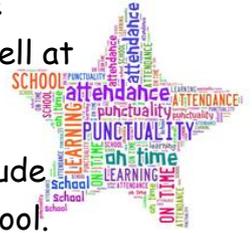


## Newsletter - November

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to Year 6 after their isolation! I am happy to report there were no further cases so just the one confirmed. As a school our infection rate remains low which is a credit to the staff and children who are doing so well at following all the measures necessary to keep everyone safe.



Attendance has been excellent 97% for most of the term. This does exclude children isolating but shows how much you value your children being in school.

Thank you for wearing masks on site and remaining vigilant with regards to your children or household developing symptoms. I am awaiting guidance as to which tier we will be in as an area and how that will impact on the school. I don't expect many changes to the measures that we currently have in place.

### **Staffing**

Mr Bradley has taken the decision to retire after working as the site manager of the school for twenty-eight years. He will be sadly missed and has been an invaluable member of staff throughout his time at the school. I am sure you all join me in thanking him for his commitment to King's Wood and in wishing him a happy and long retirement.



Miss Bridgman has taken the difficult decision to relocate to Cheltenham and will be leaving us at the end of this term. Miss Bridgman has been a teacher at King's Wood for over twelve years. During that time she has supported children with their Maths and English and led the introduction of our phonics scheme, overseeing the rise in standards in this area. She has also stepped in to provide much needed stability for classes when teachers have been on long-term absence, most recently in Year 4. We shall all miss her and I would like to thank her for everything that she has done for the children of King's Wood over the years.

Miss Cooper will also be leaving us at the end of this term in order to return to Australia. Though only with us for a short time she has been a much-loved teacher and we wish her well.

Ms Brodelle has left the employment of the school.

I am pleased to say we have successfully recruited permanent replacements for all the staff who will be leaving us. Mrs Macdonald will be joining us as a Year 4 teacher, Mrs Elliott will be taking over in Year 2 and Mr Edwards will be our new site manager.



We have also welcomed Miss Khalil, Mrs Motts, Miss Sturt and Mrs Torrrome to the LSA team this half term.

## Christmas Arrangements



Instead of having our Christmas tree in the hall this year we have decided to put it outside the front entrance so everyone can still enjoy it. Please feel free to take photos of your children in front of it if you wish. It will be set up and ready for 1<sup>st</sup> December.

## Christmas Cards



We are happy for children to still send Christmas cards but only to friends in their class please. Each class will have a post-box for cards so they can be quarantined before we send them home. Please name the envelope clearly.

## Christmas Gifts

I have been asked if we are still accepting gifts for staff at Christmas. If you wish to then that would be lovely. Staff will take steps to make sure they keep themselves safe.

## Christmas Concerts

Sadly, we are unable to invite you to performances this year. However, we will be recording a video of the children in each class performing a Christmas Song that can then be shared through Google Classrooms. Not quite the same but it should provide some Christmas cheer!

## Christmas Dinner

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December the kitchen will be offering a Christmas dinner. It will be served in the classrooms and every child will get a Christmas Cracker. If you would like your child to take part please order through the Dolce website.



## Festive Mufti Day

The PTA are holding a Festive Mufti day on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December and we look forward to seeing the children in their Christmas outfits.

## Christmas Parties

We will still be holding Christmas parties in the classrooms on the last day of term. The children can bring in a very small amount of party treats just for themselves to have at morning break (NO NUTS). The children can come in wearing their party clothes on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December and will get a small gift.

## Last Day of Term

Please don't forget that we finish early on this day. It will be staggered end to the day starting at 1pm for children who normally would be picked up at 2.50pm and running through to 1.30pm for the final pick up.