

# Polehampton News



Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,



## Covid Matters

### New cases to report today

- One case in Yr1 – orange

[Free lateral flow testing](#) - Information about how to order LFT kits for home and for walk in centres across the Wokingham area. With about 1/3 cases being asymptomatic, it's highly recommended that all adults test twice weekly to catch otherwise undetectable cases. Testing daily after being a close contact, even if you have a negative PCR, is also recommended.



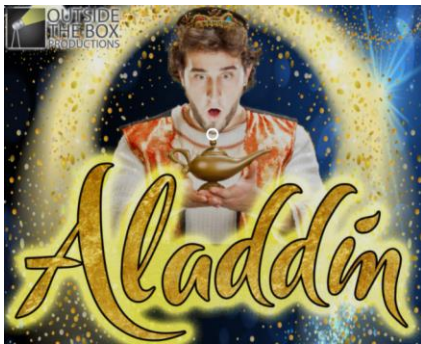
Get your Santa hat on and munch a mince pie as you hear about all our Christmas news!



**Our Christmas trees are up!** I love watching the children's faces as they see the enormous, sparkly trees we have each year. Thanks to our PTA for donating them and to our site controllers, Mr Wickens and Mr Goodwin for putting them up!



**Our post boxes are officially open!** From next week, feel free to start sending in Christmas cards. We realise that, for many reasons, not everyone wants to do this, but it's there for those who do!



**Panto time at school – oh yes, it is!!** Thank you for the donations we've already received for our panto visit. £5 can be paid via Tucasi, cash or cheque to your child's school.



**Monday December 6<sup>th</sup> - Deadline for Christmas lunch orders please!**



### **Need help this Christmas?**

We know it has been another tough year! Fortunately, we do have amazing local charities who can offer support for our families. Whilst parents can often ask for help directly, as a school, we are able to make referrals or help you with them. For example, [the Cow Shed](#) offer Christmas gift sacks as well as clothes; The [First Days](#) charity can help with furniture and equipment such as school uniforms, new baby essentials, travel items, toiletries, safety equipment, furniture, toys and books

To access [Wokingham Food Bank](#), you do need a referral – we are approved to do that, so do ask for someone to call you to help sort that out.

Both schools have some good quality **second hand uniform** – please just ask and we can see what we can do.

All of this support is offered in complete confidence. We would just love to help if we can!

### **Infant News**



**A huge congratulations** to our amazing Infant School Site Controller, Mr Goodwin, on his 25th year at Polehampton! We celebrated in a big outside assembly today - he loved seeing all the children and they sang beautifully for him. Mr. Goodwin, thanks so much for everything you do for our school!!

### **Scooter Fun in Year One!**

Year ones has great fun on Wednesday this week when we had a special scooter workshop. They learned new skills and lots about road safety.

### **Junior News**

**Tonight** – Our choir will be singing outside Waitrose café side at 6.45pm as part of the Twyford village fair. Do come and join the singing if you want to add your voices to the fun!

<https://twyfordtogether.org/upcoming-events/twyford-together-christmas-fayre/>

**Tuesday December 7<sup>th</sup>** - Year 4s that missed the Flu immunisation on Nov 26th - the nurses will be in school (morning) on Tuesday, December 7th to administer this. Any other parents that have re-booked will receive a link from the Immunisation team to book on another clinic, outside of school.

#### **A House Point Tie today!**

Big news at the Junior School today, when two houses tied in first place for winners this week. At a dead heat of 19.72, **Loddon** and **Chiswick** won! No one here can remember a tie in our weekly announcements – it was fun to have ½ the school celebrating a win today!

#### **A free online safety guide on age-inappropriate content.**

“Inappropriate” means different things to different people. What’s acceptable for one age group, for example, may be unsuitable for a slightly younger audience. Online, young people can chance upon inappropriate content in various way –from pop-up ads to TikTok videos. The increasingly young age at which children become active in the digital world heightens the risk of them innocently running into something that they find upsetting or frightening. Trusted adults need to be able to help children be aware of what to do if they’re exposed to age-inappropriate content.

In the guide, you'll find tips on a number of potential risks such as social media, gaming and adverts. - see attached

#### **Prospective Parents Open Mornings**

Please do pass these dates and times to anyone you know who has a child who will be starting school next year. We would love to show them around our school. Places need to be booked as we are limiting numbers more this year.

- Friday 10th December - session 1 -9.15am at Infants / session 2 - 1.45pm at Infants (11am Juniors, if you would like to visit there too)
- Friday 7th January - session 1 -9.15am at Infants / session 2 - 1.45pm at Infants (11am Juniors, if you would like to visit there too)

Please arrive by 9.15am and please wear a mask, unless you are exempt. We would like all visitors to take LFTs in advance of their visit to our school.

For those unable to attend, please see the [Prospective Parents page](#) on our website for a welcome video.

\*\*\*Please note:- we may have to review parent visitors into school if the school, local or national position changes due to additional COVID restrictions.\*\*\*

#### **Community and PTA News**

- Community news is now going home on Mondays
- PTA news is now going home on Wednesdays

#### **Attachments**

- **Parent advice about online content** from National Online Safety

Best wishes,

Miss Ball, Mrs Scott, Mrs Medcalf and Mrs Castell

#### **Diary dates**

Next week / new dates / infants only / juniors only

Date	Event	Place and time
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Deadline for Christmas dinner order	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Catch up flu vaccines for Year 4	Morning at the Junior school
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Panto at the Infant School	Donations of £5 please
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Panto at the Junior School	Donations of £5 please
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Prospective parents' Open Morning*	9.15am - infants 11.00am - Juniors 1.45pm - Infants
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA Infant School Christmas Fair	<a href="#">Please send your donations to help support this exciting event</a>
	Blue Class nativity sent home to parents	Suggested time to watch - 6.30pm
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA Junior School Christmas Fair	<a href="#">Please send your donations to help support this exciting event</a>
	Yr1&2 nativity sent home to parents	Suggested time to watch – 6.30pm
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Upper School Carol Concert sent home to parents	Suggested time to watch – 7.00pm
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Year Four Christmas play sent home to parents	Suggested time to watch – 7.00pm
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-uniform day</li> <li>• No After School Club</li> </ul>	School closes at <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infants - 1.40pm</li> <li>• Juniors – 1.50pm</li> </ul>

\*please call the school to book a place

## Term Dates 21/22

*Holidays in term time are not authorised.*

### Autumn 2021

- Inset day 1 – Wednesday 1st September
- School opens to pupils – Thursday 2nd September
- Inset day 2 – Friday 22nd October
- Half term – Monday 25th – Friday 29th October
- Inset day 3 – Monday 1st November
- Last day of term – Friday 17th December

### Spring 2022

- Inset day 4 – Tuesday 4th January 2022
- School opens to pupils – Wednesday 5th January
- Inset day 5 – Friday 18th February
- Half term – Monday 21st – Friday 25th February
- Last day of term – Friday 8th April

### Summer 2022

- School opens to pupils – Monday 25th April
- Half term – Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

- Last day of the school year – Wednesday 20th July

### **Term Dates 22/23**

#### Autumn 2022

- Inset day 1 & 2 – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September
- School opens to pupils – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September
- Inset day 3 – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October
- Half term – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October
- Last day of term – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

#### Spring 2023

- Inset day 4 – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023
- School opens to pupils – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January
- Inset day 5 – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February
- Half term – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February
- Last day of term – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

#### Summer 2023

- School opens to pupils – Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April
- Half term – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June
- Last day of the school year – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July