

*“Every child is a unique child of God.”*

WHINMOOR



ST. PAUL'S  
C of E Primary School

Dear Families,

09.12.21

As we edge towards the last week of term, although terribly disappointed that we were not able to have our parents/carers in school to watch Christmas plays and services this week, we very much look forward to sending short videos and photographs of the productions to you, next week. We hope to send these to you next Thursday. We will send them via Tapestry in Early Years, class email in KS1 and via Google Classroom in KS2. We hope you enjoy them very much and we thank you for your support and understanding over what has been a challenging time. Our wish is for a healthy and happy run up to Christmas for all our community and we send our prayers and best wishes to all those who are still impacted by the pandemic. Within school, we have endeavoured to give our children a wonderful start to Christmas – our tree looks amazing, decked with our children's baubles, as we continue our Advent journey, reflecting on the meaning of Christmas, the hopes and traditions of the season, in what has once again, been a very different year for us all.

### **Mrs. Brew**

After 8 years of excellent work within school, we say goodbye to Mrs. Brew, who is leaving us at Christmas. Mrs. Brew will be working part-time, alongside spending more time doing arts and crafts and enjoying long walks with her dogs. We will all miss her very much and thank her for her enormous support and contribution to school life. Until we successfully recruit, Mrs. Brew has kindly agreed to support us on a temporary basis. We wish her all the best and hold her in our prayers, as she begins her new adventure.

### **Team Strips – Thank you to W&T Building and Groundworks and Mrs Wallis**

We are extremely grateful to have our football team sponsored by a local building and groundworks company W&T Building and Groundworks. Mr Wallis and Mr Talbot have bought the school a brand-new football kit, water bottles and football equipment. The team look incredible in their new kit and are ready for the New Year when we look forward to inviting other local schools to our school to play some matches. Once again, we would like to thank Mr Craig Wallis and Mr Stephen Talbot for their support with our football team and beyond.

### **Message from the PTFA: Thank you.**

Thank you to everyone who supported our wonderful, traditional 'Ladies' Night.' We raised £200 in profit. All this money goes towards our new school library.

### **Children in Need**

Thank you to everyone who dressed up and donated to such a worthwhile charity. We raised £150.

### **Christmas Party Day**

Our Christmas disco/ party day will take place on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, with Early Years and KS1 celebrating in the morning and KS2 in the afternoon. Children may wear their own clothes this day. Please make sure that the children wear clothes that are suitable for lunchtime and outdoor breaks. Thank you.

## **Spring term**

### **Weather:**

As we move into the spring term, we will always endeavour to keep our school open. However, if we have a serious snowfall overnight and are not able to open, we will inform families as soon as possible by sending a text, sending a tweet and uploading information onto the school's website. We will also inform local radio stations. Please remember that if children wear wellington or winter boots to school, they will need a change of shoes for the day. Either their black school shoes or pumps. If you can send a peg (labelled with your child's name) to keep the wellies together, we would be grateful.

### **Message from Mrs. Sharkey:**

At school, all we do is underpinned by the Christian ethos of valuing the individual. We believe that every child is respected as a unique child of God, the future adults in society. We are privileged to work with families and carers, supporting and enabling our children to live life to the full. At the start of the spring term, we will be focusing on the Christian Values of Thankfulness and Courage, linked to the gospel of Peter 1:3 'Praise be to God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.' This links to our British Values of mutual respect and tolerance. After half term, we will focus on Trust and the promise of Easter, linking to the British Values of respect and rule of law.

### **Message from Mrs. Deverill:**

At Whinmoor St Paul's we know about the importance of teaching children about body ownership, respectful relationships, feelings and emotions. In particular, we want to ensure our children are aware of the meaning of consent. It is essential that children are aware of body boundaries, both theirs and others. As part of a focused week in the spring term, the whole school will focus on consent, at an age appropriate level. This ranges from asking a child if they are happy for someone to help put their coat on for them to asking for a hug or taking photographs of others. The week will consist of a whole school text, assemblies and activities covered within PSHE. We believe teaching about respectful relationships is important from a young age and will help children to understand how they should expect to be treated by others.

### **School Lunches and Packed Lunches:**

We all know the importance of having a healthy, balanced meal at lunchtime. Over the cold winter months ahead, if you would like your child to have a school dinner, please inform us via the Office email. Prices are £2.20 for Nursery, Years 3&4 and £2.30 Years 5&6. If you are in receipt of income support, your child is eligible for free school meals in KS2. Please let us know if you want to take up this option. All information is treated in confidence. The school dinners are high quality, nutritious and prepared on the premises by Melissa and her team. If you prefer your child to have a packed lunch, we ask for your support in packing a healthy lunch, which does not include chocolate bars or fizzy drinks. In school, we have several children with severe allergies, so please ensure that you do not pack any food which contains nuts, as we need to safeguard all our children and will continue to be a nut-free school. Great advice on healthy lunches can be found on the following website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

Water is always available in school and we ask that you send your child to school with a labelled water bottle, which can be refilled during the day.



## Uniform:

We ask that you support us in sending the children back to school on time and in full uniform at the start of the spring term. We are proud of our children and their uniform identifies them as belonging to Whinmoor St. Paul's community and supports us in continuing to raise expectations and standards. Our full uniform list can be found on our website or pop into our office for a paper copy. We particularly ask you to support us on the following:

- School shoes – Sensible black shoes, not trainers
- Jewellery - On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exception to this rule is plain earring studs in pierced ears. On any days that a child is participating in PE, games, swimming and other physical activities it is advisable to leave earrings at home
- Nail varnish is not permitted nor are 'extreme' haircuts, artificially coloured hair, patterns in hair or large hair 'decorations' such as patterned bows, clips etc. Please keep to simple bobbles, head bands, in school colours and tie back long hair.

**On PE days**, children can wear their PE kits, to avoid changing. Please see our website for a full list of what can be worn. The PE kit is low cost and easily maintained and we ask your support in making sure the children's PE kit is treated as part of the school uniform expectations – please keep to the correct colours, no large labels, slogans etc. Thank you.

## Golden Rules:

We continue to ask all our children to respect the six Golden Rules of our School and ask that you remind the children about these over the Christmas break:

- **We are gentle** (we don't hurt others)
- **We are kind and helpful** (we don't hurt anybody's feelings)
- **We listen** (we don't interrupt)
- **We are honest** (We don't cover up the truth)
- **We work hard** (We don't waste our own or others' time)
- **We look after our property** (We don't waste or damage things)

## Seacroft Parish Event: Carol (and nativity) Service 4pm - Sunday 12 December:

Seacroft Parish will be holding a community carol service here at St Paul's, led by Reverend Anne on Sunday 12th December at 4pm. This is not a school event, it is a parish community event and families are warmly welcome to join in the service. The short service will include traditional Christmas carols and the story of the first Christmas. Of course, anyone showing any signs of covid is asked not to attend. Thank you.

## Carols around the Christmas tree 17th December

Unfortunately, we cannot invite families into school for this event; however, we will make sure the children have a wonderful time, singing their favourite carols around our Christmas tree. On the day children may wear a Christmas jumper or a jumper of their choice, to school for the day. If families wish to make a donation to The Children's Society, please do so via SchoolMoney. If you are unable to do so at this time, that is fine too.

As always, we thank you for your continued support at this time.

Miss McBride  
Head teacher



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