

# December 2020

# NEWSLETTER



## Dear Parents & Carers

We've managed to get to the end of term with no positive cases for both staff and children. Our attendance figures have never been so good. Well done to all of you for sticking to our guidance and managing the new timings so well. You've worked so well with us and we're extremely grateful.

It looks like we'll still be continuing with the measures for at least the Spring Term and potentially longer. We can't wait to start mixing children again and having whole Key Stage or School events, but we'll just have to be patient.

We've all missed the Nativity plays and Carol Services this year but we do hope you've enjoyed the Advent Calendar. Don't forget to open the Christmas Eve window for some light hearted relief from the staff!

We're really delighted with the progress the children are making and we're making up for the education missed over the Summer Term. Not surprisingly the children with some of the biggest gaps are where families didn't engage with the learning over the lockdown period, so it will be really important to ensure that we find ways of continuing learning in the event of children having to possibly home school again. None of us want that so it's good to see the high levels of engagement with Class Dojo and Tapestry. Please do remember to check messages and notices on there and the school website.

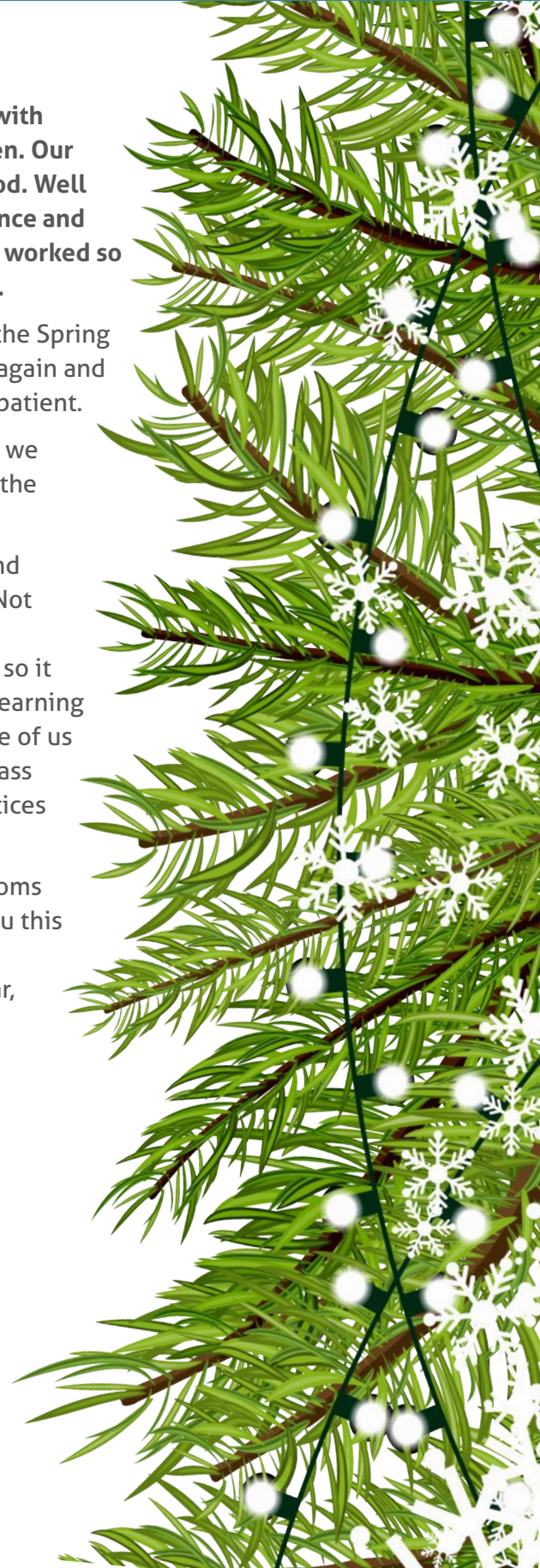
Please continue to inform us of any symptoms or suspected symptoms in January. I know that Christmas may well be quite different for you this year but I do hope you all manage to find some Christmas cheer. So have a wonderful Christmas and we'll see you all in the New Year, best wishes.

*Katy Burns* Headteacher

## Advent Calendar

We hope you have all enjoyed opening the doors to the advent calendar on the website and seeing/hearing the children tell you the Christmas story. Keep an eye out for our staff Christmas message behind door number 24!

[Click here to see it](#)



# Christmas Jumper & Lunch Days 9th and 10th December

The children had a wonderful couple of days, enjoying their delicious festive lunch provided by Mrs Staddon and the Kitchen team, who did a wonderful job, despite having to cater for an additional 38 hot dinners and 27 packed lunches which had not been pre-ordered. It is imperative that parents pre-order lunches via ParentPay for any future special menus to avoid any unnecessary strain on the Kitchen or disappointment for the children. Thanks also to Mrs Ansell for pulling everyone together to deliver a memorable lunch for the children. Unfortunately, it is just about the only big festive event we have been able to undertake this year, but one that was thoroughly enjoyed by all nonetheless. Here's looking towards a normal year next year where we hope to be able to continue our seasonal events in School.

We received some very generous donations on our Christmas Jumper days raising a total of £205.70. This money will be used to purchase eight MP3 players that will be donated straight to Purple Angels for the benefit of dementia patients in local care homes.



Year 2



Year 4



Year 5



Year 5



## Thank you Mr Lamsin

A huge thank you to Nick Lamsin who came to the aid of our youngest children, building them an absolutely amazing stand for their activity tray. It's better than we could have ever wished for. Thank you so much Nick!



## Bags to School

Thank you so much for all your kind donations of clothing and textiles for Bags to School. Your donations raised a total of £147, which goes straight to FROGs.

# Covid Guidance for Christmas

We send out huge thanks to all our families and staff members who have followed the Covid guidance to date and we take pride (at time of writing) in saying that we have not had to "burst any bubbles" because we have not yet had a pupil test positive for Covid.

The Local Authority are making us very aware, that in January we could see cases surge locally resulting in an increase in families isolating. Please do be aware that we are very vigilant and strictly follow the guidance provided to us. In the instance that we do have to close a bubble, those within the bubble will be the first to know and it will be immediate.

**This leads us onto our next request... should one of our pupils test positive for Covid between the dates of Saturday 19th December and Thursday 24th December please email the school immediately on :**

[covid19@acexcellence.co.uk](mailto:covid19@acexcellence.co.uk)

If a pupil receives a positive test result up to and including Christmas Eve we will need to act upon this and possibly inform bubbles.

For a pupil at our school who tests positive on or after the 25th December, there will be no impact within school bubbles and therefore this information can be shared with our admin staff on return to school on 4th January.

This only relates to pupils at our school. We do not need you to supply information on family members within the household. On the 4th January, please let us know if your family is isolating having received a positive test result.

Thank you for your help in this matter.



# Christingle Service



Firstly, following our eagerly awaited and much anticipated Virtual Christingle Service which launched the Christmas festivities, we would like to send our thanks to Cherrybrook Co-op and Sainsbury's Paignton for providing oranges for our Key Stage 1 children to enjoy making Christingles.

Any left over oranges were taken down to Paignton Community Food Larder where they were very gratefully received.

The Virtual Service was a huge success attended by many families via "Zoom", whilst the children remained in their "bubbles" within the classrooms. Well done to all the children who gave readings and the singing was superb.

## Good Luck Mrs Paskin!

We would like to take this opportunity to wish our Year 1 Teacher Mrs Paskin all the very best with her upcoming maternity leave; she will be greatly missed by both children and colleagues. We are very lucky to have the continuity of Mrs Maker who already works in Year 1, who will be sharing the teaching role with Mrs Butler while Mrs Paskin is on maternity leave.

## Poppy Appeal



Thank you to our pupils and families who purchased a poppy this year. Galampton Primary raised a total of £146.88 for The Royal British Legion, which is amazing.

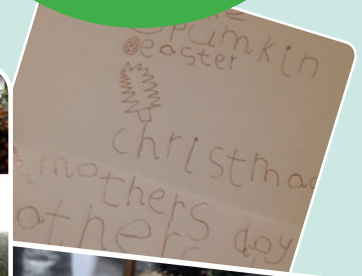
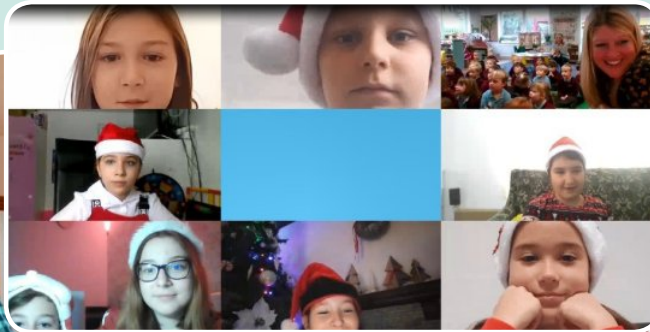
# How do people celebrate differently?

We have been thinking about how and what we celebrate. The children have enjoyed sharing occasions in their own lives that they have celebrated.

We have been comparing how we celebrate our birthdays and comparing this to traditions in other countries. We learnt that in Australia they have fairy bread for breakfast on their birthday. We enjoyed trying out this tradition!

We have also been fortunate enough to make a link with a school in Romania and meet them, via zoom. The children have been learning to speak English and wanted to talk to us about when and how they celebrate. They shared with us how they celebrate Saint Nicholas's Day by polishing their shoes and leaving them out to be filled with sweet treats. They had also learnt to sing jingle bells for us, which the children really enjoyed.

## Reception Class



# Galampton Primary School Calendar Dates 2021

Tuesday 9th February  
Tempest Photography in for  
family photos (STC)

Monday 22nd February  
School Nurse in for YR & YR6  
height and weight checks.



Peace

Compassion

Integrity

Trust

Forgiveness

Responsibility