

WELFORD ON AVON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Newsletter No. 13

17/12/2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the final Newsletter of the Autumn term and 2021. I am sure you will agree that it has been a particularly challenging term. However, as always, the school community has worked collaboratively to make sure any interruptions have been managed well. Considering everything, it has been a very successful term.

Christmas Concerts

It was lovely to welcome parents into school over the last two weeks to watch our Christmas performances. The productions were fabulous and being able to share this experience with a live audience, was a privilege for staff. The children thoroughly enjoyed this well overdue experience, which they will remember for many years to come.

New Path on School Playing Field

You may have used the new pathway on the school field this week. This path will be used for access to the new hall for parents attending assemblies and events such as the parents and toddler group.

Christmas Class Parties

Our pupils really enjoyed their Christmas class parties. They danced and played a range of Christmas party games. Thank you to all our teachers for organising this fun event.

PE/Forest School and Games to resume week beginning Monday 10th January

There will be no PE, Games or Forest School during the first week of the new term and will resume week beginning Monday 10th January. Children may wear PE kits to school for indoor athletics on Tuesdays, but must bring outdoor kits including trainers, for games on their allocated games day.

Pupil COVID Testing before returning to school in January

We advise that all pupils complete a LFT before returning to school on Wednesday 5th January. This is to ensure the safety of staff and pupils and prevent any further outbreaks of COVID in our classes which could cause significant disruption to teaching and learning. Your cooperation with this matter is greatly appreciated. The new tests are very simple to use, even with very young children.

Good advice for parents this Christmas

Have a look at the link below to help with putting any restrictions in place you feel appropriate, on the devices you are giving your children for Christmas

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

Clubs

Club lists have been sent out for next term. We have a wide range of fun clubs running again this term. If you want your child to attend, please send an Email to welfordonavonschool@welearn365.com If you require financial assistance to attend any of our clubs please make an appointment to have a confidential conversation.

In Shape for School and STAR Club

The new STAR Club booking forms have also been sent out. Please fill them in and return to the school office.

Year 5 and Year 6 attend virtual meeting at Westminster

On Monday, Year 5 and Year 6 attended online parliament tours. The presenters talked to the children live from Westminster and talked about the work completed in parliament, explained the functions of both the House of Commons and the House of Lords in making and passing laws. The children were able to interact and ask the hosts questions to the and found it a very valuable experience.

Current Affairs Class Assembly – Christmas School Plays

Each class has been discussing the alternative ways schools have performed school plays and concerts this term. They have discussed that laws, rules or guidance can change to help keep us safe. Many schools have had to adapt the way they perform their school plays and concerts this year, so they can still go ahead.

If you would like to continue this discussion at home, please do so by looking at the additional information attached with this newsletter to guide your conversations.

School Community Council

Prior to COVID, we had been running a very successful Parent Council and we would like to restart it. We have changed the name to 'School Community Council', to enrich the school community links. This council is a forum in which members of the school community can come together to share ideas and put forward their views to the Headteacher and the Governing Body of the school.

As a result, it is hoped that this will get wider involvement from our school community in the active decision making of the school, fostering a culture of ownership and participation.

We are looking for any parents/grandparents or family members of children attached to the school who are interested in becoming part of this group. Please contact the school office for more information. We will arrange our first meeting in the new year.

Welford Wrigglers Playgroup

We are delighted with the success of our new parent and toddler group. The first session of 2022 will be on Wednesday 12th January from 9.15am - 11.15am. Please share this fantastic new group with any parents who may be interested in attending.

School Direct (Arden Forest Programme)

Our wonderful group of school direct trainees will be starting their 'School Placement 2' in January. The trainees who are currently at Welford will be moving to other local schools and new trainees will be joining Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 5. These students are already well known to us, as they are training within our programme and will fit into our class environment very easily. All trainees will return to their host school in March, to complete their final placement. We wish all our current Welford trainees every success in their new schools and look forward to seeing them again in March.

Wellness @ Welford

December Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF)

If your child is in receipt of benefits tested free school meals, they are able to access up to 4 days of holiday activities this Christmas holiday free of charge. Various activities are available across Warwickshire. All eligible families have been sent a HAF code. If you haven't received yours please contact the HAF team at:

hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk

Additionally, they have a small selection of family days out available to book in place of attending an activity. Details can be found by following the December HAF Activity link on the HAF webpage.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/HAF>

Please follow the link above for more information:

If your child does not receive free school meals but your family or child has any of the below support in place:

- Allocated Family Support Worker
- Allocated Social Worker
- Early Help Plan
- Child in Need Plan
- Child Protection Plan
- Open to Youth Justice Team
- Child in care
- Young carer

Please contact hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk to see if you are eligible for a HAF code.

New Family Information Newsletter

<https://us5.campaign-archive.com/?u=a24b439ef7022ae0d86f9ca6e&id=69d26aa23c>

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter there is information on the Holiday Activities and Food programme over the Christmas break, the NHS Healthy Start scheme, buying safe toys and much more!

The Family Information Service is here to support families across Warwickshire. As always, you can get in touch with us by emailing fis@warwickshire.gov.uk or calling 01926 742274.

Free Parenting Programmes available free to Warwickshire families

<https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-829341009-253>

Link for parents to book onto workshops and programmes:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/warwickshire-children-and-families-17595309993>

Ordering Tests:

There is currently a shortage of tests but keep checking the website below or visit your local pharmacy to collect a box.

Follow this link to order Rapid Response Tests of LFTs

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

And finally.....

Please can I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let's hope the New Year brings better times for all, but there may be new challenges ahead and we need to continue to work together to be ready for all eventualities. Thank you for your continuing support in helping mitigate the risks on our school site, so that the school can remain open and education remain uninterrupted.

Thank you to all the staff at Welford, who have risen to the challenges of adapting their operational roles to deal with the current climate. Their commitment and dedication is admirable.

Thank you to our Welford Governors for their support and challenge to ensure that amidst all the difficulties, standards remain high.

I look forward to seeing everyone again when school reopens on **Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 8.55am.**

Take care and stay safe x

Mrs Leeman and Staff