



## NEWSLETTER

*Friday 26<sup>th</sup>*  
*November 2020*

### DIARY DATES

- Mon 30.11.20** NSPCC Staysafe Assemblies delivered online to Y1-7 in classrooms
- Mon 30.11.20** NSPCC PANTS parents ZOOM session 3.30-4.30pm ZOOM log in details to be sent separately
- Fri 4.12.20** Year 1 posting letters to Santa
- Wed 9.12.20** PATHS parent ZOOM meeting now CANCELLED / rescheduled in Term 2a
- Wed 9.12.20** Christmas Dinner
- Fri 11.12.20** Christmas Jumper Day
- Fri 11.12.20** Final Day for Christmas cards
- Jan 2021** Online Application opens for Year 1 Nursery Applications
- Term 2a** Parent Teacher meetings via telephone (dates to be confirmed)

### DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

Just a quick note to check in with you all. We hope you are managing well with the ongoing COVID situation at home and in the local community. We are sorry we have been quiet – it has been absolutely HECTIC in school.

Things are going well here! We are focused on pupil wellbeing and supporting them as they recommence learning. We are also using Term 1 as a time to carry out a range of assessments to help us meet pupil needs and support you as parents in the best ways to help your child following a year of disjointed education.

Mental health and Wellbeing is a major priority for pupils and staff. We can safely say that all pupils have responded positively to the new arrangements and have adapted well to the changes in school.

Please remember that we are always here to help you and your child. We may not have all the answers but we will do our very best to sort out any issues.

Thank you for your support as we navigate running a school in a constantly changing environment.

Mrs Watson

### CONGRATULATIONS!

We are excited to let you know that Mrs Martin welcomed a new addition to the family! Baby girl number three means Dad is outnumbered at home! They are happy with the new arrival and things are busy at home!

### CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

This year Christmas is a little different, but that doesn't mean that we can't make it fun for the children. We have already organised an impromptu visit by Father Christmas which was a very big success. Here are details of up and coming events organised in school.

### FESTIVE DOOR COMPETITION

We are running a Christmas door theme for all classes. The idea is for staff and pupils to decorate their classroom doors with a creative Christmas theme. Prizes to win!

### CHRISTMAS DINNER

**DATE: Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December**

We will hold Christmas dinner in school with a festive theme! We encourage everyone to dress up as Christmassy as possible to get into the holiday spirit. Children will go home directly after lunch.

Pick up times:

Y1,2,3	pick up 12.30pm
Y4,5	pick up 1.00pm
Y6,7	pick up 1.15pm

If you have children with siblings in the earlier groups you may wish to collect them all at 1pm or 1.15pm. All other children with no siblings should be collected at their specific time. Thank you.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS

We have had a few queries about children sending in Christmas cards. This is an excellent opportunity for them to practise their writing so we are happy to accept cards and distribute! Pupils should send their cards into their class teacher. We will keep them for a few days and then distribute. **LAST DAY FOR CARDS**

**11.12.20**

## CHRISTMAS MOVIE AFTERNOON

We plan to hold a movie afternoon in each class in the final week of term.

## “OH YES WE CAN”...Virtual Panto

As you know we usually organise for Y1-7 pupils to visit the Theatre to see the Panto. As we are unable to organise this we have an alternative! Everyone will now have a chance to watch “Beauty and the Beast” panto online. This will be facilitated by Southern Regional College students.

## CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

**DATE: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Today we invite EVERYONE in Nursery – Y7 to wear a Christmas jumper to support NSPCC. If you wish to send in £1 to support the charity, please do. There is no pressure to donate as we know the external pressures families are under at this time.

## CHRISTMAS SHOWS!

*“The show must go on”* Even if we are not able to invite you all in to see them as normal. Staff and children are working hard putting together alternative shows which will be released on line. Teachers have already been in touch re how they will be shared and we will keep you up to date with developments!

## SCHOOL MEALS

School meals MUST be paid for in advance.

Thanks to all of you for keeping on top of monies sent to school. We appreciate your support and it makes it easier to deal with transfer of dinner money and other fees until we are in a position to go cashless.

From January 2021 we will be extending lunch provision to 2 cooked choices. We are working on the menu at the moment and will upload it to the website when it is finalised

## HEALTHY SNACK

REMINDER – You must send a healthy snack to school. We have noticed a number of pupils coming

in with unhealthy options. Despite reminders from teachers this is continuing. Healthy snack must be a bread/vegetable/fruit or NATURAL yoghurt based snack. Please check sugar and salt content. Remember the whole aim of this is to support dental health by given teeth a break from sugar from breakfast to lunch. Treats in lunchboxes should be kept to an absolute minimum. If you need further help about ideas for snacks, contact your child’s teacher.

## NSPCC –SCHOOL PROGRAMME

As part of the preventative curriculum we are working with NSPCC to deliver their award winning PANTS programme and Speak out Stay safe assemblies. These will take place remotely in each classroom on Monday 30.11.20.

They are offering a zoom PANTS session for parents which give you more details on the programme we will be covering in school. Talk pants and stay safe. To support children in how to keep body parts private

ZOOM Monday 30.11.20 details will be text. We would really appreciate it if as many of you could log in as possible- time allowing!

## ABSENCE NOTES/ATTENDANCE

Please ensure that ALL absence is covered by a note to the class teacher.

All absence from school should be recorded through school office. Online learning will be provided for pupils who are off for COVID related absence in the following way:

- Day 1-2 Online homework activities
- Day 3 onwards – Remote learning will commence.

Please ensure you keep in contact with class teacher at these times.

## LEARNING AND TEACHING

We are happy to report that all pupils have transitioned into “learning” mode very well. All staff are currently working hard to assess where their pupils are and find out the full impact of school closure last year.

We need your support and hope you can work along with us to help with homework support. To support

you we will be working on series of “ How to” videos to help you get the best out of reading a story, reinforcing phonics at home, number and other concepts. We will let you know when we are ready to release these and hope to create a video library area on the school website after Christmas.

## **MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING**

This is a priority for us all. Both for pupils and staff. We continue to promote positive mental health through PATHS and providing regular mindfulness sessions in class. More recently we have set up counselling provision within the school to support children.

## **ADMISSIONS TO SCHOOL FOR SEPT 2021**

Information will be available in the near future about the Admissions process to Nursery and Year 1. We plan to use the Website for parents to express their interest. This will be shared on FB and via text and we would appreciate your help in sharing the information as much as you can. Obviously, due to COVID we are not able to run open information sessions as normal, but plan to offer an appointment service to accommodate those who wish to visit.

Please note that the application process is online. We will confirm when the portal is open to accept applications. The system does not work on a first come first served basis. We receive all applications after the closing date and then apply our admission criteria to each application.

## **SACRAMENT DATES**

Dates For your diary

<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup></b> <b>April 2021</b> Holy Trinity Church	3 pm	First Communion
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup></b> <b>April 2021</b> Holy Trinity Church	5 pm	Confirmation

## **PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS**

Planning ahead for PT meetings in the second term. We will be offering telephone appointments for the meetings. In the meantime, if you have any concerns you can contact your child’s teacher. I know that many conversations are taking place already so be reassured we are just at the end of the telephone or email if you need us.

## **SCHOOL POLICY UPDATES**

School policies and procedures are essential in any school. They set out our legal duty in manageable documents which help the school community – parents and staff and understanding of how we are directed to operate.

Most of the direction for school operating policies and procedures come from the Department of Education (DE).

We can adapt them for our setting, but the rules apply to all schools.

We have recently updated a number of compliance (essential) policies in line with direction from DE and COVID legislation. They have now been ratified by the Governors and uploaded the policy section of the Website.

Child Protection/Safeguarding  
Freedom of Information  
GDPR  
Privacy policy  
Intimate Care  
Health and Safety  
Blended Learning  
Assessment and Marking  
Positive Behaviour  
Pupil Attendance  
ICT and Safe use of the Internet  
Social Media  
Complaints Procedure (Interim)