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Headteacher: Mr N. Allen

19.11.2021

Dear parents and carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you all well as we bump along this term avoiding seasonal colds, flu and Covid. Once again I would like to express the appreciation of staff and Governors' to all our families for your support during this challenging term.

Like last year, we face a lot of uncertainty in regard to the traditional Christmas activities that take place in and around school. Educational establishments have often found themselves placed between societies rules and operational guidance – at times these would appear to contradict one another.

We share this information with you now so all parents and carers are informed and are aware of the schools determination to involve parents as we celebrate Christmas 2021.

Pantomime.

Sadly, we wish to inform you of the difficult decision we have made to cancel our trip to the Torch Theatre Pantomime this year. The school desperately wanted to attend, however, assessing the situation we feel it wise to cancel our visit due to a number of factors, particularly Pembrokeshire remaining high on the infection control framework for at least the next three weeks.

We are also concerned at the difficulties we would face in transporting pupils to the theatre when we would need to mix pupils and staff from different classes on buses, and once at the theatre we would also then be mixing with another school. We would also have to consider the children of parents who do not wish them to attend the theatre, and would need to allocate staff to remain in school for these pupils, possibly having to replace some members of staff with parental volunteers. All these actions would increase the risk of Covid.

More importantly, should we experience a positive case as a result of attending those identified as a close contact would face a concerning time and would possibly be 'elf' isolating over Christmas Day.

All in all this has not been an easy decision for the school, however, we have always followed **common sense and looked after everyone's well being**. It is worth noting that both the Merlin Theatre and Tenby De Valance have cancelled their pantomimes this year and as a staff and governors we feel that cancelling the visit is the most appropriate and safest action we can take.

Friday 17th December will now become our Christmas Jumper and Christmas Film day.

Foundation Phase Christmas Performances.

On a more positive note the school is fortunate to have a reasonably sized hall and therefore, in line with guidance we feel this year we WILL be able to hold our Christmas shows for parents, however, this will depend on a number of factors and strict actions that will be documented with the school Covid Risk Assessment. This decision will be reviewed regularly and subject change should infection numbers locally increase.

The mitigating action that the school will take are:

- Each show will be performed twice, each pupil will be allocated two tickets for each show (4 in total).
- School aged siblings of children performing will **not** be permitted as this could result in a possibly wider spread of Covid across the school and community.
- Parents and carers will be asked to gel hands on entry and exit.
- We request that masks are to be worn throughout the performance.
- Chairs will be laid out in pairs at a distance **please do not move chairs**.
- Hall doors will remain open for increased ventilation.

We thank you in advance for following the measures above set out in the school Covid Risk Assessment.

Date	Time	Class
Monday 6 th December	9:30am	Early Years
Tuesday 7 th December	9:30am	Early Years
Wednesday 8 th December	10am	Year 1
Wednesday 8 th December	2pm	Year 1
Thursday 9 th December	9:30am	Year 2
Thursday 9 th December	6:00pm	Year 2

Flu Vaccine.

The flu vaccine will be administered to pupils on Monday 13th December.

Christmas Dinner – Wednesday 15th December, all pupils are invited to wear Christmas Jumpers. Christmas dinner this year will again be slightly different to previous years and last year, nevertheless, staff are planning several activities to bring some Christmas cheer to our meal.

Friends of Saundersfoot School – FOSS.

Our FOSS committee is in the process of a change over, should you wish to join our FOSS committee or just put your name forward as a volunteer please contact Mrs. Brace in the school office. Thank you to those who have already put your names forward. We are under a bit of time pressure on this as we wish to fund raise and organise a few treats for the pupils for Christmas.

I would like to thank the current committee for all of their hard work over the past few years, especially during Covid when we have kept up the communication despite not being able to hold any whole school events. I am so grateful that many committee members are keen to remain involved in FOSS albeit more in a supportive role. We wish to thank committee members Becky Colletti, Sian Werner, and Michelle Joseph as they hand over the FOSS baton to the new committee.

Friday 26th Choose Kindness Day.

There have been a number of events advertised lately and we have not been able to acknowledge and celebrate them all. In November alone we could have World Diabetes day, Enterprise Week, International Day for Tolerance, World Hello day, anti-bullying week and World Kindness Day. Next Friday the school will be holding 'wear odd sock' day for our 'Choose Kindness Day'. As we look to promote those key citizenship skills essential for our children in today's society.

There is no fundraising involved pupils just need to wear odd socks.

Christmas activities.

- Friday 10th December - Save the Children Christmas Jumper day.
Monday 13th December - Flu Vaccine administration.
Wednesday 15th December - Christmas School Dinner (pupils to wear Christmas Jumpers)
Friday 17th December - Christmas Jumper and Christmas Film day.
Classes will communicate individually for class party details.
Tuesday 21st December - End of term 2021!

2022

- Wednesday 5th January – Pupils return to school.

Inset days

- Tuesday 4th January - Curriculum for Wales Autumn review, Spring Term planning and preparation.
Monday 25th April - Curriculum for Wales Spring term review, Summer Term planning and preparation.
Spring Term Basic First Aid TBC
Friday 15th July - End of Summer term for all.
Monday 18th July - Inset Day – taken as twilights during Summer term.
Tuesday 19th July - New Jubilee Bank Holiday

Children in Need– at present all of our activities have raised £482.17! A fantastic effort everyone. Thank you for your support.



Diolch yn fawr

N Allen

Headteacher
Saundersfoot CP School