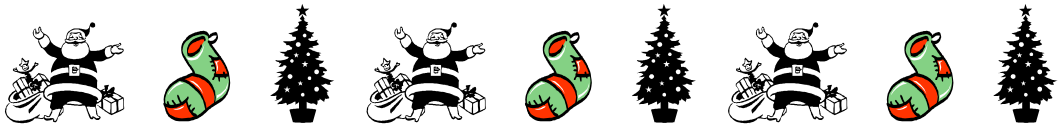
COALWAY COMMUNITY INFANT SCHOOL
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Newsletter: December 2020

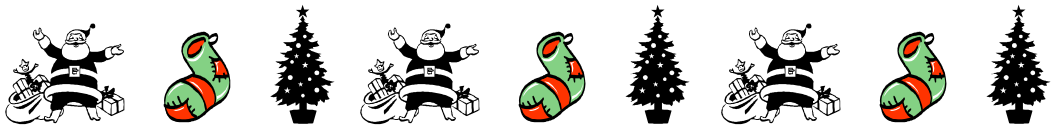


The children continue to have a fabulous time in school. They are having such a lovely time with their classmates, working hard and making progress every day. Despite the pressures we as adults face, the children are rightly mostly unaware of these and School remains the fun, happy, safe environment that it should be for them! We are very proud of the children and staff and hope you will tell them this!

We are extremely thankful that as we near the end of term 2 all members of our school remain healthy and well, and hope this long continues. Everyone has worked so tirelessly to enable this and our thanks go to staff and parents for helping us to keep everyone safe in school. Your support has been wonderful and is hugely appreciated; thank you.

Christmas in school will be almost the same as usual for the children. We have had to be creative regarding some events this year but hope to bring them lots of excitement and fun over the final few weeks of term.

We are very sad that this year we will be unable to invite you in to school to share in concerts and other events due to the COVID restrictions but hope to keep you informed of these virtually.



Year 1 Christmas Concert
At this time every year, Classes 3 and 4 usually perform a Christmas concert for their parents. As we are unable to invite anyone in to school due to COVID guidelines, Class 3 and 4 staff are currently busy trying to put together an alternative virtual concert for Year 1 parents (and us all as well!)

Please look out for notification towards the end of term that this is ready… the children are looking forward to presenting 'A Wriggly Nativity' to you!



(For the information of our Reception parents: Each year group performs a concert for their parents during the course of the year. Classes 1 & 2 will perform concerts for their parents towards the end of the Spring term, and Classes 5 & 6 will perform a Leavers concert for Year 2 parents in July).

Christmas Dinner 

The children will be having their Christmas dinner on Friday 11th December – a traditional roast turkey dinner (with chipolata sausage, sage and onion stuffing, peas, carrots, roast potatoes, gravy), followed by a gingerbread biscuit or chocolate orange brownie. Anyone requiring the vegetarian option of Parsnip and Sweet Potato Loaf should have requested this option at the School Office a week in advance of this, by Friday 4th December.

Christmas Jumper Day 

The children may wear their Christmas tops/jumpers/dresses/leggings on Christmas dinner day as Friday 11th December is national Christmas Jumper Day whereby money is raised for 'Save the Children'. If you wish to donate, a donation of 50p would be gratefully received for the charity.

Christmas Parties 

The children's Christmas parties will be held on Tuesday 15th December. School Fund will be covering the cost of food and prizes to be bought for each class party.

As we are unable to hold a family Christmas disco this year, we thought the children might like to wear their party/disco clothes to school on this day; otherwise they may wear normal school uniform if they would prefer.

On disco night we also normally offer the children the chance to have a tattoo, their nails painted or have a go at the lucky dip. So on party day this year staff will give the children the opportunity to do all 3! If you would prefer your child not to have a Christmas tattoo or they have an allergy that prevents this, please email the school to let us know in advance.

Christmas Service 

As a whole school we will be making a virtual Christmas Service for everyone to share in. This will follow our usual format of telling the Christmas story through readings and carols. This will be published in the last week of term – again, please look out for notification in due course.

Christmas Cards

Unfortunately, the children will be unable to bring in cards for their classmates this year (due to COVID restrictions and GCC advice). However, as an alternative, we thought they may like to make an e-card or picture instead and send it to their class via Purple Mash. The staff will then print out any cards/messages received and share and display them in the classroom for the children. The teachers will add information about how to do this on to Purple Mash for you.

School closes for the Christmas holiday 3.00 p.m. Friday 18th December

Term 3 starts Tuesday 5th January

Other Information…

Coalway Kids News

Please remember to visit the website to see our Term 2 (November) Coalway Kids News and what has been going on in school this term so far! We have also sent you a link to view a short Friendship Week video we have made.

Flu Immunisation

The School Nurse Immunisation Team will be visiting school on Thursday 10th December to complete flu immunisation. This will be given as a nasal spray. Parents should ensure they complete the online consent form in advance if they wish their child to receive this.
https://immsconsentforms.glos-care.nhs.uk/GCSFluVac/FluConsent

If your child has asthma an additional form also needs to be completed in advance, available via the School Office.

ParentMail

Thank you for registering for ParentMail. We recommend downloading the mobile App as any messages school sends will then show up on the App and not get lost in your inbox.

January Parents' appointments

We intend offering parents another opportunity to talk with class teachers via Teams or telephone calls in January to catch up about how the children are getting on – exact details and dates to follow before the end of term.

Parents will be able to set up their parents evening appointments through ParentMail – we will send information in the next few weeks about how to do so.

School Intake and Junior Transfer September 2021

Reminder… applications for admission to the Infants and Junior School for September 2021 should be completed on-line by Friday 15th January 2021.

Adverse Weather Conditions

As winter approaches please can we remind you about our general procedures regarding possible school closure in the event of severe weather:

1. Closure of the school will be posted on the school website www.coalway-inf.gloucs.sch.uk
2. If there is heavy snowfall overnight you will be contacted by text to your mobile phone by 8.15 a.m. the next day informing you of closure of the school.
3. If you have not received a text message you may check by telephoning the school after 8.30 a.m. to check if the school is open.
4. Listen to Radio Gloucestershire - FM 104.7 and/or Severn Sound - FM 102.4; AM 774. They will give news about school closures.
5. Access the Gloucestershire website to view the list of schools that are closed www.glosclosedschools.com
6. It may be necessary for the school to close during the course of the day. In that case, it is very important that we have an emergency contact number as a text message will be sent in the first instance.

Children in Need Thank you for supporting our Children in Need activities; you raised an amazing **£194.30** - thank you!

COVID procedures

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe and for doing your bit to 'stop the spread'. You are all doing a fantastic job in very difficult circumstances … and with a smile! Please keep going! As we spend more time indoors during the Autumn/Winter, the possible risk of transmission will increase so everyone's vigilance is vital.

Remember:

- Increase hand washing and hygiene practices
- Limit mixing with others
- Keep your distance from others
- Keep checking everyone in the household for coronavirus symptoms and react accordingly;
- If a child/parent/family member in the household presents with any symptoms of coronavirus, check the NHS website and book a test as soon as possible. Do not go out or come to school. Anyone you live with must also stay at home until you get your result.
- Keep school informed of reasons for absence and of test results, so that we can take appropriate action
- Wear a mask or visor at drop off and collection times
- Only one adult should come on to site to drop off/collect each child
- Drop off/collect your child at any time during their class '10 minute window' to reduce contact with others
- Don't arrive early and overlap with other class drop off times
- Keep your child by your side whilst waiting at class designated areas and when on pathways
- Keep a 2m distance from staff when they open classroom doors and avoid blocking entrances for the children entering their classrooms…Pass on important messages via email/telephone if you can.
- Drop your child off and go – don't stop to chat with friends or relatives in accordance with national guidance re. mixing outside of households
- Follow the one-way system to enter/leave site

Thank you for your continuing support. Our school community's safety is our paramount concern - with everyone's support, we can continue to safeguard the children, yourselves, the staff and all our families and minimise spread of the virus in the wider community. Thank you.

Please also remember… Please get in touch with us if you need any help or advice at all, in what will continue to be a very challenging winter-time for everyone. Keep going… Christmas is almost here!