



Westfield Nursery & Primary School

'Smile and Succeed'

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to get in touch to say that I hope you are all well and staying safe with your families during this second national lockdown. It is incredibly hard to keep positive sometimes when we are restricted in what we can do, but I know you will be doing everything you can to make the best of it so we can all get through this time. The support for each other in our community has been truly overwhelming. Thank you for all that you are doing.

Your children never cease to amaze me in how resilient, robust and happy they are in dealing with the difficulties we face daily. They are really enjoying the routine and familiarity of school and are getting on with things as children do by working hard on their learning. Hearing their laughter, voices and seeing their smiles makes it all worthwhile and being able to support their worries and concerns is essential for us at this time. We continue to work hard to ensure all children have the chance to share their feelings daily.

I also wanted to reassure you that we continue to keep all our measures, procedures and hygiene activities as the top priority and we have been lucky that we have been able to stay open so far... (touch wood!) Thank you for your contribution to this and ensuring you inform us if your child is being tested, has symptoms or is unwell. Your prompt communication in informing us about your family members too, has really helped us to keep abreast of the situation and make the right decisions for our school family.

However, I feel it is particularly important this year that the children have the magic of Christmas in school as much as we can. We are very excited to be organising our Christmas timetable for the coming weeks. Despite not being able to do the usual Nativity, Plays and Church service, we have some creative plans to ensure all our children have a wonderful Christmas build up in school.

The children will be making Christmas decorations, cards and calendars as usual to bring home. However, we are also going to be sending handwritten letters and cards to our local care homes to help safely spread some Christmas Cheer to them, many of whom will be lonely and may not receive cards. Last year we were able to visit with the Choir but of course we can't do that this year.



We will be holding our Annual Christmas Jumper day to support **Save the Children** on Thursday 11th December. We will also have our Christmas lunch on Thursday 11th December, and the children will be able to enjoy pulling crackers, wearing Christmas hats and listening to Christmas songs as usual. Key Stage 1 will eat in their classrooms and KS2 will eat in their bubbles in the hall. To add to the party mood, all class staff will eat with their classes and we will ensure everything is as safe as at all other lunchtimes.

We have organised how we will have class Christmas parties in the last week, as well as a Virtual Celebration Assembly where we will award certificates for the end of term, and there will be a special Virtual Christingle Assembly too. We will record these assemblies and post them on our website so that you can view and enjoy them.

We have other creative Christmas ideas too, that we will share in good time but as some of them are surprises you'll find out later!

PTA – POW

The POW team have some lovely ideas to share with you soon regarding Christmas fundraisers and they will be letting you know soon all about their safe plans.

Finally, I want to say that ALL of our school staff are working so hard and doing such an amazing job under incredibly difficult circumstances and challenging conditions. They are tirelessly working with the children and each other to ensure everyone is safe and happy. They really are an amazing team.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if there are any questions, worries or concerns that you have, or if you need help to find support. We will do our best to put you in touch with the right people where we can.

Stay safe and well.
Kind regards

Mrs Karen Barley