



Hillstone News

Christmas Activities

You will have seen from our recent letter that I really wanted to close the school from 11th December and take learning online. My reasoning for this, is that if a case is brought into school during the last week, the whole bubble of 60 children and at least 4 adults will have to self-isolate and thus miss the Christmas amnesty. I was hoping the government would relent and allow this to happen but, this is not the case.

I would make a plea with you to follow social distancing rules in the run up to Christmas so that we do not run the risk of infection coming into school. I am still hearing of children staying at their friends' house, and a 2 metre distance is not always being observed when dropping off or picking up children.

We will finish school on Wednesday 16th December and have two teacher days, which will at least mitigate the amount of time we are together in school.

Christmas dinner day will take place on Thursday 10th December. The cost is £2.10 and can be booked online via Scopay. In the afternoon children will have their Christmas parties. As they will have had their Christmas dinner, you do not need to send in party food. They can wear their party clothes all day .

The next day (Friday 11th) is the Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. Children should wear school uniform on their lower half but may wear a Christmas Jumper on the top half. Voluntary donations to save the children can be made online, using Scopay.

We have filmed a nativity performance for you and this will be sent out on Monday 14th December. Children will watch in school but you will be able to find it on virtual school to watch again with them. All of our children have participated in some form.



One of the children's favourites activities is the staff Panto. There was absolutely no social distancing in these pantos so we were unable to stage one this year. However, we did film last year's so are hoping to find a way to put that online for you. Please bear in mind, Mr King writes a script and we literally have just a couple of hours to run through it and know when we are coming off and on. The children seem to like the chaos!

Virtual School

Thank goodness we have everyone back in school. If we do have to close again, remember, children should be accessing virtual school. We are very proud of our virtual school but a little disappointed in that in some year groups, only about 50% were accessing this whilst their bubble was closed. This did improve and rose to 76%. If you have any problems or concerns, do contact us. If your child is self isolating alone rather than in a bubble, the virtual school will be there for them but in a limited form with links to Oak Academy. There are also virtual classrooms for well-being, Coach, Chef and Mr Farr. You can access this at any time.

Online-Safety

Here I go again! Banging on about online safety. It's because I see the effects that misuse of social media can have on our children. What's App for instance, is designed for children aged 16+ yet I know many of our children do use it to send messages to their friends.

Do you know what they are saying to their friends? Primary children are not always aware of the consequences of some of the messages they send out to each other. It has led to children falling out, sending offensive messages to each other and them feeling isolated, anxious and worried in school.

Please be aware if your child is writing on social media. Come and talk to us if you have concerns.



HILLSTONE STARS

Clara-May Barnett

Sonny Harrison

Emmie Bateman

Ciana Hughes

Tyler McBride

Jasmine Holdsworth

Mitchell Brooks

Keegan Price-Hindley

Ehtisham Hussain

Xyon Hamilton Brown

Sina Babkeir

Logan Taylor

Bailey Wagstaff

Keelan Kesterton



HOUSE POINTS

LUDLOW 187

WARWICK 187

TAMWORTH 205

DUDLEY 208