



Dear Parents and Carers,

December 2020 School Newsletter

This term has been one like no other and I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of our community for your continued support and feedback. It is very much appreciated by me and the whole school team.

The children continue to amaze us each day and there is a great deal of amazing learning going on despite the many restrictions and Government changes.

This term has been challenging in many ways, as a community we have been required to react to various no notice situations. I am proud of the way in which I have seen children and all adults in our school and families, adapt, stay positive and work together to support one another.

At the time of writing this newsletter we have had no further positive cases in the school community. We hope it continues this way and you and your family are able to enjoy a festive break. Please be reassured if any further cases do arise we will continue to liaise with the Department for Education and Public Health England, and act on their guidance.

As we head towards Christmas, our festive in school celebrations will be very different, like everyone's at home. However, we have some exciting festive plans! We have booked an online panto, 'Cinderella Live' that will be streamed to all pupils in all classrooms on the morning of Wednesday 16th December to watch live!

In support of the tradition of giving a book at Christmas. School has purchased and wrapped a book for each child in school across all age ranges from 2 to 11 which will be gifted to pupils on Thursday 17th December 2020 to take home alongside a Cadburys selection box.

The children have been very excited about our playground Christmas tree too! The big switch on was Tuesday 02nd December. We hope it brings some festive cheer in a morning and evening when you bring and collect your child to school. We are determined that the children will have a lovely festive experience.

May I wish you all a safe and happy festive break and we look forward to seeing you all in January when children return.

Best wishes, Mrs Darbyshire, Executive Headteacher



Term Dates (Reminder)

School will now close at 3:30pm on **Thursday 17th December 2020** (as communicated on Tuesday 08th Dec 2020) and will re-open at 8:55am on Wednesday 6th January 2021.



Pupil Arrival and Collection Times from January 2021

Arrival Process

Children will arrive for school from 8:45am for a 8:55am start in January 2021.

Collection Process

Please kindly refrain from arriving at school to collect your child / children **before 3:20pm** in January. This will help ease gate congestion.

You will have seen that we have recently introduced revised social distancing systems for those parents who arrive early to collect children to ease gate congestion.

Thank you for your understanding and support in helping to keep everyone safe.

Parents who are collecting pupils from Year 5 and 6 – please use the Health Centre gate (again from 3:20pm) to further ease congestion. We advised against standing in the alley way as parents who are queuing up will be given first priority.

If you have informed the school that you wish your child to independently walk home at the end of the school day then please refrain from standing at the school gates.

Polite reminder - the use of bikes and scooters are not permitted within the school grounds.

In January 2021 we will be returning to a **8:55am to 3:30pm** school day (Reception classes to Year 6) so all pupils access a full school day.

The above safety measures will continue for parents who arrive early to collect children.



Face Coverings

For everyone's safety we recommend that parents and carers wear a face covering when on school grounds to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.



Breakfast and After School Club

We are delighted to write and inform you that Breakfast and After School Club will resume in January 2021. Please visit the school's website to book your child's CFAT Superheroes before and after school club place.



Spring Term Toast & Milk Orders

If your child has ordered toast and/or milk it will continue next term. To amend existing Toast and Milk orders with effect from January 2021 – please visit the school website or contact the school office on 01942 487999.



2020 Christmas Toy Appeal – Thank You!

We believe every child deserves a gift on Christmas Day.

Thank you to everyone who has donated new, unwrapped toys & gifts for children who might not otherwise receive a Christmas present

Please visit: <https://www.plattbridge.wigan.sch.uk/pages/news/109904> for more information in support of children across our Start Well Family Centre reach of Hindley, Hindley Green, Abram, Platt Bridge, Ashton & Bryn.



FREE Nursery Places available

Nursery education provides an 'early start' to education for children of pre-school age.

Please contact the school office on 01942 487999 for further information on childcare, including free childcare for two, three and four year olds within our school nursery.



Reception Class Admission for Sept 2021 – NOW OPEN

A big hello to all those children and their families who are thinking of joining us in Reception in September 2021.

The online application service is now open to apply for a place, Please visit:
<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Education/Schools/School-Admissions/Primary-schools.aspx>

The closing date for applications is 15 January 2021 – Please contact the school office for more information.



Bad Weather Plan

We want to ensure that in the event of heavy snowfall or extreme weather conditions, adequate measures are in place to enable our school to remain open. It is always the school's priority to remain open in order to maintain high standards of learning. To this end, our site staff work tirelessly to ensure that the site is safe for pupils, staff and visitors.

In the event of school closure due to bad weather, a member of staff will, where possible, be available on site to ensure that messages and communication are maintained for the first few hours of closure; The school will also undertake the following communication methods to keep parents updated.

- Text message to parents
- Published on the school website
- Message on Wish FM radio station
- Published on schools' official Twitter account @CFAT_NEWS



Upcoming Non Uniform Days

Friday 11th December 2020 – will be the school's annual Christmas Jumper day. All children are encouraged to wear a festive jumper to raise money for Save the Children. A voluntary shiny coin donation.

Thursday 17th December 2020 – will be a non uniform day for all pupils.



Upcoming Events

Monday 14th December – all children will participate in a festive class door decorating competition to utilise art and craft skills.

Tuesday 15th December – all children will make festive decorations & take home calenders for parents and carers to enjoy in 2021.

Wednesday 16th December – as the festive season is upon us we are inviting all children to the most magical ticket in town - virtually! All children will enjoy a virtual Pantomime in class bubbles. Hosted by Prince Charming the children will watch Cinderella. Children will be provided with popcorn and festive snacks to enjoy in class bubbles whilst watching the show.

Thursday 17th December – children are invited to a class bubble party and will be provided with in-class crisps, sweets and drinks. During the party children will play socially distanced games such as festive bingo / quiz etc.

We hope you have a safe festive break! We will continue in 2021 to use Class Dojo for daily school updates.



12 Days of Health and Well-Being



2020 has been a really difficult year.

One thing that can hold us together and help us get through is kindness. The Action for Happiness December calendar is full of ideas to help you help others. Kind actions lift our spirits, enhance relationships and benefit those around us. Kindness is a gift in both directions - let's share as much of it as we can.

KINDNESS CALENDAR: DECEMBER 2020

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 7 Leave a positive message for someone else to find	1 Share the Kindness Calendar with others and spread kindness	2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are	3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment	4 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today	5 Make a gift for someone who is homeless or feeling lonely	6 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about
14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one	8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member	9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them	11 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	12 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank	13 See how many different people you can smile at today
21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you	15 Contact an elderly neighbour and brighten up their day	16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to	17 Practice gratitude. List the kind things others have done for you	18 Give away something that you have been holding on to	19 Buy locally and support independent shops near you	20 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated
28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy	22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh	25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!	26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature	27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat
29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why	31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2021	Let's look beyond our differences and help each other. Every act of kindness matters			

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

#DoGoodDecember

www.actionforhappiness.org

Learn more about this month's theme at www.actionforhappiness.org/do-good-december
Keep Calm · Stay Wise · Be Kind