

Worthington Primary School

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"We Only Reach for The Highest"

Thursday 16th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Before I run out of time this calendar year, I wanted to thank you all for everything you have done to help make school safe.

It is clear that Covid-19 is with us for some time yet and new variants will arise from time to time. This has resulted in so many changes within school. I know that not being able to see your child perform on the school stage for the first time is a big miss, but I hope that the videos we are sending are going some way to make up for that loss. I want to thank you for engaging so readily with the School Cloud Parents' Evenings, Parent Pay emails and the like.

We are all so used to wearing masks – please do keep up with this – we always have plenty of stock in school if you need one. Thank you too for complying with the most up-to-date information from Trafford Public Health, the Government and Track and Trace. It can become so confusing to know exactly what to do – we will always do our best to help, just call. I appreciate that carrying out daily LFD tests (if required) on your child is difficult, but if we are vigilant, we have a much better chance of cracking this together.

You can also be incredibly proud of your children – they are living through the pandemic like the rest of us. They have learned so much about hand hygiene, the passing on of infection and how to stay safe these last few years. They have also dealt so brilliantly with elements of social distancing. Let's face it, our children love to play with their friends when at school – this has been much harder of late and somewhat reduced by how we have to keep our distance. It's been hard for some children but they have come through it all with smiles on their faces.

Thank you too for all you and your children have given this term – our harvest for Mustard Tree, the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, the in-house P.T.A Christmas Fair and the Worthy Walk! How could any of us forget the amazing total raised by the children during the 'Run Pudsey Run' week – that will stay with me for ever!

Amongst all this incredible generosity, I am always mindful that some of us have fewer financial resources than others, and that Christmas does place a great strain on all our budgets. As grateful as I and my staff are to receive cards and gifts from you and your children at this time of year, there is not one of us who expects anything. I would hate for anyone passing me at the gate to see me receive a gift from a child to then think they must go out and spend money on me. It may be a job I love, but I do get paid to do it.

This Christmas:

- I want all our children to have a happy, playful and loving Christmas
- I want all our children to be mightily grateful for anything that might come their way
- I want all our children to stay safe over the holiday and return happy in January
- I want all our families (as wide as they may spread) to keep safe from Covid
- I want all of you to enjoy your time with your children

For me, the period of the last 21 months has taught me many things, but most of all it has reminded me of the importance of family. I do hope you can all have some time for a safe get together, perhaps enjoying a long walk in the countryside working off that Christmas Pudding!

Whether you celebrate Christmas or not, I do hope you all have a peaceful, restful, joyous and possibly most importantly, <u>healthy</u> holiday. I greatly look forward to what the new year brings and can't wait for the spring term to begin.

I would like to remind you that school closes for Christmas at 2 pm on Tuesday 21st December 2021 and reopens on Tuesday 4th January 2022.

Yours

Mr. C. Searle

