safe when online. Online Safety/E-Safety forms an important part of the Computing curriculum as well as PSHE (Personal, Social, Health Education). We regularly talk to the children about issues that may arise online and what to do if they see something they are uncomfortable with. We regularly remind the children about sending rude or unkind messages, not accepting messages or files from an unknown source or person, and to tell someone they trust if something they see online makes them feel uncomfortable or worried.

As this goes beyond the school gate we need to continue to work in partnership to support our children. We encourage you as parents to:

- Talk about what's OK and not OK to share online. Talk to your child about what 'personal information' is - such as email address, full name, phone number, password, address and school name and why it's important to keep personal information confidential.
- Discuss sharing images and photos, and that consent needs to be received first for this. Also, that having school uniform on in pictures online, means you can be tracked down easily.
- Explain that it isn't easy to identify someone online. People aren't always who they say they are, so don't share personal information. Reassure your child that if they're in any doubt they should talk to you first.
- Ask about things they might see online which make them feel uncomfortable. Reassure your child that they can always talk to you about anything that makes them feel uncomfortable.

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E-mail: office@nunnerywoodprimary.worcs.sch.uk

Website: www.nunnerywoodprimary.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Higgins





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- Show them how to report or block the sites and apps they use
 - Explore sites and apps together, talking about what might be ok for children of different ages.
- Talk to your child about what you think is appropriate, remembering social media sites have account age restrictions in order to protect your child.

For further advice: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

COVID 19 UPDATE

Under new guidance from The DfE, if your child (ages 5-18 years 6 months) is identified as a close contact to someone who tests positive to Covid 19 (Omicron variant or not), they should now take an LFD (Lateral Flow Device) test **every day** before attending school, for 7 days (instead of self-isolating). Daily testing will help protect education settings by reducing transmission, and will also help keep children in face-to-face education. LFD test kits are available for free at local pharmacies, community test tests, or online via; www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests

SEVERE WEATHER 2022

The decision to close the school is never taken lightly. There are a number of factors that are taken into consideration, but ultimately it is the safety of the children which is paramount, and having the appropriate staff ratios is essential. In the event of severe weather, especially significant falls of snow, there are four sources of information for parents to find out about whether the school will be closed;

1. There will be a text message sent to all parents on our database, informing them of a school closure. Therefore, it is vital that the school has your **current mobile telephone number on ParentPay in the mobile section**.
2. An email via ParentPay (which will also go to your main email account).
3. The school website will be updated in the event of a school closure due to bad weather. The information will be displayed in the scrolling message on the homepage.
4. Parents can listen to the local radio stations BBC Hereford and Worcester (104.0 FM) and Free Radio (102.0 FM) who announce all the schools that have closed. This is not particularly helpful, because there can be a long delay between the school phoning the information into the station and them announcing it. However, we will continue to announce any closures through this method in case you do not have access to the website.
5. School closures are also publicised on the County Council website: <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk>
6. We will also tweet from the school twitter @NunneryWoodPS

Always assume the school is open, unless you are informed otherwise by the methods above.

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STAFFING UPDATE

- Congratulations to Miss MacRae who is expecting her second child in late Spring.
- Thank you for everyone for supporting Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven recently. Your donations were very generous. I know that Mrs Cottrill draws great comfort from all the support we are giving on her journey.
- I am delighted to inform you that Miss Allan will be back in work after the Christmas holiday, on a phased return.
- New Administrative Assistant Mrs Cole, will be starting in the office from 5th January.

FSM

Vouchers have been ordered for children on free school meals (*not* age related universal free school meal pupils, income-based FSM only) for the school holidays. Like the lockdown procedure, they have been ordered to be sent directly to your email account (the email will be received from Edenred). You will receive your vouchers on Monday 20th December, for the two-week Christmas break.

Friday, 17th December:

Please remember the last day of term is Christmas Jumper Day! This event is being organised by the School Council. Wear your Christmas jumper to school (with non-uniform), and please make a £1 donation via ParentPay.

BACK TO SCHOOL 2022

Children will be returning **back to school on Wednesday 5th January** as the school is closed on Tuesday 4th January for a Teacher Training Day.

Finally, as we come to the end of another unforgettable year, which has been challenging for us all. Thank you for your continued support throughout these difficult times. As a school we have worked hard to create a balance of lowering the risk of transmission, and providing the best opportunities for the children, within the constraints we have had due to resources and staffing.

I hope you all manage to have a wonderful Christmas break and enjoy time with your families.



Happy Christmas and a



Best wishes,

Mrs Rachel Higgins and the Nunnery Wood Primary Team.

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