

Newsletter

Friday 4th December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are all getting ready for Christmas now in school and although things are different, the staff are trying so hard to ensure that the children have the best possible time they can at this magical time of the year.

The decorations are up and I have heard lots of Christmas songs as I move about the school. It certainly sounds like something exciting may be happening soon! I can't wait to see!

Also don't forget about our Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day on Friday 11th December - another time when we all celebrate together (as much as we are able this year) and where lots of children enjoy a cooked Christmas lunch together.

Very best wishes.

Gill Finney,

Headteacher.



Dates For Your Diary

9th Dec - Flu vaccinations for the school children

11th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch

14th Dec - Christmas Singing Competition Week - Governors to judge 1st, 2nd and 3rd places!

16th Dec - Christmas parties in own bubbles!

18th Dec—Break up for Christmas holiday

8th Feb - Arts Week

1st March Book Week

10th May - Year 6 SATs Week

7th June - Phonics Screening Week - Year 1

7th June - Multiplication Test - Year 4

All dates made are PROVISIONAL due to Covid-19.

Please check dates on every newsletter as dates are always added. New dates will be in red.

Recycled 4 U

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Duerden for their dedication to this uniform shop. They wash, iron and store the clothes for you and are available at almost any time for you to purchase from at a very much reduced price. They are also always on hand if school need something for a child, often dropping off the required item in less than an hour.

I cannot thank them enough for this dedicated service and to all

the parents who bring items in on a regular basis for us to pass to this family.

Thank you all so very much.



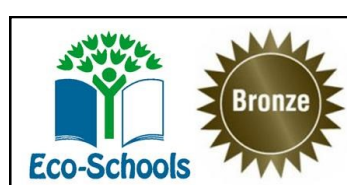
Pantomime Donations

Over the last week we have been asking for a donation of £4 towards this event via the Parentmail App and I am pleased to say that we have raised enough money now for this event to go ahead. Thank you to everyone who has made donations or offered to make additional donations for this. We are very grateful.

If you have not yet paid, please do so over the next few days, but if you are having problems paying this, then do come into school and speak to either myself or the Office Staff. We are here to help you as much as we can.

The staff and children will be choosing when to watch this pantomime in their own classes from next week onwards, so this could be different for each year group.

I'm sure though that the children will all thoroughly enjoy it.



Merit Winners—Well done Everyone!

Friday 27th November 2020



Reception— James Lund and Jamie-Anne Smalley

Year 1— Kai Smith and James Elson

Year 2— Audrey MacPhee and Florence Robinson

Year 3— Autumn Stalofort and Savannah Burford

Year 4— Isaac Edwards and Isabella Slade

Year 5— Jessica Holford and Tom Smyth

Year 6— Eddie Rothwell and Katy Crowther

Headteacher Award— Serenna Hunte

Friday 4th December 2020

Reception— Toby Breakell and Milo Kayley

Year 1— Max Helm and Joshua Bradley

Year 2— Robbie Mayall-Buckley and Kaison Palmer

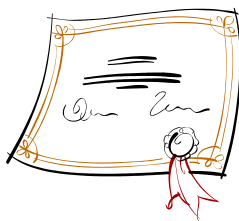
Year 3— Grace Thorpe and Riley Smith

Year 4— Isla Orwin and Rebecca Hammond

Year 5— George Barrans and Ethan Hardy

Year 6— Scarlett Bramley

Headteacher Award - Daniel Reed



Party Day

The children will be celebrating their party day on Wednesday 16th December all day. They should come to school dressed in their own 'party' clothes, ready for a wonderful day of fun.

The class teachers will be contacting you nearer to the time about party food and what we are able to allow in on the day, which will be food that has been individually wrapped whilst being initially packaged eg individually wrapped biscuits, packets of crisps, individually wrapped snacks such as small malt loaves etc... However, we will try desperately hard to ensure that all the children do have a fabulous time.

If your child has a packed lunch that day, then please do not pack too much for them as they will be eating again towards the end of the day.

Many thanks for your support with this.

Christmas Gifts

I have been approached by a Parent Governor asking about whether parents are able to bring in gifts for the staff this year, as they had been asked by other parents. We think that is a really lovely gesture and staff are very happy to accept these from the children. However, we also realise that times are hard for many families, especially this year and therefore we do not want anyone to feel under pressure to send anything in. This is entirely your own decision.

Thank you.

The Santa Box Appeal



The Rotary Club have set up an exciting Christmas initiative which many of you may want to support in return for an exciting experience.

To know more please visit :-

<https://www.thorntonrotarysanta.co.uk/>

You may be pleasantly surprised!

KidsPass Offer



KidsPass have encouraged schools to send the link below to all parents who could benefit from half price entry into over 500+ attractions over the Winter months. The information can be found at :- <https://info.kidspass.co.uk/school-fundraising> and they will then donate £5 back to school for every pass purchased.

Reception on-line Applications

Parents should access the on-line admission forms for Reception places for September 2021 through www.lancashire.gov.uk/ schools. Closing dates for Reception places are 15th January 2021.

Mobile Phones in School

We have allowed our older children to bring their mobile phones into school if they are walking home alone, so that you know they are safe. These are collected in the morning and given out again just before the children leave the premises.

However, there has recently been an incident with mobile phones where children in our school grounds, dressed in their school uniform have been making TikTok videos to post. We have spoken to the children about this and stressed the importance again of not posting anything which identifies your child. We have also stated that should this happen again, there will be no mobile phones allowed on the school premises.

Children should be 13 years old to access Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook and TikTok, but we know that many of our children, much younger than 10 and 11 years old have access to these. The age limit has been set for a reason and it was only a few months ago that we were informed of children in our older classes accessing unsuitable material on these sites which had, quite frankly, scared them to death.

Please, please talk to your child about the appropriate use of these sites and please consider denying your child access to them or certainly limit the access they have to them on a daily basis. The age limit is there for a reason.

This is an article from the Family Online Safety Institute

TikTok is a free social media app designed for creating and sharing short music videos. It replaces the Musical.ly app that shut down in August 2018 having all of its 100 million users transferred to TikTok.

What is TikTok?

Developed in China, TikTok is used for creating, sharing and discovering music videos. It is like Karaoke for the digital age.

Users can watch videos of others or even create their own short video clips. Young people tend to use this app to record videos of themselves lip-synching to the latest music.

The videos are recorded in 15-second clips and users can add special effects before sharing them on this platform. TikTok also enables live streaming of videos via Live.Me and interaction with the audience via a chat function.

Lip-synching and dancing videos are the most popular genres on the platform. Just like Youtube, TikTok is an interactive app where you can connect with friends, comment on videos and follow other people on the platform.

Some children have gained popularity and fame using this app. For instance, Jacob Sartorius became an Internet sensation from his lip-synching videos.

Is TikTok appropriate for children?

- When signing up on TikTok, user profiles are made 'public' by default. This means anyone can view videos that your children upload, send direct messages to them and access their location information.
- Popular TikTok uploads emphasize today's top music which means that some of the lyrics may contain swearing and sexual content that is not appropriate for children.
- Some of the music videos have mature content that feature revealing outfits and inappropriate dance moves.

A report by [ABC news](#) found that the messaging feature in the app could enable strangers to send direct messages to children. A father of a 7-year-old girl warned that a predator contacted his daughter through this app.