

Dear Parents,

Although we have not been able to invite parents in we are certainly beginning to feel very festive. Thank you to Santa Fe for our Christmas Tree, and thank you to the House Captains for decorating it. Miss Smith has checked the baubles are all evenly spaced!! The children are beginning to show signs of tiredness; combined with festive excitement and a piece of advent chocolate before school! We ensure that we keep our routines and learning as normal as possible at the moment to help keep things calm. Lots of sleep needed for all.

A Fond Farewell

We would like to say a fond farewell to Mrs Smith, our wonderful teaching assistant in Acorns Class. Mrs Smith has worked in many of our year groups over the years and will have taught all of the children at some point. She is such an amazing TA and supportive member of staff.



We will miss her greatly but completely understand that she wants to spend more time with her family. Mrs Smith, you know our door is always open if you decide to return!!

Preparations for Christmas Events in school

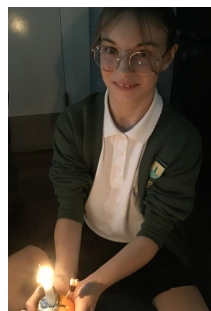
We are trying very hard to keep some normality in our events for the children this year. Acorns, Year 1 & 2 are practising hard for the Nativity (the stage went up yesterday - very exciting). The juniors are also practising their festive songs so that we can have our Carol concert, which would normally be at the Church. Year 5 were due to sing for the Monday Club at North Hall, this will now be videoed for the club. And we have had our virtual raffle - winners will be announced shortly - you may have won Kevin the Carrot! And lastly, we are trying to organise some events for the last week of term to replace the fair. We will give more information next week.



Christingle

We had our Christingle Assembly this week. It was such a lovely event, and a way for all the children and staff to reflect on the things that we are grateful for and how we can look after each other.

Mrs Harder demonstrated the Christian view of Christingle with Zac, who was a really good sport and allowed himself to be dressed up as a huge orange!



Covid update

As we head towards Christmas, we are ensuring our on going increased hygiene measures are still in place. We desperately want everyone to have a lovely Christmas with family. As in the rest of the country we are seeing an increase in cases, although we will inform you if the number of cases reaches the definition of an outbreak.

Please see below some updated information provided by West Sussex for parents regarding LFD testing in primary schools.

Face Masks

Government guidance does not require visitors to wear masks but we would appreciate it if you are able.

Below is direct information from West Sussex County Council.

Close contact/household testing

- *Implement daily LFD testing for secondary-aged students in households or close contacts while they wait for the results of the PCR test.*
- *Primary schools* can also suggest that close or household contacts undertake daily LFD testing while awaiting the results of a PCR.*

**This is left to parental discretion and test kits for primary aged pupils can be accessed by showing a [16 digital collection code](#) to their local pharmacy.*

Outbreak testing

More frequent LFD testing, including daily testing for a group or cohort in primary and secondary schools or colleges where case numbers are very high. This should be done for a minimum of 5 days, increasing to 7 days as necessary to ensure the final test is taken on a school day.

These approaches will enable schools to identify positive cases more effectively, and reduce transmission in their settings, without further measures that have a negative impact on the education and wellbeing of their students and staff.

If schools are implementing daily LFD testing in response to managing an outbreak situation, additional LFD testing kits can be sourced swiftly via the emergency order line or via the normal ordering route to replace existing stock levels 1-2 weeks later.

We will inform parents if there is an outbreak at the school.

If your child is waiting for the results of a PCR test and they have no symptoms they are allowed to attend school. However, if you are able to keep them at home until you receive the negative result, to reduce the risk of transmission, then we will provide home learning for your child.

General dates

16th December Christmas Lunch

1st July 2022 Summer Fayre

INSET days for next Academic Year

Monday 28th February 2022

Monday 6th June 2022

Half Term / End of Term Holidays 2021/22

Friday 17th December Last day of term

Monday 20th December—Monday 3rd January 2022 Christmas Holidays

Tuesday 4th January 2022 Return to school

Friday 18th February Last day of term

Monday 21st February—Friday 25th February Half term

Tuesday 1st March Return to school

Friday 8th April Last day of term

Monday 11th April—Friday 22nd April Easter holidays

Monday 25th April Return to school

Friday 27th May Last day of term

Monday 30th May—Friday 3rd June Half term

Tuesday 7th June Return to school

Thursday 21st July End of term



This week's winning house
is.....

Brewhurst

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CHILDREN WHO RECEIVED A CELEBRATION CERTIFICATE

Acorns Evelyn for Kindness and Oscar for Confidence

Oak Class Leo for Happiness

Willow Class Rupert for Effort, Alfie for Effort and Enzo for Motivation

Rowan Class Lucy for Independence and Elsie for Commitment

Sycamore Class Jamie for Independence and Confidence and Lola for Confidence

Mulberry Class Chloe for Presentation and Bella for Determination

Chestnut Class Charley for Self-Reflection and Holly for Independence

Kindness Tree

Etta Year 2

Isabella Year 6

Jordan Year 5

Ollie Year 2

Akido Year 2