



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

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AUTUMN TERM 2020

Friday 18th December

Dear Parents and Carers,

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.**

I know some families are travelling abroad over Christmas; if you are having to travel abroad over the holiday, you will need to follow the rules for entering the UK when you return. Depending on the country you are travelling from, you may need to isolate for the first 10 days you are back in the UK. We ask all families to follow the government guidelines re. self-isolating; **this is to ensure all members of the school community (the children, the staff and the parents) are protected. Do not send your child to school if you have been requested to isolate following a trip abroad.** COVID-19 isolation related absences during term-time are authorised by the school – family holidays are not. Therefore if a family returns to the UK from abroad before the start of term, but then has to isolate during school time, the absence will be authorised. If, however, a family returns to the UK on Wednesday 6th January for example (when school has already started) and then isolates for the following 10 days, the absence on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th January will be *unauthorised* (and a fine may be issued) because the family were *on holiday* when the school was open - but the period of isolation after will be authorised. Please do contact the school if you have any questions about this.

Thank you to the everyone who supported the Christmas Jumper day - we raised £90. The money will be given to *Save the Children*. Save the Children is a global charity working in over 100 countries giving children a healthy start in life, the opportunity to learn and protection from harm.

The children enjoyed their Christmas lunch and, of course, their parties this week. Christmas at school this year however has been quite different; no carol concerts, no nativity plays and no whole school Christmas lunch in the hall! Throughout this extraordinary time the children, staff and parents have been brilliant models of flexibility and understanding – thank you everyone for all of your support during this very difficult term. We pray that the new year brings us all more stability and a hope of a return to our 'normal' lives.

I wish you all a safe Christmas and a happy new year.

Barbara Costa

Please visit our website where you will find our weekly newsletter, diary dates, curriculum information and lots more! <https://www.st-theresas.barnet.sch.uk/>

Update from the Friends of St. Theresa's



The Christmas raffle was drawn on Tuesday. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets - over 1000 were sold! Congratulations to all the lucky winners. Prizes were given to the children by their teacher and winners who aren't in school have been contacted.

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.

Monday 4th January 2021 - no school for children

A reminder to all parents and carers that the school is closed to the children on Monday 4th January. This day is a training day for the staff.

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	Reception Class – For all their hard work this term.
Year 1	Kevin – For being the Star of the week. Darius - For being the Star of the week.
Year 2	Kezie – For working so hard and for his enthusiasm! Rachel – For her determination and commitment to her learning.
Year 3	Year 3 - For working extremely hard and having a great first term back.
Year 4	Sofia – For her wonderful effort in all her learning this term. Nathan – For his determination to not give up in his learning.
Year 5	Mamie – For the great learning you have produced this week. It's been absolutely fantastic. Charlie – For your fabulous Christmas poem. I was impressed with your vocabulary choices and use of personification.
Year 6	Lottie - For her excellent progress in Maths and English this term. Byron - For his excellent progress in Maths and English this term.
<i>The Golden Ticket Winners are Masih Yr 1 and Seamus Yr4</i>	

Little Saints After School Club
(previously known as
Ultimate Primary Sports)

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

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)