



Oakhurst Community First & Nursery
School
*'From Little Acorns Mighty Oaks
Grow'*

11th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Santa Dash

The children (and staff) all look great in their Christmas jumpers today and so festive! They all enjoyed running laps of the playground this morning as their Santa Dash and we've been overwhelmed by the sponsor money that we have received for this. 50% of what we have raised will go to Save the Children as part of their Christmas Jumper day appeal and the other 50% will be added to our PTFA fundraising towards our iPads.

Phonics Screening

As you will be aware statutory school assessments did not take place nationally this year due to the pandemic. However the children in Year 2, were required to take the phonics screening test this half term and we have been required to submit the data. I thought I would share with you that we are totally delighted that we had a 92% pass rate with this. This is totally amazing and the highest pass rate we have ever had, despite school being closed for a period of time! I really think this is due to a number of reasons; the children themselves have been so hard working and resilient. The teachers and teaching assistants who have been so determined that the children were not going to be affected by lost learning and dedicated so much time and hard work to ensure the children have had as much support as possible with reading and phonics both at school and whilst learning from home. The fact that the vast majority of children returned to school as soon as they could in June and the learning was picked up again very quickly. And finally yourselves, as parents, for all the work you did with your children during lockdown and all the continued support you give them with reading throughout the year. All in all a great team effort. Well done everybody!

Tesco Bags of Help Scheme

We are delighted to say that the PTFA have been successful in their bid to the Tesco Bags of Help Scheme and have been awarded £1000! A huge thank you to Nicola McKenna who submitted the bid for us.

We have lots more Christmas activities coming up over the next week including:

Elf Trail

From Monday 14th December our Elf Trail will be happening around the shops in West Moors. Some of the shops will be displaying an Elf picture in their windows for the children to find. We will be sending home an entry form with the children on Monday so they can take part over the Christmas break. Just return your completed form in a sealed envelope with £1 entry fee when we return to school on 4th January. All children who return their form will receive a Dojo point and be entered into a prize draw which will take place on 8th January

Christmas productions

Each class bubble has been busy rehearsing their Christmas productions. These will be performed and recorded next week. We will be sharing these with you via private YouTube account, which you will be sent a link for next Friday (18th December). These are for your personal use only and we ask that you do not share them on social media for safeguarding reasons.

Shaftesbury Road
West Moors
Dorset
BH22 0DY

01202 871577
office@oakhurstfirst.com
www.oakhurstfirst.com



The Heath Academy Trust
St Ives Primary School
St Ives
Ringwood BH24 2LE
Company Registration
Number 098098095

Christmas parties

Each class bubble will have a Christmas party in the hall one afternoon next week. They will have their lunch as normal and then we will provide them with a few snack to enjoy at the party. They will also get a drink each, which has been kindly donated by Seafoods Fish & Chip Shop.

Christmas lunch

We are having our 'Christmas lunch day' on Thursday 17th December. We are very pleased with the uptake of this, but if you haven't ordered your child a hot school meal on this day through Chartwells, they will need to bring in a packed lunch.

Christmas cards

If your child wishes to bring in any Christmas cards for their friends or staff they are very welcome to, but we ask for them to be in school by Wednesday 16th December so that they can be untouched for 48 hours before being given out on Friday.

Free School meals

Those of you who are entitled to Pupil Premium free school meals will have been contacted regarding the voucher scheme that is running over the Christmas holidays. If you have any questions regarding this please contact the school office.

Foodbank vouchers

We know that this year more than ever has been an incredibly challenging time and amongst other things, many people have been hit financially. As a school we are able to issue foodbank vouchers to anyone who is in need of it. Please do not feel embarrassed to speak to us if you feel this would be helpful to you. You can either speak to a member of staff, phone the school office or email either the school office or your child's class teacher.

Well-being support

There are many difficult challenges and situations that many are facing that could affect our children emotionally short term and long term. This year has been possibly the most challenging year any of us have faced in our lifetimes. If you think your child is being affected and would benefit from some additional support and intervention, please come and speak to us about it and we will see what we are able to do to help. You can either discuss it with your child's class teacher, myself or Denise Hunter, as our pastoral support worker. We are here for all of our children.

One thing that has really come to light during this last year is what a close, strong and supportive community we have here.

Please stay safe and look out for each other.

Many best wishes

Ann