



**Goring Church of England
(Aided) Primary School**
Faith, Love and Learning

4 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

With the end of term fast approaching I wanted to share some of the highlights from past weeks and outline some of the adjustments to our usual festive arrangements in the light of Covid.

Our new intake children have settled into school routines amazingly well and their enthusiasm coming through the gate at the start of each day and in the classroom is a delight to see. The transition back to life in school after April lockdown posed new challenges for many staff and children but we have seen a resilience and determination developing in the school community, which has enabled re-engagement with learning to be re-established in positive ways. The ethos of strength and support in our school community has shone through very clearly. We continue to prioritise mental health and wellbeing as a foundation for success for every member of our school family.

Covid-19 update

I am pleased to report that we have not had any positive cases of Covid-19 amongst staff or children this term and our protective measures are being consistently well maintained in school.

A new dedicated email address has been set up for parents to use for reporting a positive Covid test result COVID@goring.w-sussex.sch.uk Please only use this email address for this purpose, any other covid related queries should be directed to the school office by phone or office email. This will support the school in promptly and robustly managing the necessary procedures in liaison with Public Health England should a case occur.

May I remind parents that only ONE adult should be accompanying children on site at the beginning and end of the day. We must continue to work together to minimize risk of transmission.

Christmas arrangements

Maintaining a sense of community, especially at this time of year is very important to us and current restrictions regarding indoor events and singing etc have generated some creative thinking in respect to arrangements. We hope that this will enable you to feel fully involved in all we have planned.

Early years and Year 1 & 2 children and staff have been working hard to create an outdoor Nativity production this year. Miss Leach has been renamed 'Mrs Poppy' as she has taken a major lead in producing this! Filming will take place next week, weather allowing. We are very grateful to the PSA for generously funding the filming costs of this event as a Christmas gift to parents. No DVDs will be sold this year but instead a link to the film itself will be distributed to parents free of charge before the end of term for their personal viewing.

Key stage 2 children are creating a virtual carol concert which will be shared with parents via the school website in the last week of term.

I do hope you can join with us in this virtual way to celebrate the birth of God's son, Immanuel in the full knowledge that He is with each and every one of us.

Christmas cards can be brought into school and placed in your child's own year group post box which will be in based in the classroom. All cards must be brought in no later than Thursday 10 December when all postboxes will be quarantined until the following week, after which cards will be sorted & distributed by staff. Please ensure that envelopes are clearly addressed with children's name and class/year group. Any cards brought into school after 10 December will be returned home for health and safety reasons.

Christmas Jumpers may be worn by all children on Wednesday 16 December. Christmas lunch will be served to those who have ordered it by Chartwells on this day too.

Christmas parties will be conducted in year group super bubbles in the well ventilated hall and your child will bring home a paper food bag to decorate on Friday 11 December. Please use this bag to provide your child with a small selection of Christmas food treats for their own consumption on their party day. Children may wear their own clothes to school on party day – please ensure suitable footwear and warm outer layers/coat are worn.

Monday 14 th Dec	Year 2
Tuesday 15 th Dec	Reception & Year 1
Wednesday 16 th Dec	Year 3 & Year 5
Thursday 17 th Dec	Year 4 & Year 6
Friday 18 th Dec	WINNING HOUSE TEAM – PJs DAY (with small chocolate treat – in class) Notification

Christmas trees will be kindly chosen and decorated outdoors by the PSA this year so keep your eyes open in the days ahead!

House team point winners will be notified w/c 14 Dec and will be able to wear pyjamas to school on Friday 18 December and will receive a chocolate treat in class. Sadly, no joint house team reward time will be possible this term due to cross contamination of bubbles.

Woodland Trust award

We are using our forest school area more extensively this year thanks to Mrs Brockwell running daily sessions during lunchtime, as well as additional afternoon sessions. As part of this project we plan to engage with the Woodland Trust award scheme and invite you to participate in a tree decorating activity at home to celebrate the benefits that trees and woodlands provide. Choose a tree that is important to your family, research tree dressing in other cultures for inspiration and make your own decorations (these do not need to be festive) to adorn your tree. Encourage your children to find out about the history of your tree and share stories about it. We would be pleased to receive any photos of your decorated tree by email via the school office. Children will have the opportunity to participate in a school based related activity too.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Jee
Headteacher

Headteacher Mrs C Jee

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