

# The Archer

School Newsletter NO 5

## DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

### COVID-19

Thank you for your support and understanding over the past few weeks as we have had to respond promptly and decisively in closing bubbles as a result of increasing cases of COVID-19. Unfortunately, we are in an area of increasing infection with Heath Ward standing at 423.3 cases and Crayford at 380.4 cases per 100,000 compared to the English National average of 218.

I have appreciated the positive way in which parents have responded when faced with class closure. As a result of bubble closures and self isolation staffing has been severely impacted with, at times, 23 staff absent. This had created a great deal of pressure on all the staff at Wentworth, who have continued to give their all for the benefit of the children.

I know staff would greatly value any messages of support during these challenging times, please feel free to forward them through Class Dojo.

### Books

We have invested £10,000 in reading books during the course of this academic year with class reading corners, book zones and the library being re-stocked. This has been supplemented by the fantastic response from parents who have donated hundreds of books that their children have 'grown out of'. Thank you, this makes a huge difference.

In addition, the Acorn Book Club has collected large quantities of books from drop-off collection boxes at a string of estate agents which will be delivered to us on 11<sup>th</sup> December. In addition they have paid for a storyteller to attend the same day and read to our Year 3 children - I greatly appreciate their support.

### PARENT COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Thank you to the parents who have contacted me in recent weeks regarding dangerous practices they have observed in the neighbourhood which could have affected the safety of our children. As a result, I have been able to alert the local Police and increased staff presence to ensure these matters could be effectively dealt with. Thank you for your care of the Wentworth family.

### Christmas Activities

Christmas is the most exciting time of the year in primary school with nativities, church services, parties, pantomimes and a whole school Christmas assembly. Sadly, we have had to review the events we can run while maintaining the safety of everyone in the school and complying with DfE guidelines.

Foundation Stage will be producing their own Christmas presentation which will be streamed virtually to the parents of Foundation classes. Miss Skipp will send out details in the next week or so.

Each of the classes in KS1 and KS2 will be producing their own Christmas messages which will be filmed and forwarded to the parents of that class during the last week of term. Details of how and when this will occur will be communicated shortly.

This year, we can only offer Christmas dinner to children in Foundation Stage, Year 1, Year 2 and children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who normally have school dinner. This will be served on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December. All children are welcome to wear a Christmas jumper on that day.

In addition, we have booked pantomimes which will be performed to individual year groups with the classes distanced from each other. Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 will watch Little Red Riding Hood on the 15<sup>th</sup> December and KS2 will watch Alice in Wonderland on the 16<sup>th</sup> December.

Other Christmas activities will be class based.

Please stay safe and look after yourselves.

Mr Langridge  
Headteacher

