



## Christmas Newsletter

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Well, we have certainly worked hard to include as much as we can to make the run up to Christmas as 'normal' as possible! Every time the staff have been asked to plan 'just one more thing' they have done so, and the school has had a really Christmassy feel for the last couple of weeks. It has not been easy and everyone is to be thanked and appreciated for the effort they have put into making decorations, planning Christmas activities, trimming trees, cooking and serving Christmas dinners ... right down to vacuuming up the glitter! We hope that Santa rewards you all for your festive cheer and good humour in what has definitely been the strangest Christmas term.

<b>4<sup>th</sup> January</b> Start of term for children and staff	<b>5<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> January</b> Mr Santy – UEA mentor meeting	<b>7<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> January</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> January</b> Mr Baxter starts teaching practice in Badgers	<b>12<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> January</b> am Miss Page HLTA course	<b>15<sup>th</sup> January</b>

### **The longest time**

We are still getting used to not seeing Mrs Barrett around school every day – the place really isn't the same without her! After 36 years as a part of Roydon Primary School, she is sorely missed. We are really pleased that she is still on the crossing and that she pops in to see us every now and then for a cuppa. We wish you well, Mrs Barrett, and hope you find some time for a rest!

### **Farewell**

We wish Mrs Campbell all the very best as she starts her new adventure as headteacher at Sparhawk Infant School next term. We really do appreciate everything she has done for us as a teacher, a Phase Leader, a mentor, and as PE Lead across the school. Do keep in touch with us, and let us know how you are getting on!

### **Our Governors**

Thank you, thank you, thank you to:

- Sarah Brownsword for agreeing to become Chair of Governors;
- Sharon Moore for agreeing to remain as Vice-Chair;
- Sarah Rothwell and Val Le Goaziou for putting themselves forward to become our new parent governors;
- the other eight governors who give up their time to help lead and develop the school.

It is very rare these days for a school to have a full governing body, and we are so lucky to have such active volunteers supporting us. We are grateful to them all.

### **Covid safety measures**

Thank you to all those who have tried hard to follow the guidelines we put in place to keep children, their families, and the staff safe in these difficult times. Please could we remind you that, when we return in January, the following still apply:

- stay 2 metres away from other families at drop-off and pick-up times;
  - keep all young children with you while waiting in the playground;
  - plan your arrival at school to minimize the time you are on the school site;
  - avoid blocking pavements by not arriving too early and leaving as promptly as you can;
  - washing hands frequently and thoroughly should remain a part of everyone's daily routine;
  - make sure your child has tissues in school;
  - only send into school items that have been requested or agreed.
- We thank you all for your continuing support.

## FoRPS

We couldn't have imagined a more challenging year for our fundraising committee. All three of the major annual events have been cancelled along with a myriad of other fundraising activities, and funds are the lowest they have ever been. However, our ladies are not to be deterred and they have worked hard to swell the coffers in exceedingly difficult times by organising the:

Pumpkin trail - £118

Pumpkin decorating - £74

Rainbow non-uniform day - £262.58

Movie Night - £526.02

Recipe books - £417.50

Santa Dash - £258.47

Bag2School - £129

Face masks - £300

Festive Prize Draw - £915

That makes an awesome total of **£3000.57!**

Considering their limitations, we are in awe of this staggering total - well done ladies! Thanks also to everyone for their contributions.

## North Pole Challenge

It is only 2,606.9 miles, and it shouldn't take too long if everyone walks a little bit of the way! Visit

[playmakecreateart.bigcartel.com](http://playmakecreateart.bigcartel.com) and pay £2 to sign up. Record the distance you walk, and email it to [roydonforps@gmail.com](mailto:roydonforps@gmail.com) or share it on their FB events page, and you will receive a medal and certificate when we reach the North Pole!

## As clean as a whistle

In these times of virucide, sanitiser and disinfectant, we must say a special thank you to our cleaning team – truly unsung heroines. Mrs Mayes, Miss Oakley, Mrs O'Dea and Mrs Stokes (helped by Mrs Martin when we need her) are so diligent in their work and we can always be sure that the school is as clean as it can be.

## And so to Christmas ...

All the staff at Roydon Primary School wish you a very happy Christmas, in whatever form it takes, and we look forward to seeing you in the new year on

**Monday 4th January**

Have you:

- visited [www.roydonprimary.co.uk](http://www.roydonprimary.co.uk)?
  - liked our Facebook page?
  - signed up to Class Dojo?
- Keep up-to-date with all our latest news.

## Cooking up a storm

We love our lunchtime staff! Thank you to all the ladies for cooking and serving our Christmas dinners in a Covid-safe way. Poor Mrs Owen didn't bat an eyelid when she came in to find there was no gas in the kitchen on the Tuesday morning! She is a true heroine for soldiering on with her team and producing such a delicious meal.

## Student teachers

We are always keen to support new teachers coming into the profession and that's why we usually have student teachers working with us throughout the school. We are looking forward to welcoming Mr Baxter in Badgers next term who will be working closely with Mr Santy to plan some exciting learning opportunities for all our infant classes.

## End of term assembly

Look who joined our assembly at the end of term! It wouldn't be Christmas without Santa coming to town, and he brought presents for all the classes. Thank you Santa!



## Top two

Well done to Raisya and Olivia who came 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Diss Youth Town Council's Design A Mask competition. Their prize was to have their design made into face masks for them to wear. Well done ladies!

