



NEWSLETTER : ISSUE 7

4th December 2020

Welcome:

Dear parents,

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Thanks to the PTA our school tree is in the hall and looking fabulous. Despite not having worship in there the children do go in for lunch and PE so it brightens up the soul.

I am pleased to say that a virtual tour has been set up as a tab on our school website. There are hotspots to click on and a gallery of images. We are aware in these strange times that you, your families and friends cannot come on site as usual. The website is our shop window and we want to share our unique and fabulous school with you and those who may want to join our family in the future.

You may remember that at the start of the year we had an oak tree fall down and with your rapid response we removed and made safe. Following on from that we have had a visit from Hampshire tree management and I am pleased to say that we have scheduled some works to be done on site starting next Thursday. It may take up to four days. The work will cover removal of dead wood and trees that have lived their life and are now a potential danger. This does include some on the field and a few on the playground, the large oak in the centre of adventure play being the most notable. All works will be carried out with children's safety being the main priority.

J Littlewood, Head Teacher

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PTA and fund raising:

• The PTA are running a children's Christmas shop this year. The children are able to choose Christmas presents for family and pets (pre-paid to the PTA). The shop will be housed under a gazebo in the courtyard next Thursday and Friday. The children will be escorted in small groups, around the school's one way system, to the shop where they can choose from display items with full COVID safety precautions in place. Gifts will be wrapped and bagged by the PTA then given to the children after 72 hours quarantine.

• The PTA have produced a children's cookbook by collating favourite recipes submitted by children and their families. The books are available now at £10 each, with 100% profit going to the school. If you would like to purchase a copy please contact the PTA on their email address: ptabrock@gmail.com

• If you have not already got your Christmas tree, Setley Ridge Garden Centre are supporting our school and other local organisations with the sale of Christmas trees. Please contact them direct to reserve a tree.

School Notices:

• In this most unusual year we are striving to maintain as many of our Christmas activities for the children as possible. This week YR and KS1 parents have received an email requesting permission for the children to be filmed in a virtual Nativity performance. The children will re-tell the Christmas story and the significance of the Christingle. The children have been asked to bring in Christmas jumpers next Friday (if they have them) to wear during the performance. This recording will be shared with parents via a private Youtube link so that you can still enjoy watching it, despite us not being able to invite you into school as would be usual. If you are a KS1 parent and have not yet given your permission, please email: adminoffice@brockenhurst-primary.hants.sch.uk

• All the children will be able to enjoy a school Christmas lunch this year (at the usual school meal price of £2.50 for KS2 and free to all KS1). There is no need to pre-book. Class bubbles will be enjoying their Christmas lunch on different days within the final week of term. Christmas jumpers can also be worn on the appropriate day:

YR, Y1 & Y2 - Tuesday 15th December

Y3 & Y4 - Wednesday 16th December

Y5 & Y6 - Thursday 17th December

There will be some changes to the general menu during this week (w/c 14th December), when Christmas lunch is not being served. This has been emailed to all parents and will be posted on our school website.

• At this time of year we would normally be inviting parents of those children who learn musical instruments into school for a performance assembly. Although we are currently unable to do this Mr Thomas will be creating a virtual music performance assembly, filming his piano and guitar pupils playing a piece of music. If parents have given their permission this recording will be sent as a link to parents and made available via our school website. We look forward to showcasing how talented our children are!

• This December we are collecting a Reverse Advent Calendar. We are asking for non-perishable food items to be donated at the gate during school drop off times; these will be donated to the local food bank at the end of term.

Important Dates:

Tues 15th Dec	YR, Y1, Y2 Christmas lunch
Wed 16th Dec	Y3 & Y4 Christmas lunch
Thurs 17th Dec	Y5 & Y6 Christmas lunch
21st Dec	Christmas Holiday begins
Tues 12th Jan	Bag 2 School
Fri 12th Feb	Inset Day
15th - 19th Feb	Half Term
Thur 1st April	Last Day of Spring Term
19th April	First Day of Summer Term
31st May-4th Jun	Half Term
7th June	Inset Day
23rd July	Last day of term

Pause For Thought

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most – Ruth Carter Stapleton