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Newsletter Autumn 13, 14th December 2020

After School Wraparound Care and Breakfast Club

Both sessions are growing week on week, which is great news for sustainability. Don't forget you can book in with Mrs Gatenby via dojo anytime during the school week. Children remain in their bubbles during these sessions, and our strict Covid Risk Assessments remain in place, so you can be assured that we are minimising risk during these sessions, just as during the normal school day.

NB: there will be NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB on the last day of term. Breakfast Club will run as normal that day though.

Alzheimer's Society fun and games

A huge well done to our three competition winners (see below), and an even bigger one to you all – we raised £216 for the Alzheimer's Society. Thanks so much to our very own Christmas Elf, Mrs Bettles, and to Mrs Beaty and Mrs Beech for their delicious baking.

3 Christmas Wishes Storytelling Zoom

The children will be enjoying a Zoom session with Settle Stories, who have an expert storyteller lined up ready to share the tale of the Three Christmas Wishes.

Pantomime

We will be enjoying all the fun of the (recorded) Panto this week too, thanks to the British Forces Foundation Panto Bus production of Cinderella.

Nativity

Look out for our link later this week... everyone has been very busy, working together but not together, to make sure our Christmas celebrations are as normal as they can possibly be.



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Christmas Wandering Minstrels

Falcons and their very own guitar maestro (Mr Easton – is there no end to his skills?!) wrote their own Christmas song last week (a cheeky homage to a Shakin’ Stevens classic) and went on a round the world (well, round the outside of school) tour, bringing socially distanced Christmas cheer to Owls and Kites bubbles. It was too good an opportunity to miss sharing with you, so they are recording a version which we will send out to you via Youtube next week.

Christingle

Thanks very much to Mrs Bartram for organising Christingle last week, what a delicious way to learn!

Christmas Fun Run

Huge congratulations to Isobel, who organised our Christmas fun run as part of her Young Leader project – everyone had a brilliant time (see below for photos)!

Christmas jumpers, lunches, parties and all things tinselly...

I am very aware that this year Christmas may be a tricky time financially for many families. For this reason, we will not be doing a Christmas jumper day – I don’t want to put out the expectation that children need a new jumper for this one-off day in school. However, I also know that the children love an excuse to dress up, so as a compromise they can wear their Christmas finery for their class Christmas party – be that special jumper, sequins agogo or as much tinsel as they can possibly muster! (I’m sure you won’t be surprised to know that I am planning on wearing all three...). Dates for Christmas parties are below, please can children come in uniform with their clothes in a bag (otherwise playtime could ruin the aforementioned finery) to change into. Father Christmas has already left a gift for every child in school (thanks FOBS...) and we will make it a year to remember!

Donations for Thirsk Homeless Charity

Thanks to your tremendous generosity, our intrepid Year Six has the mammoth challenge of boxing up an entire roomful of donations and taking them to Thirsk Homeless Organisation – what a wonderful achievement!



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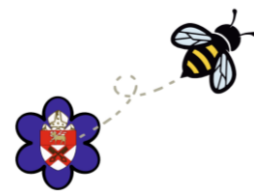




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Attendance

Now the effects of Covid have settled down a little, we'd like to keep you informed of our weekly attendance levels again. As you know, we have all been working extremely hard to catch up on any lost learning (and the results so far show that the children are making excellent progress with this), so now more than ever, your child's attendance at school will make all the difference to their attainment. Thank you all for your ongoing support with this aspect of our Ofsted improvement plan!

Owls: 99.3%

Kites: 99.3 %

Falcons: 97.3%

Twitter

Don't forget you can follow us on Twitter (@burnestonschool) to see what educational shenanigans happen around here!

Christmas Cards

Don't forget that things are a little different this year, as we are quarantining the cards before distribution. This means that we will need cards into school by Wednesday at the latest in order for them to go out in bags before the end of term.

Christmas and Covid

Obviously we very much hope that your Christmases will not involve anything remotely Covid-related, but if your child or a family member should become symptomatic over the holiday period, please do keep school informed. I will be contactable throughout the holiday via Dojo, so please let me know if there are any Covid-type developments, as I would need to potentially contact other pupils to isolate.

And finally...

This will be our last newsletter of the term – I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for all your support and all-round brilliantness this term. It has not been without its challenges (to say the least), but we have come through it still smiling! The children have quickly settled back into school life, and all the preparations we were able to make for their return to school have come together really well. It has been a joy to have school filled with a learning buzz once again. We wish you and your family a fabulous Christmas and New Year!



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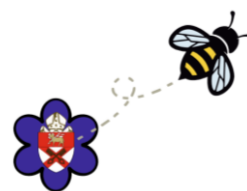




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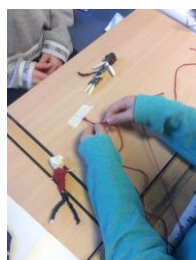


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Dates

When	What	Who
Monday 14 th December	Falcons Christmas party	Falcons
Tuesday 15 th December	Owls Christmas party	Owls
Wednesday 16 th and Thursday 17 th December	3 Christmas Wishes zoom storyteller	All
Wednesday 16 th December	Kites Christmas party	Kites
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch	All pupils
Friday 18 th December	Close for holidays NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB TODAY	All
Monday 4 th January	INSET day	Staff
Tuesday 5 th January	Back to school	All pupils

Here's a taste of what's been happening around school this week:



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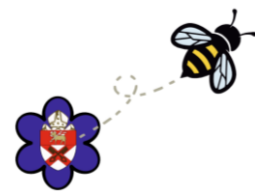




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