



Oakmeadow CE Primary School  
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Head teacher: Mrs C Whelan BA (Hons) QTS NPQH Pg Cert

Deputy Head teacher: Mrs S Hill BA (hons) QTS PG Cert

29<sup>th</sup> November

Dear parents/carers,

### Covid Update

I would like to start by thanking all families for their support during this time of rising Covid cases across Shropshire. The regular and requested testing parents have been carrying out with children has inevitably lead to increased numbers that we are aware of, however I'm pleased to say these numbers are starting to subside – Covid related absences have dropped over the past 7 days consecutively. As previously mentioned, we have had in place a variety of measures to try and reduce transmission and it is nice to see that these may be contributing. It is unfortunate that these measures have meant no assemblies, some after school clubs, activities such as swimming however we feel it is important to have taken these steps these past weeks to protect our families and to enable us to continue with Christmas plans in the forthcoming weeks with as many children present as possible.

### Pantomime

With Covid numbers having dropped I'm pleased to be still able to attend the Pantomime on 3<sup>rd</sup> December for Years 1-6 and the 8<sup>th</sup> December for Reception.

For this, pupils need to come in school uniform please and a coat. If your child requires any medication such as an inhaler, it is important they have these in school on the day – they will not be able to depart if they do not have the required equipment or medication.

This Friday, for Years 1-6 we are leaving school at 12.15pm. This will mean children will be eating lunch early. To ensure lunches are swift we will be offering one hot meal option on this day of Pizza and chips or your child can bring in a packed lunch.

We will be arriving back to site at 3.30pm. Children should be collected from their normal exit points (classroom doors or Door C for Y3/4). Normal home time arrangements will apply on this day unless we are told otherwise. Please let school know by Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December if there are any changes to your child's home time arrangements on this day.

### Christmas Productions

As you will know, at Christmas we normally hold performances for Key Stage 1 and Year 5/6. Pupil and staff absence this half term have created a considerable barrier to rehearsing these. As a large school we are also mindful of creating circumstances with large audiences indoors in one setting which may risk a backwards step

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in reducing transmission rates before Christmas. We do however really want to provide the opportunity for children to be able to perform for their parents and carers therefore we are adapting them slightly. This year, these year groups will be holding a 'Carols around the Christmas Tree' performance. We would like to invite all families to come and watch their children perform some songs from their production alongside some more traditional carols.

All performances will take place after school at 4pm.

Children will stay after school to do a final rehearsal and get ready. We will provide them with a snack and a drink.

Parents can arrive through Beeches gate for 4pm and gather around the tree on the playground. We will be serving hot chocolate and Christmas biscuits on these nights.

Year 1 – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm

Year 2 – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm

Year 5 – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm

Year 6 – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm

Following the performances, the children can be collected from their normal classroom doors. We hope this will mean that the work gone into production songs does not go to waste and that it provides the children an opportunity to perform for you in a setting that does not risk any isolation leading up to Christmas!

Year 3 and 4 will perform an Easter production as normal and this year will be joined by our Reception children to enable our youngest learners time to settle further and have the time together without absence to learn songs and lines.

#### Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day.

This will go ahead on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Children should wear normal school uniform with a Christmas jumper instead of their normal Oakmeadow jumper. Information has been sent out about lunches on this day, please ensure you have completed the Microsoft form sent.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Samantha Hill  
Head of school

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