



Headteacher's Introduction

As we get to the end of term, it is time to reflect on the last few months in school. There has been so much to be pleased with and proud of – themed days, music lessons, theatre visits, praise assemblies, Christmas activities and much more. The thing we are most proud of is the children's excellent attitude to their learning – they are engaged and enthusiastic and really trying their best. Staff are so pleased to have the children in school and to be able to help them with their learning and we are grateful to you for your support with all of the measures we have in place to keep everyone as safe as we can.

It has been a really super final week in school with our Christmas festivities still in full swing. Our Christmas parties have been full of fun and excitement and the children all had a great time.

We are really pleased to share with you our BSL Signed Christmas songs. We're sure you will agree that these are wonderful and the children have done a fantastic job. You can see these via these links:

Merry Christmas Everyone - <https://youtu.be/ZtHBCjnH-SI>

Silent Night: <https://youtu.be/tbIP2fyEcMc>

We hope that you all have a restful and peaceful Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Mr Haynes & Mrs Innes

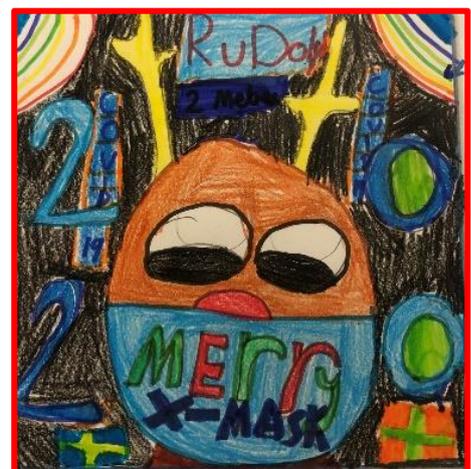
Term dates

Don't forget that we re-open on Tuesday 5th January 2021 to children. The same timings apply next term as this one and all other restrictions and guidelines remain in place until further notice.

Christmas Card Competition

We recently entered the Cool Milk 'Design a Christmas Card' Competition and have received some really great news.

Leena Marsh in Year 3 designed this fabulous entry and was awarded Runner Up! Well done! Leena has won a £25 Amazon voucher which will be spent in her classroom.



Christmas Break Covid Notifications

A reminder about how to let us know about a positive Covid case in the first few days of the holiday can be seen on our website here: <https://hemplandprimary.co.uk/headteacher-update/>

Please note that the office email will be checked twice daily for Covid updates until Wednesday and then won't be monitored until the New Year. General queries may not get a response until the start of the next term and teachers' emails won't be being checked until January.



Winter Support Grant

The Covid Winter Grant Fund is to help with food and utility bills for households struggling in the pandemic. Applications open on 7 December at www.york.gov.uk/wintersupportgrant.

Further information and how to apply can be found here <https://www.york.gov.uk/news/article/420/more-free-school-meals-and-support-throughout-winter>

£100k available to update or create new play areas

To support fitness and wellbeing in the city, community groups are invited to apply for a share of £100,000 funding to contribute towards play and exercise equipment in the city's open spaces.

<https://www.york.gov.uk/news/article/441/-100k-available-to-update-or-create-new-play-areas>

Cook School

We are delighted to say that from January, we are bringing back Cook School, albeit in a different format to before. We can't yet bring in volunteers to help with this and children will be accessing it in small groups, led by Mrs Souch. We are starting with Y1 children and will be asking for a £2 donation to cover the cost of ingredients, equipment and cleaning. This will be available on WisePay shortly.