

Dear Parents

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### **End of term arrangements**

Please be aware that arrangements may have to change at short notice because we DO have cases of Covid in school, and absences are rising. We are very grateful for those of you who are doing regular Lateral Flow tests. Please keep us informed if you need to take your child for a PCR test and let us know the outcome.

### **Christmas Performance Parish Hall Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 6.00 pm**

Our performance of 'Are We Nearly There Yet?' is at 6.00 pm. Please can you be seated by 5.55 pm. Government guidelines now ask all adults and children of 11 years and older to wear masks inside at public events. If you have a child in the performance, please can you bring them to the Hall between 5.30 and 5.45pm so that they can get changed in good time. Whitley Chapel Building Trust Fund will be selling Raffle tickets on the door in aid of our Playground Refurbishment project, if you have not already purchased them from school. They are £1 per ticket or £5.00 per strip. We will be drawing the Raffle during the performance, and prizes will be set out for you to collect on your way out. Thank you to everyone who has donated prizes – there are some really lovely ones, so it is worth buying tickets!

### **Theatre visits Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

Early Years will be going to the Queen's Hall in Hexham, and Years 1 – 4 to the Northern Stage Theatre in Newcastle. The guidelines are that adults and children 11 years and over must wear masks, but not Primary age children. However, if any of you are anxious and would like your children to wear a mask in the theatre, please let us know and we will make sure that this happens.

### **Christmas Party Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December**

We will be having a Christmas party in school for all the children on Thursday afternoon. Please can children come to school wearing their school uniform, and bring their party clothes in a bag to change into after lunch. In the past we have asked parents to contribute food, but because of Covid, we will be providing the food this year to be eaten in the afternoon.

### **Carol Service St Helen's Church Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

The Carol Service will take place at 1.30 pm and all parents and friends are welcome. Please make sure you wear a mask. The service is expected to go on for approximately 45 minutes and **school will close for the end of term at 2. 15 pm**. We will bring the children back to school to collect their belongings after the service. Please collect the children promptly from their usual places.

School will re-open to children on **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January** for the Spring term. Please be aware that this is different from the date on the Local Authority website; the Hexham Partnership took a long time to decide when they wanted their teacher training days to be, so the LA allocated dates before the decision was made.

#### **Advance notice of School closure dates**

School will be closed on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February** for a Teacher Training day – this is the day before the February half term holiday. In addition, school will be closed on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April**, the day before the Easter holiday. This is to give school staff a day in lieu of the additional Bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, which takes place during the June half term holiday. This date has been agreed by the Hexham Partnership of schools.

It only remains for me to wish you a very happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Kind regards

Jenny Morgan