



Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

'Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people...' Galatians 6:10

17th December 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

End of Term 2 Newsletter – Merry Christmas and Welcome to 2022

Well Term 2 has certainly been another very busy term and it has been fantastic to be able to include some enrichment activities within our curriculum offer. This has included the Year 3 visit to Flag Fen, the Year 1 Florence Nightingale Day, the Year 6 visit to the War Memorial, the Year 5 visit to the library and the Year 2 visit to Church. Whilst we are not fully there yet it has been good to see some more traditional events in our school calendar culminating in our Christmas celebrations that we held this week. Whilst these were very different to our usual FS2/Key Stage 1 performances and our Key Stage 2 Carol Concert, as a result of the ongoing pandemic, we were still able to come together as a community to celebrate this very special period within the Christian calendar.

A huge thank you to all of our parents, carers and wider family who joined us on Wednesday for our inaugural Christmas Carol singing. We were all overwhelmed by the size of the audience and it was fabulous to see you all there. I'm sure you will all agree that the children did a fabulous job and we are so pleased that parents and carers were able to join us for the children to be able to share their gift with you. As always it was an absolute honour to be part of the children's performances as we celebrated the true meaning of Christmas. I continue to be exceptionally proud of all of the children here at Spalding Parish and not least during these performances given the way they responded to a completely different approach. They never cease to amaze me with their talents and I do feel very proud and extremely lucky to be part of their educational journeys. My sincere thanks must go to all the children and staff for their hard work in ensuring the performances went well.

I would also like to say a very special thank you to you all for your support with our fundraising during Term 2 including Children in Need, our Christmas Raffle and Christmas Jumper day. With your support we have managed to raise over £1000 for our chosen charities, which I'm sure you will agree is a fantastic amount of money. A huge thank you to all who donated, it is very much appreciated.

I would just like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very peaceful New Year. May peace and happiness reign in your home this Christmas and may your New Year be filled with blessings for you all. It is fair to say that 2021 has continued to be a challenging year and we can just hope that 2022 brings new hope for the whole SPCEDS community.



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Head Teacher: Diane Mulley

Car Parking

Please remember to park courteously for the safety of all our community whilst respecting our neighbours. Please park legally allowing the safe use of the road and pavements for all. Do not park on the public footpath as it makes it dangerous with the numbers of people using them. If you are just dropping your child off, please park up and ensure their safe exit from the vehicle on to the pavement so they can then walk safely into school. The closer to school you get the more congested it is so if you are able to park further away, or even walk all the way to and from school, this would be appreciated.

Please remember the school car parks are for staff parking only, for deliveries and for Local Authority taxis where pupils are eligible to transport. We have had a number of occasions recently where the taxis have not been able to park safely as a result of vehicles that should not have been using the car parks. If I could please ask for your support in parking appropriately to ensure the safety of all.

Consideration for Others

Just a reminder, during this season of goodwill to all, of consideration for other members of our school community, particularly when on the school site. Whilst we appreciate that not all members of the school community will get on or even be friends it is important that we treat each other with kindness and respect, particularly on our return to school in January. Thank you in anticipation.

E-Safety

At this time of year, when electronic items and new technology are likely to be a popular gift, I would ask you to reflect again on the safe use of the internet. During Terms 3 and 4, as part of our continuous education about children keeping themselves safe; we will be undertaking further work on e-Safety. You can also access information via our website by clicking on the Learning tab and then clicking on the hyperlink: Staying Safe.

Harvest Collection

Thank you for all your donations for our Harvest Collection. Agape have been in touch and shared their thanks as without such continued support their vital work would not be able to continue. Christmas and the New Year are a very busy time of the year for Agape supporting families within our local community. Should you have any further items I know they would be gratefully received. You can find Agape based at The Lighthouse Church in Haverfield Road here in Spalding.

Hot Lunches

Our menus for Term 3 are now available with a three week menu now in place. Please remember to book meals by midnight on a Tuesday night for the following week using the following link: <https://www.wisepay.co.uk/store/generic/template.asp?mID=156735&ACT=nav>

Illness

On our return to school in January we will continue to respond to the pandemic and in order to maintain the safety of the whole school community should your child or any member of your household present with any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) please do not send them to school.

If identified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, pupils should take an LFD each day for 7 days, reporting the results through the NHS online reporting system. Positive results for pupils should be reported to school ASAP via feedback@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk or absence@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk.



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If an LFD test is positive, the pupil should isolate immediately with parent/carer booking a PCR test at a testing centre. If the LFD is test negative, pupils can continue to attend school as normal.

These changes apply for all close contacts, both within and outside of school. Currently there is no change to close contact tracing in schools. This will continue to be carried out by NHS Test and Trace.

For pupils with symptoms the guidance remains the same as previous with the pupil immediately isolating and the parent/carer booking a PCR test as soon as possible at a testing centre. On receipt of a positive PCR test result pupils should continue to isolate for 10 full days. On receipt of a negative PCR test result pupils can return to school.

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support. If you do have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to get in touch. I wish you all a restful, peaceful and hopefully Covid free holiday season and look forward to seeing pupils back in school on Tuesday 4th January. Should the guidance change again during the holiday period I will obviously write to you again.

Parish Post

The Autumn Term also saw the launch of our revised weekly newsletter The Parish Post. It was introduced to celebrate and share all that is great about Spalding Parish including Head Teachers Awards, Attendance Awards and weekly news from each Phase. I hope you all enjoy reading about all that is happening here at school and would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff for their regular contributions to the newsletter, it is very much appreciated. If you do have any feedback about our newsletter, including any items you would like to see included, please get in touch. Thank you.

Start and End of Day Routines

A huge thank you to all of our parent body for ensuring their children are in school at the appropriate time, it is very much appreciated. Our staggered start and end of day will continue as we head into Term 3 and I must ask please that you do abide by the timings in place for your child. We have an increasing number of parents and carers arriving early and waiting at the gate at 8.30am and 3.00pm despite the fact that the doors do not open at the start of the day until 8.35am and until 3.05pm at the end of the day. The staggered timings are to ensure the safety of all.

Given the speculation regarding the impact of the Christmas period on the spread of the virus I must also ask that parents/carers do continue to follow all the guidance we have put in place to keep the school community as safe as possible whilst on site. As stated previously should there be any changes to the guidance during the Christmas period I will be in touch.

Last Words

Thank you once again for all your continued support during the academic year so far. Whilst there have still been challenges along the way, it has been a very busy and exciting term for all. I wish you peace and joy to you all this Christmas season and look forward to seeing you all in January.

Kind Regards,

Diane Mulley
Head Teacher



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