

Monday 23rd November 2020

RE: Covid-19 Update – Winter Celebrations

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Usually at this time of year, I write to you outlining all the exciting festive events that are due to take place throughout December that your children and the community can get involved in. Sadly, due to the current restrictions in place, it will not be possible to hold such events this year. I very much hope that this year is a one off, and next year we can go back to enjoying the performances, concerts and craft sessions to celebrate this time of year.

Staff are thinking creatively about how we can celebrate in a safe way:

- Children will have class parties in their bubbles (but please do not send in any food).
- We will be celebrating Christmas Jumper day on December 11th and we will also be having Christmas lunch that day.
- Winter Raffle

More details will be shared in a follow up letter.

Some parents on the gate have approached SLT to ask about the school's position in accepting cards and gifts for children and staff. I would like to make it clear that **there is no expectation to provide cards and gifts to staff**. However, I am aware that many parents and carers like to show their appreciation in this way. In this letter, I intend to provide the rules in line with the restrictions that we have in place. There are two possible options for you to consider:

1. If you wish to bring in cards and/or gifts for any children or staff, the deadline for bringing these into school is: **Monday 14th December 2020**. Any items brought into school after this date will unfortunately not be accepted. This will allow enough time to quarantine all items in classrooms, and hand them out on the last day of term. Please also note that we are not permitted to give any items out that may contain nuts. Therefore, I suggest that no food items are brought into school to avoid the disappointment in having them refused.
2. The school will be providing an alternative to giving physical cards/gifts. Throughout the month of December, it will be possible to make a donation to your child's class via Parent Pay. In January, your child's class teacher will be able to take the total for their class and buy the class a present that can be used in school to support activities within the classroom or during playtimes and lunchtimes.

School staff, feel very privileged to do the job we do and the difference it makes to your children's future. This is reward enough. However, in the eventuality that you were intending on providing cards and/or gifts to children or staff, it is important that we do this safely and in line with current restrictions.

If you have any questions, please call the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Carol Askins

