

Coopersale & Theydon Garnon C.E Primary School



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Newsletter – December 2020

Today is last day of the Autumn term! We cannot believe how quickly the time has flown and how much we have actually achieved. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for everything you have done to make sure that your children are in school. We know this had not been easy at times and yet we have worked together as a team to make this happen.

Despite the impact that Covid is having on all of our lives we have seen our children engage in a powerful curriculum that has promoted positive emotional health, opportunities to catch up on lost learning and very importantly our children engaging in critical thinking skills right across the curriculum. All our teaching staff are doing an excellent job and we wish to thank them for the dedication and perseverance they show every day in the best interests of the children.

December is always very special as we plan all of our events leading up to Christmas, including the whole school Christmas Lunch, Christmas Parties and end of term Christmas based worships. We have tried our very best to maintain the whole school festive spirit despite requiring 'bubble year groups'.



Remote Learning Day – Monday 4th January

As there will be increased household mixing over the festive period it is possible that there will be cases within our school community over the Christmas break. In order to respond to any information that has come in over the holiday period, undertake planning and make appropriate arrangements, School leaders have decided to move Monday 4th January to a remote education day. This decision was advised and supported by our Local Education Authority. **We look forward to welcoming back all the children to School on Tuesday 5th January.**

By 9am on Monday 4th January, remote learning will be available for each year group, via our School website.

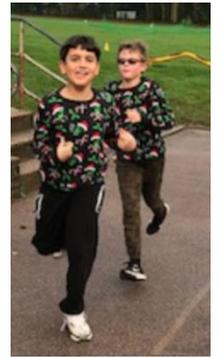
New Menus

Our new lunch menus are now available for you and your child to look at. These can be viewed via our School website or at the outdoor display adjacent to the front office. The new menus will begin on Tuesday 5th January – pupils first day back to School.

Santa Dash



Collectively our children ran 226 Kilometres last Friday as part of our Christmas Jumper Day activities. Can you work out how many miles that would be? Gillian Newlyn, a PE specialist from Davenant High School supported the event and cheered the children along with her reindeer bells. Thank you to all those who donated online, for those who are yet to donate, and wish to, please click on the



link: <https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day>

Anti-Bullying Week



The end of November saw Anti-bullying week being a focus in our school. Although bullying incidents are extremely rare in our school, we have noticed a rise in social media use amongst our older pupils. This can lead to a growth in online bullying through group chat platforms such as



Snapchat and WhatsApp.

Please click on the website for further parental support and advice:

<https://www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/social-media.html> or visit our 'online safety' webpage on our School website.

Advent

Last week our children explored the meaning of advent with Reverend Lee in the build up to the festive holidays. Advent can teach us the great value of patience and children can relate this to how patience can support us with our friendships. It has been a testing term in many ways, but together as the Coopersale learning community, we have shown great patience and perseverance in ensuring our children get every opportunity to be successful and make progress in their learning, despite Covid.



Gift shoe-boxes for families

Thank you so much to those children who brought in small gifts to add to the class gift box. Revd. Lee delivered the boxes this Wednesday to some of our children in Epping who most need it.



Muddy walk for Year 3's and 4's

On Tuesday 5th January, Beech, Hazel and Ash class will be going on a forest walk. For the walk, your child will need wellies or walking boots that are waterproof. Please can your child bring these in a plastic bag and wear their normal shoes to school.

Contact Tracing – informing the School across the Christmas break

Please follow the guidance below if your child begins to show symptoms or tests positive with COVID19 during the Christmas break.

School leaders will be monitoring the Studybugs app across the first 6 days of the Christmas break (19th to 24th December). The School's admin emails and phone line will not be monitored between 19th December and 3rd January.

Please notify the School via Studybugs, if your child starts to display symptoms in the first 2 days of the Christmas break. Do not wait until they have a test result. This early notice to School leaders will help if contact tracing could be required. The app will be monitored by School leaders at 9am and 4pm daily, across the 6-day window up to 24th December.

You only need to contact the school if symptoms began or a positive test result was received within 48 hours of being in school. After this time, use the NHS test and trace service. www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/

You should contact the school if your child will be absent, in time for the first day of the new term. The School admin email will be monitored from Monday 4th January.

Finally, ...

Thank you for your wonderful collective support and we look forward to welcoming you all back on **Tuesday 5th January 2021**. As a school community that is continually striving to improve, we are confident that 2021 will be a year where we achieve great things together.

