

# December Newsletter

14th December 2021

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### **Children Around the World**

Children appeared to really enjoy performing on the stage in preparation for the 2021 Christmas celebration that is due to go live on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. You will be sent a link nearer the time. We are aiming for the video to be ready but there is a small chance we may need to postpone to after the weekend. Gabriel and year 3 puppeteers remind us all of that first Christmas before the angels fly off to bring children from different countries to the manger scene. Huge thanks to you all for helping with costume and songs. Enjoy the show!

















## **Junior School Applications**

If your child was born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015 and is in their last year at infant school you should apply for their junior school place by 15 January 2022. You'll be able to make your application from 9am on 8 November 2021. Go to www.derbyshire.gov.uk

The application process is quick and easy. You can find information about how to choose a school and apply for a place in the <u>parents</u> <u>guide to primary admissions</u>.

You'll get your offer on 19 April 2022. If you're unhappy with the decision you can **appeal**.

We will be writing to parents of children in Year 2 at Brockwell Infant School in the next few weeks. If your child does not attend the Infants on this site and you would like to hear from us, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

## **Christmas Hampers and PFA**

The PFA prepared and managed the fair over two days in school. Huge thanks for this. Once again, the children enjoyed spending their own money and practicing making choices of their own. It was evident that so much preparation had gone into the event by volunteers. Thank you again.

The raffle will be drawn in school this week so last day for raffle tickets is Wednesday morning. We will check in classes at lunchtime for any returned tickets and the draw will take place during the afternoon. If alcohol is in the prize, you will be asked to collect it from the office.

There is still some stock in the children's shop so if your child would like to buy something (at playtime) it will be open the rest of this week but please let them know that stock is limited and will run out. Thank you

# **Remote Learning**

Seesaw is the platform children use to access homework and learning at home. Please be reminded that the children have a class app and parents have a different, family app. You cannot access the activities from the family app. All parents are reminded to ensure you have the FAMILY APP and have received the code from school to access your child's account.

If your child is at home isolating and well enough to work, we will add work to their Seesaw journal. Please know that during the first day of absence children are expected to access their Doodle Maths and Tables, Spelling Shed, Reading and that week's homework template. There may also be work from Active Learn allocated. Teachers will add work to Seesaw as soon as possible.

Our remote guide is on our website. This includes information about the live sessions and online safety etc. All children need a device that can access Seesaw that is not a telephone. Please let your child's class teacher know if your child has no device to access learning at home.

<u>Dates for your</u> <u>diary:</u>

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>
December 7pm
Children Around
the World Live
Premier 7pm

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December Year 6 'Great Exhibition'.

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>
December 'Party
Day' NONUNIFORM

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>
December Virtual
Pantomime

School closed Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and reopens on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022. This month the **Derby Open Centre** joined us for workshops in connection with the year group RE learning challenges (Y4 went to St Thomas' as part of their challenge). Year 4 visited St Thomas' Church in order to further their learning about Communion and the role of the church in the community. Year 6 considered Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca. Year 3 made clay divas in their study of the Hindu faith and Year 5 learnt the value of prayer to Muslims.







Wonderful visit from the Derby Open Centre. Diva lamps! Great fun!



8:34 AM · Dec 10, 2021 · Twitter Web App

New Entrance - We are anticipating the opening of the new entrance in January with a date to be confirmed. Work on site will continue over the holidays. There will be some work to the temporary path which I am hoping will happen when it is not in use. New fencing to separate visitors and children playing is being sourced and once complete school council will develop a 'green' group to recreate a school garden which we'd like to be very special – more information next term.

**AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS** - There are no clubs including Jumping Clay, Athletics, Football, Tuition, Premier Sport or Choir next week (20th/21st and 22nd December)

## **Young Voices**

Many children in Year 5 and 6 are due to attend Sheffield Arena in February as part of the choir Young Voices. T-shirts have been issued and children have worn them to perform all their songs on our stage here in school. They looked and sounded absolutely amazing!

In light of the government messages this week, I thought you would appreciate it if I shared the update I received from Young Voices (I am assuming the lateral flows refer

to adults and non primary age children).



#### **Dear Teacher**

We are sure that like us you have been watching the news on the development of COVID-19 and the new Omicron variant.

Rest assured we have been working hard behind the scenes with our venues to make a plan for our concerts to keep everyone as safe as possible.

In the light of the recent move by the UK Government to Plan B we are keen to update you on our current risk assessments and planning so that you can continue your rehearsals with confidence.

<u>Click link</u> for our detailed YV Risk Assessment and Covid Protocols that we are putting in to help make our concerts safe for everyone.

The key things you need to to know are:

#### For children and teachers:

- We will ask all schools to take a lateral flow test in the 24 hours before they
  arrive at the venue and to not travel to the venue if they feel unwell or
  have a positive lateral flow result.
- Any teacher or adults arriving with the schools will be subject to the
  government's Plan B rules for entry. This means that they will be asked to
  show proof of their COVID status (which could include: A negative Lateral
  flow or PCR test result, proof of double vaccination or proof of natural
  immunity through previously having Covid in the past 6 months). Please
  check the arena website for updates nearer to the time.

- We will ask schools to eat their food in their seats in the arena to minimise the potential mixing of school groups.
- Extra cleaning of touch points will be undertaken in the toilets used by the schools and on door handles, hand rails etc.
- We will ask schools to also do their own risk assessment before they arrive and if they wish to wear masks they can. Over 18s are encouraged to wear masks when moving around the venue.

#### For parents and audience members:

- The Government's Plan B rules mean audience members will be asked to show proof of their COVID status (which could include: A negative Lateral flow or PCR test result, proof of double vaccination or proof of natural immunity through previously having Covid in the past 6 months). Please check the arena website for updates nearer to the time.
- We will also ask audience members to wear masks at all times where possible while inside the venue.

We will of course keep you updated if anything changes between now and your concert and we will continue to work hard with our venues to make sure everyone has a brilliant time at Young Voices in amongst these new procedures! Best wishes

The YV Team

**NON UNIFORM DAY TUESDAY 21st December** - Classes will have their Christmas treat on this day so please come dressed in non-uniform with shoes fit for our grounds.

# **Happy Holidays Everyone**

Everyone has worked incredibly hard this autumn term. Children have taken so much pride in their work and give their best every day. Thank you grown-ups for all the reminders, organizing and help that you give day after day. We're so grateful for your ongoing support. Like us, you can be very proud of your children.

I also can't express strongly enough just how fantastic the staff team has been this term. The quality of the sessions, the variety and the creativity is evident every day whilst ensuring the academic expectation is routine. I know we are missing the full mixing of staff teams and the ongoing response is arduous in many ways. However, I see how staff prioritise the academic and social needs of the children and how they ensure that children have a great experience in school as much as possible. The enrichment activities like the Year 6 'Great Exhibition' this week are examples of this.

Whilst we break up a little later than most schools, we have the benefit of what I hope will be some beautiful January sunshine after the busy time of Christmas and New Year. I wish you all a most relaxing, pleasant break and a happy New Year. Catherine Holmes