**St Gregory’s C E Primary School**

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**Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Field**

 **“Where learning has no limits”**

29th November 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

It is scary to think that we are only x3 weeks away from ending the term for Christmas. A time that will be extremely different than Christmases past. I hope that you do all mange some time with loved ones and family if you are able to do so – but alongside this keep safe and healthy. As we move in to the winter period it’s really impressive to see the number of families who are continuing to walk or cycle to school each day – despite the weather. Thank you to everyone for keeping to the timings for each class, not arriving too early or too late avoids congestion.

**A reminder to everyone to keep well apart from other families when arriving and collecting children from school – particularly around our entrances when children and parents are trying to come through to the car park and to wear a mask when on the school site. THANK YOU.**

Our fantastic Owls class children have been busy making cards for some of our local residents – just to say St Gregory’s children are thinking of them at this time and they are not alone. Rev’d Gaenor distributed these to members of our community. Last week I received some wonderful calls saying these cards had been received and what a welcome surprise they were – certainly putting smiles on faces. So important at this time.

****School Attendance: I am pleased to say that the attendance overall across the school has gone up since prior to half term. We are seeing only a very few children having any absence.

**Hedgehogs: 96.7% Owls: 97.4% Badgers: 92.8% Foxes: 95.2% School overall: 95.3%**

Thank you so much for getting your children to school so regularly and valuing the importance of good attendance impacting on learning.

 At the end of term we will be reviewing the start and end times of the day. If there are to be any changes I will inform you before Christmas.

  Thank you for the donations towards the RBL and Remembering the animals – we raised a staggering £155 which was shared between both of these charitable organisations.

  Mrs Cook-Paine will be organising donations for the Food Bank. Boxes will be outside each entrance for the children to put their donations of food items. These will be collected in at the end of the week and put in quarantine before being taken to the food bank.

 Christmas will soon be upon us. In school we still want the children to have a wonderful, memorable time and have been trying to think creatively as to what we can do within the guidelines and our bubbles.

**ALL classes** will be doing a Christmas Performance. Individual bubbles will go up to church, perform and this will be filmed. The whole school will be watching all performances on Monday 14th December and following this they will be available to parents to watch. We are just working out which media they will be put on – details will follow.

 **Pantomime and Party Day**: I am very excited to announce that I have managed to secure a virtual pantomime for ALL the children. This will be a personalised performance to St Gregory’s and the children will watch this in their bubbles on **Wednesday 16th December.** This will also be our party day. Children may come in either Pantomime costume / Own clothes / Party clothes on this day. In the morning there will be ‘in bubble games’ and a school disco – music played to all bubbles at the same time and ‘let the dancing begin!!’. The PTFA have very kindly offered to pay for the pantomime and also the ice-creams which will be provided during the performance. My thanks for this as it enables the children to have some great fun – and not feel they have missed out on too much this year.

 Our amazing Pupil Leadership team are busy behind the scenes planning activities for the year. They would like to run a movie night before the end of term. This will be on **Thursday 17th December** – after school.

Children will be able to stay, watch a movie, have some popcorn / drink and go home later. More details and a permission slip will be sent out from our pupil leaders.

 The PTFA are doing a Christmas raffle to raise valuable funds for the school. Tickets will be on sale around the village. The hampers will be brought into school to be quarantined and then tickets drawn the final week of term. Please contact Spencer for more details of how / where tickets can be purchased.

 Rev’d Gaenor is organising a Christmas eve service – where children will be invited to dress up as a character from the Nativity. Further details on this to follow.

**Term ends on Friday 18th December**

**Spring term start Tuesday 5th January 2021**

***Stay Safe***

***With warmest wishes to you all***

Debbie Field

