



End of Term Newsletter December 2021



This has been yet another 'challenging' year for us all. The virus has impacted on the school like never before which obviously affected our Christmas events. I appreciate how much the children enjoy Christmas which has made decisions to cancel some of these extremely difficult.

We are aware of how much this has impacted on all of our parents/carers and I would like to pass on my gratitude to each and every one of you for your patience and understanding. We can only hope that 2022 is a better year.

The message for January will remain the same. We will continue to have our safety measures in place and continue to urge parents/carers of our secondary pupils to continue with twice weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing. We will be housing a small in-school testing centre after the break which parents/carers of all secondary students will receive details of in a separate letter. We hope that this provision will lead to more students testing regularly.

All secondary students, who are able to, should be tested before returning to school for Term 3, either the night before or the morning of the first day back (Tuesday 4th January). Should anyone register a positive Lateral Flow Device test, they should not come to school but book a PCR test. Please let your class teacher know the results via email/ClassDojo or the home school contact book.

If there are any updates to the guidance for schools over the holiday, which impacts on school operation, we will let you know via ClassDojo and the school website and update our Risk Assessment and Parent Handbook accordingly.



Positive COVID-19 Reporting over the Christmas Holidays

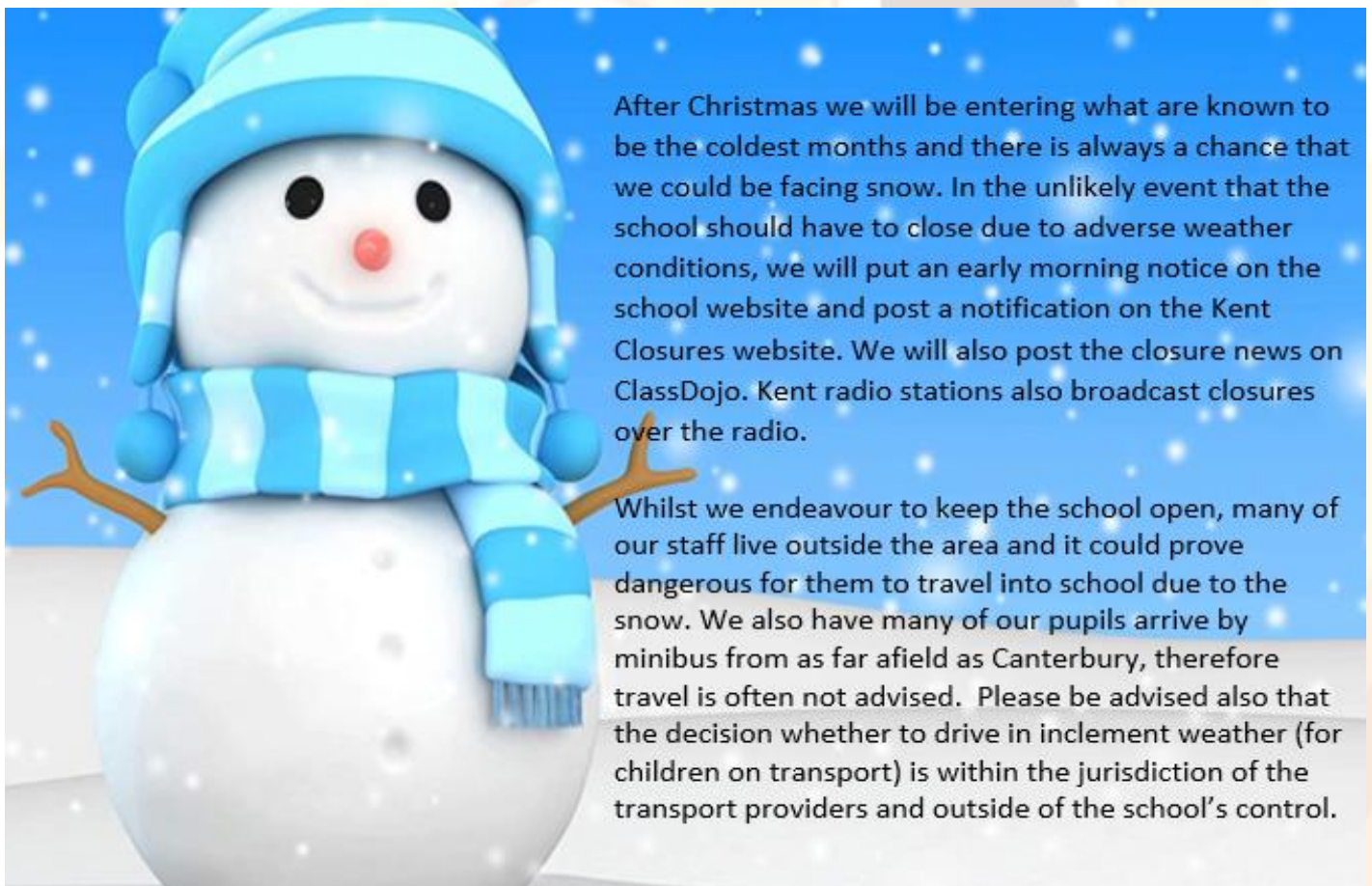
Should any pupil/student test positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19) over the break, they will be contacted by Test and Trace who will ask for details of close contacts. Should any pupil/student, having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (that is up to and including Sunday 19th December) test positive, can we ask that parents/carers inform us by email in order that we can liaise as necessary, with the Health Protection Team and if required inform close contacts.

Parents/carers should inform us via the generic email account:

foreland@foreland.kent.sch.uk This email account will be monitored on a regular basis at the beginning of the holiday. Could we ask that parents/carers inform us of the date that their child first developed COVID-19 symptoms or in the event of them being asymptomatic, the date the test was administered. Parents/carers of any child identified as a close contact will receive notification via ClassDojo or email.

Please note, Parents/Carers are not required to inform us if a pupil/student tests positive having developed symptoms more than 48 hours after being at school (specifically after Monday 20th December). Parents/carers should, however, liaise with NHS Test and Trace.

Procedures for School Closure



After Christmas we will be entering what are known to be the coldest months and there is always a chance that we could be facing snow. In the unlikely event that the school should have to close due to adverse weather conditions, we will put an early morning notice on the school website and post a notification on the Kent Closures website. We will also post the closure news on ClassDojo. Kent radio stations also broadcast closures over the radio.

Whilst we endeavour to keep the school open, many of our staff live outside the area and it could prove dangerous for them to travel into school due to the snow. We also have many of our pupils arrive by minibus from as far afield as Canterbury, therefore travel is often not advised. Please be advised also that the decision whether to drive in inclement weather (for children on transport) is within the jurisdiction of the transport providers and outside of the school's control.



Queens Jubilee – Changes to End of Term 6

In acknowledgement of the additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the DfE have laid regulations to reduce the minimum number of sessions that schools are required to meet in the academic year 2021/2022, in order to enable everyone to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen on 3 June 2022.

Subsequently, following a consultation, the Cabinet Member for Education has taken the decision to end the Summer term 2022 a day early so that term finishes on Thursday 21 July 2022 instead of Friday 22 July 2022.

The end of Term 6 will therefore now be Thursday 21st July 2022.

Evidence for Learning Family App



Family

Some parents have already been using our Evidence for Learning Parent Portal to receive and send video and photographic evidence of the progress that their child is making in school and at home.

From next term we will be rolling out the new Evidence for Learning Family app which replaces the Parent Portal. The app is much easier to use and has improved features including notifications for parents when a video or photo has been added. We are hoping that eventually all parents will be able to access this. You will receive further information in the new year.

Illness

Many of our pupils and students are vulnerable to infections which can spread quickly at this time of year. Remember, your child should be kept away from school for 48 hours from the last period of sickness and/or diarrhoea.

Details from Public Health England about infectious diseases and exclusion periods can be found on the school website or through the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities/chapter-9-managing-specific-infectious-diseases>





Whilst this is a time for celebration, it is always sad to say goodbye to staff who are leaving us.

Nicola Smith, who has taught for 2 days a week in Penguin class, will be moving on to pastures new. We wish Nicola good luck in her new venture.

Holly Augustus will be leaving at the end of Term 2. Holly has worked at the school for a number of years and will be sorely missed by all pupils and staff. Again, we would like to wish her the best of luck.

Andrea Birkins will also be leaving Foreland Fields. Andrea worked over at our Hartsdown satellite provision for a number of years before returning to the Foreland Fields site. Andrea will still be involved in the school for a few more months though not in her role of class teacher.

Katie Molloy will no longer be Leader of Learning within our Key Stage 4/ Sixth Form Department from January. Katie had planned to leave at Christmas however, has agreed to continue to support the school in a part-time teaching role for the next couple of terms. It has been an absolute pleasure working with Katie. She has truly made her mark on the school and we will all miss her tremendously.

Unfortunately, **Leah Elliott** our Assistant Psychologist will be leaving us at the end of this term. Whilst we knew this was only going to be a short-term arrangement, it is a real shame that Leah is moving on as she has supported many of our pupils/students, parents and staff over the short time she has been with us. We wish her the best of luck in her career.



Our new Leader of Learning for Key Stage 4 / 6th Form will be starting after the Christmas break. We would like to welcome Helen Newman to our school.

We have a number of Teaching Assistants starting at the school after the break. **Megan Grant, Isabelle Howard, Kyra Whitnall, Tanya Bryant, Gillian Cooper, Kia Thorp** and **April Reynolds**.

Daniel George will be taking over as class teacher within Seahorses class, with **Sophie Dunger** promoted to Higher Level Teaching Assistant within the same class.

We would also like to congratulate **Katie Elliott**. Katie will be starting her Teacher Training in 2022, and has been appointed as unqualified Teacher from January.

Fundraising Update - Hilary Plowman

Field of Dreams Project

It has been a busy few months in regards to fundraising for our Field of Dreams project.

Applications have been written, and are pending, with 6 Charitable Trusts and we hope to hear if we are successful in receiving grants from these by Spring 2022.

The Bernard Sunley Charitable Trust were one of the benefactors we applied to in October. At the beginning of November, a group of 5 School Council members, Jeremy Edwards and myself, met with the Director of the Trust. We had the pleasure of showing her the Field of Dreams site and spoke to her about the project and what it will mean to our children and young people. The Director thoroughly enjoyed her time at the school, and especially meeting with school council representatives, and a couple of weeks later I received a phone call to say the Trust were happy to donate the sum of £45,000 to our project. This is a fantastic start to our fundraising campaign.

Keep an eye out in the school reception area – I will be setting up a visual fundraising totaliser in the New Year to demonstrate the progress we have made towards our target!



Our crowd funding campaign has been live since November and we are already past the half-way mark for hitting our target.

At the time of writing, we have pledges totalling £14,583 from 50 backers, and we have also received 2 off-line pledges worth £3,000. This means we only need to raise a further £6,835 to reach our target for this part of the project.

Please keep sharing our Crowd Funding Page. The more we share the page the more likely we are to raise the final amount of £6,835.

Let's all work together to make this work!

www.spacehive.com/foreland-field-of-dreams

Our Christmas raffle was drawn on Tuesday 14th December, with over 75 prizes on offer. In total, the raffle managed to raise the sum of £1,218 which will go towards our Field of Dreams project.



Thank you to everyone who supported the raffle by buying tickets and/or donating prizes. We would especially like to thank the following: Ramsgate Tandoori, Stonelees Golf Centre, The Bike Shed Margate, Bounce Beyond, Costa Coffee Westwood Cross, Hornby, Asda Broadstairs, Morrisons Margate, Tesco Extra, The Little Bakehouse, RAF Museum Manston, Claire Twynam, Kelly Beale, Monika Percy, Ramsgate Brewery, Glorious Glitter Melts, Lianne's Sweet Treats.

LinkedIn Social Media

We now have a Foreland Fields Charity page on LinkedIn, a social media site for business networking. If you, or your employer, use LinkedIn, please have a look at our page and follow us. Our page can be found at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/foreland-fields-charity>



Charity of the year

Do you work for a company that supports a charity each year? If so, please consider putting Foreland Fields Charity forward to be supported, or contact me so I can contact the company directly. Many companies now support a different charity each year and staff vote for who they would like to support, and take on fundraising challenges over the year to raise funds. It would be fantastic to be chosen as a Charity of the Year and receive extra support towards our Field of Dreams project.

dates for
your
diary

1st Day of Term 3 – Tuesday 4th January 2022

Last day of Term 3 – Friday 11th February 2022 @ 2.50pm

Monday 21st February 2022 is a Staff Training Day and the school will therefore be closed to all pupils and students.

I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year. We look forward to seeing all pupils and students on 4th January 2022.

Adrian

