



Drayton Community Infant School

Weekly Newsletter

03.12.21

COVID-19 Update & Winter Planning

Current pressures on schools are at the highest levels due to the COVID – 19 pandemic, and the risk of further outbreaks during winter present greater than normal challenges. Additionally, as winter approaches, staff and pupils in schools continue to be particularly susceptible to widespread infections such as seasonal influenza and stomach infections (such as norovirus).

While we are hopeful staff remain well, we continue to see higher than normal rates of staff absence across the partnership. Our priority is always to keep all classes open however this must not be at the detriment of the safety of the children. We must ensure we have enough staff for the number of children in school and have the capacity for areas such as first aid, the kitchen and cleaning. There have been several occasions over the past few weeks where we have exhausted our regular cover from part time staff increasing hours and our regular supply. All schools are facing similar challenges where often the supply agencies we use have no one available to send.

We may need to close to individual classes or close the school for any of the following reasons:

- severe weather
- sustained staffing shortages as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and/or widespread infectious diseases
- utilities and local service disruption
- transport issues such as driver shortages, fuel disruption
- widespread absence due to infectious diseases and the potential requirement for deep cleaning

We will inform you as soon as possible via parent mail, the school website and Norfolk School Closures.

Please ensure we have your up-to-date details.

Golden Acorn Award



*** The Golden Acorn Awards ***

This week we had such a busy week and due to staff shortages and singing rehearsals we did not get time to do our Golden Acorn Award assembly. We will catch up next week. Christmas is such a busy time in school!

Christmas Song Performances

We invite you to join our concerts being held on the playground. Each year group will be invited to attend to join us in some festive songs, performed by the children.

This is limited to 2 adults per family and we kindly ask that siblings don't attend unless avoidable so we can reduce the number of people on site at once. While we will aim to provide enough space for adults to distance, we do ask that adults wear a face covering during the event to protect other families.

Reception 8th December 2:00-2:30





Year 1- 16th December at 2:00-2:30

Year 2- 14th December at 2:00-2:30

Please wrap up warm and ensure your children have coats etc in school as we will be outside. We will only cancel this event if the weather is very wet!

Parents and carers can take their children home straight after the performances if they wish.



	<p>Breakfast with Santa</p> <p>The Children of Drayton Infant School will have a wonderful opportunity to come to this event this year!</p> <p>The children can attend on the following: 8th December – Year Reception 9th December – Year 1 10th December – Year 2</p> <p>The children will enjoy stories, breakfast, and a little treat from Santa for just £4 per child and tickets are available at https://www.ptaevents.co.uk/dcisfriends/#.YZ1TXvHP0-S These are available until Monday 6th December so that all dietary needs can be provided for. If your child cannot attend this event, we are asking that a voluntary contribution of £1 could be given on this link as well and they will also receive a gift from Santa. Please drop your child off at the school hall fire exit door for 7.50- 7.55am and they will be taken to their classrooms by their teachers for 8.45am.</p>
	<p>Parent forum</p> <p>Thank you to the parents who came to the Parent forum yesterday. We discussed what is going well and what would be even better if around a variety of topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication -Reading -School lunches <p>Please find the minutes from the meeting via the school website under parents and then parent forum http://www.draytoninfantschool.co.uk/parent-forum/. You will also find the name of you class representative on the Parent Forum who you can relay any relevant information to the forum.</p> <p>We still need Parent/Carer representatives from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Squirrel Class - Fox Class - Hedgehog Class - Rabbit Class - Starling class <p>Please contact Mrs Findlay dpeutydrayton@istnorfolk.co.uk if you would like to be part of this forum. They run every half term and we are currently running them via Zoom.</p> <p>The next meeting dates are: Thursday 13th January 9:30AM Thursday 3rd March 9:30AM</p>
	<p>Missed Hearing Screening</p> <p>If your child has missed hearing screening in school due to Covid and you have a concern about your child's hearing, you can call Just One Number on 0300 300 0123 for a referral.</p>
	<p>Santa Dash</p> <p>We are going to have a Santa Dash for all year groups on Wednesday 15th December. The children can come dressed in a Christmas Jumper and their PE kit. They will need trainers that they can run around the field in and a spare pair of shoes to change into. If they could bring a plastic bag to put their dirty trainers in, that would be great. We will do the run in any 'safe' weather, so please could the children have plenty of warm, waterproof clothes and a change of socks! Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Dearden</p>



Food Bank

Food bank collection in school 6th –10th December please drop items off at your child's classroom or in the foyer in the front of the school.

Taverham, Thorpe Marriott & Drayton Help Group.

The list of items that we are always in need of are:-

Rice, Pasta, Cereals, Sugar, Coffee, Tea, Biscuits, Cakes, Crackers, Dried Instant Noodles, Sweets, Tinned: Meat of any kind (Meatballs, Hot Dogs, Mince, Ham, Corned Beef etc.), Tuna Fish, Spaghetti Hoops/Rings, Ravioli, Baked Beans, Baked Beans with Sausages, Rice Pudding, Fruit (peaches, fruit cocktail, pears etc.) Tomatoes, Peas, Carrots, Potatoes. Squash: Orange or Blackcurrant, Jam, Shower Gel, Soap, Toothpaste. Cleaning products such as, washing up liquid, bleach, toilet cleaner, bathroom cleaner, kitchen cleaner. Toilet rolls.

They do ask for any items donated to have at least a two-month shelf life.

What to do if you need the food bank.

They provide help to anyone that needs it, they ask no questions, they do not have to provide any vouchers or letters of any kind, they are a voluntary food bank to help those in need in our community. They can arrange delivery to you and if you are not in then they can leave it in a designated safe place or on their doorstep. Within the shop they include fresh fruit, veg, bread, cheese, and butter which they purchase the day before. Please contact them below.

Sarah Jane Douglas - Mobile: 07921 120822 - email: sarahjane69@sky.com

Gerry Munday - Mobile: 07494 554836 - email: gerrymunday2811@gmail.com

Message from DCIS Friends

Thank you

A special thank you to all the companies who donated items towards our Christmas gift bags for the classes. These were much appreciated:

Taverham conservatories

GS Training Services

Helen Barnes Health and Fitness

ATP Health and Fitness Norwich

KT Estate Agents

Tesco Blueboar



Seesaw

Seesaw in Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) is run slightly different to Tapestry in reception.

What will you find on Seesaw?

- At least one post each half term about what your child has been doing at school
- Home learning
- If you are isolating due to Covid your home learning.
- Communication- such as reminders about PE days (These will also be posted on the newsletter)

This is used to share home learning and is not used daily like Reception due to a different curriculum being followed.

Parents are expected to complete home learning with their child at home and how much will be specified when the home learning comes out after Christmas. If you would like to share posts about your child linked to the class Topic that term, we would love to see them. You can find out all about your class topic on the Knowledge Organiser that is sent out on Seesaw before Christmas or on the curriculum tab on the school website.

Tapestry

Tapestry is used daily in Reception, a lot more compared to Seesaw in Year 1 and 2 due to the different curriculum that is being followed.



Parents evening

Parents evenings this term were done via telephone conversations due to the Covid-19 and the school's internet not being able to currently cope or be reliable with Teams/ Zoom. We thank you for your understanding. We are taking Parents Evenings to the next school forum so please find your class representative to voice your ideas/feedback.

School dates

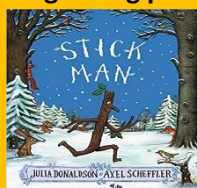
Please note the date in yellow **20.4.21** is an additional day off for the Queens Jubilee. This is to be taken by schools as an additional day off. This was discussed with the cluster schools. It was decided with the majority of the cluster that 20.4.21 would be the day taken.

September 2021							October 2021							November 2021							December 2021						
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27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		



January 2022							February 2022							March 2022							April 2022						
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May 2022							June 2022							July 2022							August 2022						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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Learning taking place in our classes this week!



Wow what an exciting week it has been! This week we decorated our classrooms for Christmas! We really enjoyed working as a team to help the adults decorate the Christmas trees and our home corner. We have also introduced our class Christmas advent calendar where we receive a new Christmas themed story each day. In Literacy we have been reading the book 'Stickman' by Julia Donaldson. We have been retelling the story using props and puppets and making a mind map. In Maths we have been learning about composition. This is the concept that whole things are made up of smaller parts and the whole is therefore bigger than its parts. We have thought about how the numbers two and three can be broken into 'parts' to make the whole number. We have also created the front covers of our Christmas cards. We used our understanding of length and measuring skills to decorate them. We have continued to sing our songs for the Christmas performance and look forward to our grown-ups seeing it next week!

	<p>In math's this week, we have been solving one-step problems involving division. We have used concrete and pictorial representations to share between 2, 5 and 10. Paddington Bear had 10 sandwiches which he needed our help to share.</p> <p>In literacy, this week we have been helping Paddington Bear. He forgot how to make marmalade sandwiches so the children have helped by writing some instructions. We followed our instructions to make the marmalade sandwiches, before thinking about how to make our instructions better.</p> <p>In art this week, we have continued to look at 'Paul Klee's' art work. We added some 2D shapes to our sunsets to create London skylines. In History, we learnt all about 'The Flying Scotsman.' We have spoken about how trains have changed over time and put some trains in chronological order. In geography, we have looked at London landmarks and made them out of different construction materials. Additionally, we have continued to practice our nativity songs ready for our performance.</p>
	<p>Our maths focus this week has been 2D shapes. We have practised recognising, naming, sorting and comparing shapes using the language of 2D shape properties – sides (curved/straight) and vertices/vertex. We have learnt that any 4-sided shape is known as a quadrilateral and that there can be regular and irregular 2D shapes, for example any 6-sided shape is a hexagon. We practised folding and drawing shapes and using mirrors to investigate whether they have vertical lines of symmetry.</p> <p>We have been working hard collating all of our science knowledge and linking it with our literacy to design information leaflets about plastic pollution. Did you know that there are 8 million tonnes of plastic floating in the ocean? The children will be taking home a copy of their completed leaflet so that they can share the information with you all and continue to spread this important message.</p>

Dates for the diary		
Term dates calendar: http://www.draytoninfantschool.co.uk/parents-community/term-dates/		
December 2021		
Wednesday	08.12.2021	Breakfast with Santa by Friends Reception Reception Christmas Carols 2.00-2.30
Thursday	09.12.2021	Breakfast with Santa by Friends Year 1
Friday	10.12.2021	Breakfast with Santa by Friends Year 2
Tuesday	14.12.2021	Year 2 Christmas Carols 2.00-2.30
Wednesday	15.12.2021	Christmas Lunch Christmas Jumper Day and Santa Dash
Thursday	16.12.2021	Year 1 Christmas Carols 2.00-2.30
Friday	17.12.2021	School closes at 3pm for Christmas Holiday
January 2022		
Wednesday	05.01.2022	School re-opens for Spring Term
February 2022		

Friday	11.02.2022	School closes at 3pm for Half Term
Monday	21.02.2022	School opens
Monday	07.02.2022	Children's Mental Health Week starts
Tuesday	08.02.2022	Safer Internet Day
March 2022		
Thursday	03.03.2022	World Book Day- Dress up day.
Friday	11.03.2022	British Science Week starts
Thursday	17.03.2022	St. Patrick's Day
Friday	18.03.2022	Red Nose Day
Monday	28.03.2022	Reception Vision & Hearing test
April 2022		
Friday	01.04.2022	School closes at 3pm for Easter Holiday
Thursday	21.04.2022	School re-opens for Summer Term
Friday	22.04.2022	Earth Day
Friday	29.04.2022	International Dance Day
May 2022		
Monday	02.05.2022	Bank Holiday
Thursday	04.05.2022	Anti-bullying Day
Monday	09.05.2021	Mental Health Week starts
Friday	27.05.2022	School closes at 3pm for Half Term
June 2022		
Monday	06.06.2022	School re-opens
Monday	06.06.2021	June Child Safety Week
July 2022		
Friday	22.07.2022	School closes at 3pm for Summer Holiday