



St Theresa's Primary School, East End Rd, LONDON N3 2TD

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AUTUMN TERM 2020

Friday 11th December

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to Father John, Sister Jenny and Y4 for leading a school Advent liturgy via zoom yesterday. Whilst we have not been able to stage the traditional nativity plays for the parents this year, this was an alternate way for the school community to come together to think about the message of Christmas.

A reminder that on Wednesday 16th December, we will be supporting **Save the Children** by inviting all the pupils – and staff - to wear a Christmas (or red) jumper for a donation of £1; the children are replacing just the top part of their uniform with the festive sweater.

On Thursday 17th December the children will be having their Christmas parties. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 you will have already received a letter asking for a voluntary donation towards the cost of the food. The school staff will organise the food for the children in the infant classes. If your child is in Y3, Y4 and Y6, since under the current circumstances we are trying to avoid the bringing in and sharing of food, we are asking the children in the juniors to bring in their own "party picnic bag". The children can bring in their own snacks etc. (no nuts please) from home to eat at their party. Children will remain in full school uniform for the Christmas party.

Attached to the bottom of this week's newsletter is information regarding how and when to notify the school should your child test positive for COVID-19 during the Christmas holidays.

Parents must read this information and follow the guidelines.

Next Friday is the last day of term and we are finishing at 1pm. To ensure we dismiss the children as safely as possible we will be staggering the pick up times as follows:

12.55pm: Year 1 and Year 2

1pm: Year 3 and Year 4

1.05pm: Reception and Year 6

Have a lovely weekend.

Barbara Costa

Y6 Pupils Bringing Phones to School

The school understands that a large number of Y6 children walk to and from school and carry a mobile phone to stay in contact with their parents, or to use in the event of an emergency.

Can we please ask that all Y6 (or any other) pupils who bring a mobile phone to school, give the phone to their class teacher who will lock it away for the duration of the day; the phone will be returned at home-time.



Save the Children Christmas/Red Jumper Day Wednesday 16th December

The children are invited to come to school on Wednesday 16th December replacing just the top part of their uniform with a Christmas, or red, jumper in return for a donation of £1. The money raised will be given to *Save the Children*. Save the Children's work saves and improves children's lives in the UK and around the world. They tackle problems like pneumonia, hunger, protecting children in war etc.

Friends of St. Theresa's Update

Thank you to everyone who supported last week's Movie night, it raised £640, and to everyone who purchased a Christmas flower, this raised an additional £190! And, £170 was made on the sale of the Christmas cards! The school is incredibly grateful for everyone's support.

Every Day Counts!



School Attendance

A reminder to all parents and carers that the expectation for children's school attendance is 96%. Any child whose attendance falls below 90% (non COVID related) is considered a "persistent absentee" and will trigger formal monitoring from the Barnet Educational Welfare Team.

Home Learning over the Christmas Holiday

Please note that no home learning will be uploaded by the class teacher onto Seesaw for the Christmas holidays.

Winter Family Support

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected our lives in many ways. It has caused disruption to family life, to work and school and the way in which we access support services.

Barnet Council has produced a simple guide for families within the borough to find the range of advice, help and support that is available to them at this tough time. It includes information about financial support, children centres, local food banks and community groups, mental health and well-being information.

You can find the guide here:

https://www.barnet.gov.uk/sites/default/files/helping_families_this_winter.pdf



Reception	Nela – For her positive attitude towards learning. David – For writing a beautiful letter to Santa.
Year 1	Amilia – For her excellent writing in English. Shervin – For always trying his best.
Year 2	Matylda – For her determination and dedication. Leona – Always having a go and her improved concentration.
Year 3	Krissy – For an amazing comic strip story about Bonnie & Clyde. Ola – For always helping & supporting the teachers in class! You are appreciated.
Year 4	Jasper – For continuing to challenge himself both in his home and school learning. Zoe – For her brilliant reading in the St Theresa's 2020 Advent Liturgy.
Year 5	Everyone For their fantastic Remote Learning.
Year 6	Robbie – For his excellent learning and progress this week. Stella – For her motivation and enthusiasm in all subjects.
<i>The Golden Ticket Winners are Tye Yr 1 and Callum Yr1</i>	

Little Saints After School Club

Where? St Theresa's School (multi-purpose room)
When? Every day after school until 6pm
How much? £10 per session offer (offer ends December)

To book a place please contact *Little Saints* with the following details: Child's name, class, your name, telephone number, any allergies or intolerances. Payments with code "LS child's name" to Mrs V Avraam, Natwest, Account No: 64134520, Sort code: 51 50 00
 email: vicky_avraam@hotmail.co.uk telephone: 07968 498 364

Applications for Reception and Nursery

Applications are invited for the **Reception Class** for **September 2021** – this is for children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017.

The deadline to return this to the school office is 15th January 2021.

The forms are available to download on the school website.

Please also be advised that you must also complete a CAF (Common Application Form) from Barnet - the on-line system is already open.

Please contact the office or visit the school website for an application pack.

Symptoms of Covid-19

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus they will need to get a test as soon as possible.

Main symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new continuous cough
- A loss or change to their sense of smell or taste

Your child will need to stay at home until the test result is received.

Everyone in the household and support bubble will also need to stay at home until the test results are received.

Remember 'Hands. Face. Space.'

Hands: Wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds

Face: Wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult, and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet

Space: Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as wearing face coverings or increasing ventilation indoors)

Dates for your diary

Wed 16th Dec School Christmas Lunch
 Wed 16th Dec "Save the Children" Christmas Jumper Day
 Thurs 17th Dec Class Christmas Party day
 Fri 18th Dec Last day of Autumn term - 1pm finish
 Mon 4th Jan Staff INSET – school closed for children
 Tues 5th Jan Children back at school
 Mon 15th Feb – Fri 19th Feb Inclusive – Half Term
 Wed 31st March Last day of Spring Term 1pm finish

New dates added in bold

Information for Parents regarding COVID19 Contact Tracing over the Christmas Holiday period

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to clarify the expectations around reporting cases of COVID19 and undertaking contact tracing over the Christmas holiday period.

As you know schools have played a vital role in reducing the spread of COVID19 over the last 9 months. One way in which they have done this is by undertaking contact tracing on behalf of the London Contact Tracing team. They identify and contact any individuals who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID19, during the time that is considered the contagious period. This is from 2 days before the person's symptoms are displayed. Those individuals are then required to self-isolate for 14 days because they are at risk of having contracted COVID19.

This contact tracing will not be taking place in the usual way during the Christmas break when schools are closed and there is less chance of school-based contacts existing.

Please follow the guidance below if your child begins to show symptoms of COVID19 during the Christmas break.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID19 within 48 hours of being in school you must seek a test for your child and the household must isolate at home until the test result is returned. You should let the school know that this has occurred. Please email

office@sttheresas.barnetmail.net

The quickest way to obtain a test is to book a test at your local testing centre via

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

If the test result is positive for COVID19, you must inform the school (email: **office@sttheresas.barnetmail.net**), and we will identify if there are any other individuals within the school community who are impacted by this.

If you are contacted by the school and your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID19, she/he must self-isolate for 14 days.

If the test result is negative, you should inform the school and you do not need to take any further action.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID19 more than 48 hours after their last day in school you must seek a test for your child and the household must isolate at home until the test result is returned.

If the test result is positive for COVID-19, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, (Monday 21st Dec onwards) you must contact NHS Test and Trace and follow the advice given by them: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/

You should contact the school regarding absence in time for the first day of the new term.

If the test result is negative, you do not need to take any further action.

I would encourage you to adhere to social distancing and all COVID19 social mixing guidance for the remainder of term to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus as the last thing we want is anyone being unwell or required to self-isolate over the holiday period.

Thank you for your cooperation and ongoing support.

Barbara Costa
(Executive Headteacher)