



## Newsletter Autumn 2 2021

It is hard to believe we are at the end of term. What a term it has been! For most of this term we returned to a more normal way of working. There have been two residential visits, school trips, visits from a police dog and the fire service to name a few. Year 3 have also completed their pedestrian training. I am so immensely proud of all of our children and their ongoing enthusiasm for learning. This was evident during a recent visit to school by Stockton's Head of Education where children discussed their learning and shared their acquired knowledge across the breadth of the curriculum. This term we have also been awarded The Primary Science Quality Mark for our science curriculum. This is a huge achievement considering the disruption to schools by the pandemic.



### Covid 19

Our plans for Christmas this year have changed significantly due to Covid. The priority has been the health and well-being of children, families and staff and trying to avoid isolations over the Christmas period. We continue to have a robust

risk assessment and contingency outbreak plan in place should we have a rising number of cases. In line with the risk assessment should your child display symptoms in school however mild, we will ask you to collect them from school and arrange a PCR test. In line with guidance, where a family member has tested positive, children can still attend school unless they display symptoms, test positive on a PCR, or is a contact of someone who has the Omicron variant. We will follow all advice in relation to the Omicron variant.

### Christmas in School

During this final week of term, we are focusing on Christmas activities for the children. The children have been enjoying crafts such as making a Christingle, having fun at parties and we have been able to stream the performance of Elf into school. Like you I can't wait to watch all of the children's performances on Seesaw at the end of the week. We have everything crossed that next year we can celebrate Christmas with you as a school family.



### PTA

The PTA have raised £468.00 through the Accumulator and the raffle. Prize winners are being notified by text.

### Sporting Achievements

This half term Year 2 spent an enjoyable time at the PE Festival. Restrictions allowing, we will be fully participating in all of Stockton's planned sporting events.

### Rights Respecting School



We continue our journey as a Rights Respecting School. The articles of the month for this half term were:

**November - Article 38** Children have the right to be protected during war. No child under the age of 15 can join the army or take part in war.

**December - Article 27** Children have the right to food, water and a safe place to live, so they can develop in the best possible way. The government should help families and children who cannot afford this.



Breaking news...we have just heard that our application for the Bronze Award has been approved. An amazing achievement in one term.

### Attendance

Covid and seasonal illness has continued to affect attendance. Our current whole school attendance rate is 94.1%, whilst lower than we would normally expect, this is still higher than the current national figure.



The class with the highest attendance continues to be Miss Harrison's Year 6 class with an attendance of 95.7%, closely followed by Mr Lamb's Year 4 class with an attendance of 95.2%. Well done everyone.

In line with our Attendance Policy, leave of absence requests will only be authorised by the school in exceptional circumstances. The policy is available on the website. Where holidays have been rescheduled due to Covid, we will need to see the original booking documentation when considering the leave of absence request. All other requests will be categorised as unauthorised and subject to a fixed penalty notice referral in line with school policy.

### Car Park

We are continuing to operate a drop zone each morning for children in KS2. This is to try and support the car parking situation on a morning by removing the need for some cars to park. This is a difficult situation to navigate as the car park is not a parental car park but designed to accommodate staff and visitors to the school. This term we have had two incidents where cars have been damaged and so I politely ask that if

you are coming into the car park that you take great care.

### Gentle Lunch Time Reminder

We are a nut free school as we do have children with allergies. Please do not send anything in your child's lunch box that contains nuts, this includes items such as Nutella.

### Marvellous Me!

In addition to the text service, Marvellous Me is our preferred method of parental communication from class teachers. Please ensure that you have installed the app and can access information sent in this way. If you have any issues please contact the school office who will be happy to help. Children and teachers love to see your Hi 5 responses, we have issued 9387 badges/activities and had 3460 Hi 5s since we launched the app.



### Diary Dates

Please note our return date for children of Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

- **Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021: School finishes for Christmas**
- **Tues 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022: Bank Holiday for Platinum Jubilee**
- **Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022: Professional Development Day**

- **Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022: Children return to school**
- **Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022: School finishes for half term**
- **Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022: Children return to school**
- **Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Apr 2022: School finishes for Easter**
- **Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Apr 2020: Children return to school**
- **Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2022: Bank Holiday**
- **Mon 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Year 6 SATs Week**
- **Mon 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022: Professional Development Day**
- **Fri 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022: School finishes for half term**
- **Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022: School returns after half term**
- **Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022: Week of phonic screening**
- **Mon 13<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> June 2022: Multiplication Tables Check takes place for Year 4**
- **Fri 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022: Professional Development Day**
- **Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022: School finishes for the Summer**



On behalf of the whole team I would like to thank you all for your ongoing support, we really do appreciate this.

Finally, to wish you all a wonderful Christmas, we can't wait to see you all in the new year, refreshed ready for the Spring Term.

Best Wishes

Mrs Williams