

# Polehampton News

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,



## Autumn Progress Reports

On Monday next week, every child will bring home their Autumn Term progress report. We are all incredibly proud of how hard our children are working so far this term – it's really such a pleasure to have our children learning and playing in school.

Please remember, when you read these reports that every child (across the country) had a significant interruption to their education last year. Please do not feel too concerned if your child is not exactly where they usually are or are behind in particular areas at this point – your child will not be alone in this. Together, we are all working hard to ensure every child is getting the challenge and support they need at this time. We will speak to you if we have concerns over and above the fact that they are all working hard to catch up on missed learning time in school. Reports include information about attendance figures that are more than 5% below our averages.



## Primary Statutory Assessments

You may have read some news about primary school statutory assessments in the press yesterday, outlining different measures for next summer. We are now keen to study all the detail in these new arrangements. We will then share all relevant information with parents in the appropriate year groups once.



## Nasal Flu Vaccinations

In both schools on Monday, we have the school nurse team in to carry out the Flu Vaccinations. Please remind your child that this will be happening in school, so they know you know all about it. We will remind and prepare them in school too. Please see emails from each school admin this week, reminding about any outstanding forms needed.

## The Cowshed

The Cowshed ... “is a Christian charity that provides clothing and other items for individuals and families in Berkshire experiencing hardship. We offer our services to people from all faiths and none. We work in partnership with support services such as GPs, Health Visitors, Churches, charities and social service agencies who provide us with referrals.” If anyone would like support from this charity, we can refer on your behalf. Please speak to one of the Heads of School and we will deal with your request in complete confidence.

## Information about local COVID issues

Should you wish to understand the local position in more detail, the Local Authority have recommended this **website** <https://www.berkshirepublichealth.co.uk/covid-19-dashboard?view=cases&location=Wokingham>



## Christmas is coming....

- **Christmas cards and presents** Children will be able to send Christmas cards and presents to both other pupils and staff this year. There will be year group post boxes and a staff post box too! **Last posting day is Monday 14th December please.** This will allow for 72 hours of quarantine time, before being sorted and handed out by the end of term.
- **Christmas lunch** - All orders have now been placed for Christmas lunches. **Junior School** – please make sure your Tucasi account has enough funds for Christmas lunch.
- **Pantomime time - oh yes, we are!! Next Tuesday (infants) and Wednesday (juniors)** We are super excited to be welcoming a real-life theatre company into our schools. Please be reassured that, whilst there will be vocal interaction, the actors will be socially distanced from the children. Thank you to everyone who has already made their contributions for this exciting experience. Please do send in any further donations so we can cover the costs of this experience.
- **Draw with Rob** - Lots of you will know that we became BIG fans of Rob Biddulph's [#drawwithRob](#) during lockdown. He's still doing regular drawing demonstrations every weekend - they are all on his website to return to at any time. Rob has just published his [Christmas Schedule](#) – something to pop in your diary or come back to when it suits you!
- **Sparkly Twyford** – We don't think we've ever seen Twyford looking so shiny as this year. It's lovely driving home through all the lights - it must be magical to live here!
- **Devices as presents for Christmas?** – check out the [NSPCC's webpage](#) about setting up devices safely for children.

### Infant School

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Christingle Celebration- whole school outside. Please remember to bring in an orange. School will provide all the other resources needed.

### Junior News

**Keep Active Challenge** – we did it! We made it to John O'Groats - woo hoo! We love that our children are being so active through these winter months – keep it up everyone! A big thanks to Mrs Newman for organising this challenge and encouraging us along the way.

**Christmas Tree** - thanks to our PTA for the beautiful Christmas now in our hall - see our Twitter feed for a picture!

### Church Team News

#### *Light Up Christmas in Ruscombe, Twyford & Hurst*

This Advent, we are bringing the Church Christmas Tree Festival to our homes! You are invited to decorate your front windows with lights and scenes telling the Christmas story. "Jesus is the light of the world" and a community of windows lit up can remind us all of the hope and joy his birth brings, despite the uncertainty around many of our usual Christmas celebrations. We hope this initiative will link well with other ideas for Christmas displays in our villages. Look out for details of how to find our Christmas story windows and drop us a line at [lightupchristmas@THRU-Christ.org.uk](mailto:lightupchristmas@THRU-Christ.org.uk) if you would like us to include your window on our map.

Best wishes, Miss Ball, Mrs Castell, Mrs Scott and Medcalf

## Attachments today

- Pantomime visit donation form
- COVID TIER 2 poster

## Diary Dates – Autumn Term 2020

- Next week in green
- New or amended dates in purple

Date	Which school/year group/class?	Event	Times
Monday 7th Dec	Both schools	Flu immunisations –see email for consent form	
Tues 8th Dec	Infant School	Peter Pan performances in year group bubbles!	
	Junior School	Peter Pan performances in year group bubbles!	
Wed 9th Dec	Both Schools	PTA Bags 2 School collection <a href="https://www.polehamptonpta.org/post/bags2school-wednesday-9th-december">https://www.polehamptonpta.org/post/bags2school-wednesday-9th-december</a>	8-9am Loddon Hall car park
	Both Schools	Last posting date for cards to friends and staff.	
Monday 14th Dec	Blue Class	Nativity play video sent home to watch	suggested time – 6.30pm
Tuesday 15th Dec	Years One & Two	Nativity play video sent home to watch	suggested time – 6.30pm
	Both schools	Christmas Dinner – children can wear a Christmas jumper!	
Wed 16th Dec	Year Four	Christmas Play video sent home to watch	suggested time – 7.00pm
Thursday 17th Dec	Year Five & Six	Upper School Carol Concert video sent home to watch	suggested time – 7.00pm
	Both Schools	Last day of term	See staggered times for early closure on the last day of term - 1½ earlier than normal. *3.00pm collection will be 1.30pm *3.15pm collection will be 1.45pm *3.30pm collection will be 2.00pm
	Both Schools	Church service	Watched in school
<b>21st Dec 2020 – 1st Jan 2021- School Closed for the Christmas Holidays</b>			
Monday 4th Jan	Both schools	Schools closed for staff training	
Tuesday 5th Jan	Both schools	First day of the Spring Term	

## Term Dates 2020/21

### Autumn Term 2020

School open to pupils - Thurs 3rd Sep to Fri 18th Dec 2020

- Inset days - Tuesday 1st & Wed 2nd Sept
- Inset day – Fri 23rd October
- Half term – w/c Monday 26th October

### **Spring Term 2021**

School open to pupils - Tues 5th January to Thurs 1st April 2021

- Inset day Monday 4th Jan
- Inset day – Fri 12th February
- Half term - w/c Monday 15th February

### **Summer Term 2021**

School open to pupils - Monday 19th April to Wed 21st July 2021

- Half term - w/c Monday 31st May

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## **Term Dates 2021/22**

### **Autumn 2021**

**School opens to pupils** - Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

- Inset day 1 – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> September
- Inset day 2 – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October
- Half term – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October
- Inset day 3 – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November

### **Spring 2022**

**School opens to pupils** - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

- Inset day 4 – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022
- Inset day 5 – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February
- Half term – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February

### **Summer 2022**

School opens to pupils - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July

- Half term – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June