



Newsletter

December 2020



Tis the season to be jolly...

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These last few weeks really have been a collective celebration of achievements for the children at Mackie Hill. We were thrilled to welcome Reverend Kevin Greaves to lead our virtual Remembrance Assembly where the children shared their own poetry, readings and artwork. All children have created a poppy display to contribute to a Remembrance Display. I am sure you all agree, it is a fitting tribute to remember members of the armed forces who had died in the line of duty. We are especially proud of Isaac who completed a 5K Poppy Run - Well done Isaac!



PTA

Home & School Together

The whole school community are extremely thankful for the dedication, hard work and effort the PTA Team are making to ensure we continue to raise funds for school, despite missing out on big events such as the Summer Fayre.

So far this term, they have raised £105 at Non-uniform Day and a massive £377 from the Silver Smarties Challenge. A big thank you to all children and families who took part and contributed to these events. We are spending this money on Computing equipment for children to use in lessons, a virtual pantomime and a visit from a special guest bringing special gifts the last week of term!

The PTA have also been talking to Santa's elves and are ordering Christmas treat bags for just £3. Each bag contains essential items in preparation for the big day:

- Rudolph's food
- Hot chocolate drink cone
- Candy cane reindeer
- Template and recipe to make a gingerbread house

In order to give the elves enough time to prepare the bags please ensure all reply slips are returned to school no later than Friday 27th November. Parents are also able to order and pay via the Mackie Hill PTA website.



Charity Fund Raising

I am proud to announce that the children have raised **£120** for Children in Need.

I am sure you will all agree this is a great achievement.

Christmas Events



As you already know, we are unable to hold Christmas nativities and concerts in school. However, we are planning to have a variety of celebrations in school, within our bubbles, as well as a few little surprises - shh!



The school Christmas Tree will be placed outside the hall this year for all to enjoy. From the 2nd December, children are invited to bring a bauble to school to place on the tree on their way home. Please note: we will not be able to return these so only bring a bauble that can be left on the tree. Thank you.

Nursery & Reception - Christmas Party and virtual panto 15th December

Year 1 & 2 - Christmas Party and virtual panto 16th December

Year 3 & 4 - Christmas Party and virtual panto 17th December

Year 5 & 6 - Christmas Party and virtual panto 14th December

Christmas Party - We are asking for children to donate 50p towards the costs of party food rather than bringing food into school. Staff will purchase party food that is prewrapped and Covid-safe. Children can come to dressed in party clothes.

Christmas Cards - As the children are very keen to bring Christmas cards to school, we ask that they are brought in **only** on a Monday & Tuesday. This allows time for quarantine before we send home on a Friday. Please only send Christmas cards to your own class and not to children throughout school.

Christmas Dinner - The whole school will eating Christmas Dinner on **Thursday 17th December**. If your child normally has a packed lunch you can order a meal on www.feedinghungryminds.co.uk. If you pay for school meals the cost will be £2.19. Please ask the school office if you are unsure or need any assistance.

Christmas Jumpers - Children have requested to wear Christmas jumpers, festive clothing or accessories on both **Thursday 17th and Friday 18th December** so they can enjoy a festive lunch and final day of term. You do not need to buy anything specific for this, children are welcome to wear comfortable clothing.

School closes - 3:15pm on Friday 18th December. After School Club will be open for childcare.

School reopens - Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Homework Arrangements

To continue home learning safely, we have adapted how we communicate homework with you. Homework will now be put onto the School APP each week. Until further notice, we cannot accept homework back into school and would like you to return it electronically using the following email address:

homework@mackiehill.wakefield.sch.uk

In the email subject follow the below system of year group and pupil name: **Y1JoeBloggs**

You can either take a photograph of your child's work to send to us or they may choose to complete work electronically. Please note: this is a receipt only inbox meaning you will not get a reply and teachers will celebrate homework in class each week. We look forward to seeing your fantastic home learning!

Reading Raffle

Well done to those children who are reading regularly at home. Since the relaunch of our Reading Raffle, we have seen a big rise in the number of children reading at home 3 times a week! Keep up the great work for your chance to win a reading book each week.



Thank you for your continued support. Mrs. J Elliott & Mackie Hill Staff