



CORBY OLD VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER **Issue 6 – Friday December 11th 2020**

Christmas Celebrations

Although Christmas feels very different for us all this year, we are still bringing some festive cheer to school for the children. Each classroom has their own Christmas tree which have been beautifully decorated by the children (please see photographs above). We even have some cheeky elves and gingerbread men in some of the classrooms!

As we are unable to take the children to watch a pantomime in the theatre this year, we are bringing the pantomime to school instead. We have organised for all of the children to watch an online pantomime in their classrooms. They will be watching 'Sleeping Beauty', which is being performed by Bigfoot Education Arts Company. If your child is unwell next week and misses watching this with their class, please let the school office know and we will send you the link so that they can watch it at home.

On Wednesday we will have our Christmas lunch and party day. The children can come to school in Christmas jumpers or mufti. They will have Christmas crackers with their lunch and will play party games in their classrooms in the afternoon.

If you haven't yet ordered a Christmas lunch from Love Food for your child and you would like to do so, please place your order online by midnight on Tuesday.

If your child would like to bring in Christmas cards for their friends, they can do so next week but they must only bring them for children in their own bubble. If you require a class list, please email your child's class teacher.

Office Contact Details Over Christmas

Hopefully we will have no positive cases of Coronavirus over the Christmas holiday but if your child does test positive between Friday 18th and Wednesday 23rd December, please make sure that you still notify the school office. The office will be closed for telephone calls but emails to office@covs.northants.sch.uk will be monitored on these days. If a positive case is confirmed, we will report it to the DfE who will confirm what action we must take. If we are required to contact parents, we will do so via text message or email.

Skipping Workshop

On Thursday 10th December, all of our children took part in a skipping workshop.

They really enjoyed themselves and it was lovely to see them having so much fun whilst learning new skills. They were taught various skipping techniques including, crossover skipping, Dutch skipping, the pretzel and one footed skipping, both forwards and backwards.

We have had some lovely positive feedback from parents and children about this activity which is really nice to hear.

We have purchased skipping ropes for every child which will be available for them to use during their playtimes.

Take a look in our 'Gallery' section of the school website to see the children in action.

Star of the week

Stars of the week for the last three weeks are:

W/C 30th November

Pixie - Chester

Unicorn - Elsie

Pegasus - Amalia

Griffin - Maisie

Centaur - Deegan

Dragon - Max

Phoenix - Nikolas

W/C 7th December

Pixie - Eduard

Unicorn - Caelan

Pegasus - Lucas

Griffin - Archie

Centaur - Zuzanna

Dragon - Kaylah

Phoenix - Kaylah

Well done to all of the children!

Poppy Appeal

Thank you all for your generous donations to the Poppy Appeal. We managed to raise a wonderful £415.99. In total, the Corby team raised over £28,000 this year.

Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 17th December - School closes for Christmas

Friday 18th December - Staff training day

Monday 4th January - Staff training day

Tuesday 5th January - School re-opens for children

Online Safety – TikTok

TikTok is a social media app which previously operated under Musical.ly. Within this app, children are able to watch musical video clips, create their own short clips and add special effects to them. They are then able to share their 60 second videos with friends, family or the entire world. The recommended age for users is 13 years old.

Current concerns surrounding TikTok and how to keep children safe:

- When users sign up, their account becomes public by default, so everyone can see what they share. Make sure that accounts are set to 'Private'. This can be done in the in the settings section.
- Young people are posting videos and offering up personal information – eg; posting videos while wearing school uniform. Please ensure that you speak with children about the dangers that this can pose.
- Parents have expressed concerns about the inappropriate content posted by other users. You can enable 'restricted mode' to help to filter this out. Inappropriate content isn't restricted to TikTok alone, it can be on any social media platform and the advice to children who may have seen something upsetting online is:

Stop – if you come across any upsetting material online, stop what you are doing and turn off the phone, tablet or TV.

Think – try not to think about what you have seen in great detail, and remind yourself that the film is not real, there is no immediate danger and you are safe.

Talk – talk to someone about what you have seen in the movie or online with a trusted adult rather than other children.

- Various video challenges often circulate within the app, encouraging users to do dangerous or inappropriate things.
- TikTok does not have strong enough policies in place regarding user privacy and security or sharing information.
- Young people are spending large amounts of money on the app and its features.
- We advise parents to check their children's online accounts and to talk to children regularly about how to report anything that they find inappropriate.
- Ask children regularly about where they are visiting online and check their security and privacy settings within these apps and sites.

For more information, please visit www.net-aware.org.uk.

Safeguarding

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of our children, please contact the school and ask for Miss Thomas or Mrs Lowe (Designated Safeguarding Leads)