

End Of Autumn Term Newsletter

Headteacher's Message

It's cold and getting colder which means we are coming to the end of Autumn Term. Normally the focus of any newsletter at this time would be to let you know about all the exciting events we had planned for the last week (Nativity performances for instance), but sadly, like so much of our everyday lives at the moment, the ongoing pandemic is very much in the way.

We have managed to arrange things so that some of the normal events will happen.

Christmas Lunch will be taking place on **Thursday 17th December**. If your child normally has a school dinner they will automatically be able to have a Christmas Lunch. If you normally provide a packed lunch for your child but would like them to join in and have a Christmas Lunch, please let the school office know by Tuesday 15th. The cost of the Christmas Lunch is £2.20. The office will send you a separate message telling you how to pay. Please do not send in the money, our office is now cash free.

To help make this day feel special for the children, they will then be having their class Christmas parties in the afternoon. Children are allowed to dress up in their best party clothes for this. Feel free to send your children into school in their party wear on **Thursday 17th December**. Please do not send them in with a change of clothes. We are unable to supervise large groups of children getting dressed up before lunchtime!

The last day of term is **Friday 18th December**. School will end at the **normal time**. Friday will also be the day that we celebrate the children's excellent attitudes to school and learning with the termly 'Good to be Green' event. This time out they will be sharing Christmas stories and having special biscuits and hot chocolate in their classrooms. There will also be an inter-class singing competition on each floor. We hope to be able to invite you to join us for this competition, sadly only virtually, so watch out for information on how to join us if you are free. Reception will also be singing for you all. This event will however be filmed. Passwords to access the filmed event will be circulated via seesaw on Friday. To help the cosy feel of the day (**Friday 18th December**) and to ensure they are dressed for the part, children are free to wear Christmas jumpers, cardigans or t-shirts but please do not feel pressured into buying anything especially for this event. Personalised and homemade items often hold more meaning for the children.

Sadly we will still need to stagger the start and end of the day. However, we are now able to adjust things slightly - see times below. Hopefully the first step back to normal!

Nursery 2 8.55 - 9.05 am to 3.05 pm

Reception 8.55 - 9.05 am to 3.05 pm

Year 1 8.55 - 9.05 am to 3.10 pm

Year 2 8.55 - 9.05 am to 3.10 pm

Year 3 8.45 - 8.55 am to 3.20 pm

Year 4 8.45 - 8.55 am to 3.20 pm

Year 5 8.55 - 9.05 am to 3.20 pm

Year 6 8.45 - 8.55 am to 3.15 pm

Finally, can I thank you all for the support you have shown us across this term. With your help we have managed to ensure school is as close to normal as we have been able to make it. This has helped our children to not only feel safe and secure in this strange time we find ourselves in but also to push forward with their learning. The children have shown a great deal of resilience and determination this term and it has been a delight to work with them all.

Have a relaxing break over the holiday period and remember to keep your children reading and practising their times tables!

We look forward to seeing you all on **Tuesday 5th January**.

Message from the Chair of Governors

Governors were really pleased with the report on attendance and would like to thank parents for ensuring that their children are still engaging with school and learning. We would also like to thank parents for their support with the COVID-management measure such as staggered start times and use of different entrances. Hopefully life will be back to normal at some point in the near future but in the meantime these measures continue to be very important. Governors also discussed a range of wellbeing strategies to help pupils cope with the current situation.

Head Pupils' Messages

Hello my name is Alexia and I am one of the head pupils at Medlock Primary. I will be available to help any pupil feeling puzzled about their curriculum. I will be sending feedback on the newsletter to inform you every term. I would like to thank you for taking the time to read this. Have a lovely holiday and a happy new year!

Hello my name is Sasha and I am one of the head pupils of Medlock Primary School. I want to reassure every family that I am here to help your children progress through this year. 2020 has been very tough but I am available any time for anyone so don't hesitate to ask for my help. Every term I will be sending feedback on the newsletter to update you. Thank you for taking the time to read my update. Have a glorious holiday!