



# BROCKENHURST CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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"We Enjoy and Excel  
In the Presence of God"

"Loving, Hopeful, Thankful"

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## NEWSLETTER : ISSUE 7

4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### Welcome:

Dear Parents and Friends of Brockenhurst CE Primary,

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and peaceful New Year.

It has not been an easy term, but the children, staff, governors and PTA have not let a global pandemic stop them putting children first. The smiles at the gate every morning and calm in classes reassures me that school is the best place for the children, both physically and mentally. There is as much a sense of normality as we can achieve. Thank you to those who have stopped me to say we have got the balance right.

You will have received a letter from me earlier in the week that shares our COVID-19 review of systems. The start and end times being the biggest change. As you are all so good at maintaining a distance in a mask and the children head into class quickly we see no reason not to maximise the learning time and be as close to a normal day as possible.

We will review again at February half term where we hope we may be able to involve some volunteers in learning by adopting them to a key bubble. I know the children and staff are really missing the extra reads with our class helpers.

I hope you all manage some quality family time and stay safe wherever you are. I will be with my family training Oakley our 11 week old cockapoo who will be keeping Luna company and meeting the children onsite in the New Year.

If you have any comments or questions please do email me direct [j.littlewood@brockenhurst-primary.hants.sch.uk](mailto:j.littlewood@brockenhurst-primary.hants.sch.uk)

J Littlewood, Head Teacher

[j.littlewood@brockenhurst-primary.hants.sch.uk](mailto:j.littlewood@brockenhurst-primary.hants.sch.uk)

### PTA and fund raising:

- A big thank you to the PTA for all their hard work this term. All the children enjoyed their Christmas shopping in the courtyard (despite the rain!). Lots of you have lovely surprises in store on Christmas morning.
- The fantastic PTA Brock cookbook has been a great success, with 100% of the profits going to the children's kitchen fundraising pot.
- Father Christmas made an exciting appearance this morning. He delivered a fantastic present to all the children to enjoy in the New Year – a Forest School experience on our school site, delivered by a local, qualified practitioner.

### School Notices:

- This week you will have received a COVID update letter via email. May we request that you follow this procedure for informing us of any COVID tests in your family during the Christmas holidays: Upon receiving a positive test within your family, you should send a text to our specific COVID hotline **07898 513517** with child's name, who tested positive, the test date and when symptoms first started. This is a specific mobile number that will be checked daily, including throughout the holidays, and will allow me to contact the DfE and take the necessary steps to notifying our school community. This will be in place from now until no longer necessary.
- If you have not already booked your spring term slots at Badger's Rest Breakfast and After School Club please do so via Scopay in the usual way. If you are booking for the first week of term please also text Emma Hodkin on 07445 378433 with your child's name and which sessions you have booked, so that sufficient breakfast and after school snacks can be purchased in advance.
- This year we have tried to deliver as many of our normal Christmas activities as possible. In this final week of term, the YR & KS1 virtual Christingle/Nativity story has been sent to parents via email. Year groups have enjoyed Christmas crafts, recorded their own Christmas assemblies and Y6 have been to Woodpeckers to carol sing to the residents from the garden.
- Thank you to our kitchen staff who have worked hard to provide Christmas lunches for all year groups, across three days this week, whilst also providing a different hot lunch to the rest of the school.
- All our year groups have been able to enjoy a Christmas pantomime this week. The virtual performance of Jack & the Beanstalk was personally introduced to Brockenhurst CE Primary School by ex-Blue Peter presenter Peter Duncan.
- Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Reverse Advent collection for our local food bank. Mrs Lansdowne has delivered all the food to the church, who are coordinating the collection in Brockenhurst.
- Mr Thomas has recorded virtual piano and guitar assemblies for all his pupils. These have now been sent to music parents. Y4 recorded a Listen2Me assembly to showcase what they have learnt on the Samba drums with Mr Brooks this term. This has been made available to Y4 parents via Google classroom.
- It is with sadness that we have this week waved goodbye to Mrs Pritchard, one of our Y4 Teaching Assistants. We wish Katrin the best of luck in her exciting new venture after many years of service at the school.
- This term we have been very happy to welcome Mr Chesters to work across our school on a regular basis. Mr Chesters has many years of teaching experience, including many happy years at Durlston. He always has a happy face for any of the year groups and intervention groups he is working with.

### Important Dates:

<b>21<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>	Christmas Holiday begins
<b>Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	Bag 2 School
<b>Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Inset Day
<b>15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	Half Term
<b>Thur 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	Last Day of Spring Term
<b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	First Day of Summer Term
<b>31<sup>st</sup> May-4<sup>th</sup> Jun</b>	Half Term
<b>7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Inset Day
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	Last day of term

### Pause For Thought

Merry Christmas and best wishes for a healthy and happy 2021.

At Brockenhurst CE Primary School our vision is to inspire a love of learning, within a nurturing Christian environment.