



# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

## Autumn Newsletter 2020 Issue 10

As we head into the final weekend of lockdown number 2, we hope that you are going to be able to enjoy some precious family time before the start of the busy festive season. Our plans for a super sparkly Solent Christmas continue to grow and we are delighted to be able to now share just some of the arrangements with you below. Keep an eye on those class Teams pages for any class specific detail as we get closer.

Mrs L Wilby, Executive Headteacher

### Hot School Meals

As detailed in a letter sent home back in September, we have worked hard this term to provide the children with the closest we can possibly get to a hot meal in the current climate. We are sadly still unable to use the lunch hall for more than one year group bubble, on either site, due to Covid restrictions. We understand that, as the weather gets colder, you would rather your child were offered a full hot school lunch. Unfortunately, this is still not possible. The logistics involved in delivering 300 plus meals to classrooms for our pupils makes this impossible. We understand that this must be frustrating and we really do appreciate your kind understanding. We will resume full service once we feel that it is safe to do so.

Watch out for our next Solent sing along from home which will have a very Christmassy theme! Available on the school website from 1st December.

### Year R Reminder!

If your child is in Reception, please remember to send them in on Friday 4th December with warm layers underneath their nativity costumes! Please also remember to look on your Tapestry page and agree to the image permission request. This is especially important this year as only those with full image permissions will be able to be filmed!

### We asked and you have spoken!

Many thanks to all those parents and carers who took the precious time to respond to our remote learning audit this week. The submission deadline was today and so we will now be taking your responses away, collating and analysing the data and shaping our provision accordingly as we develop this resource even further.

**If your child or a member of your immediate household tests positive for Covid-19 over the weekend text 07933 997641 straight away.** This service will enable us to take swift action. You must leave a short message with the words 'Covid Positive test for' then the name of the person who has tested positive, your child's name and class. If your child tests positive we will request a copy of the test result.

This year we are very aware that there are many families across our local communities who won't be able to enjoy Christmas in the same way that most of us have been lucky enough to have become accustomed to. This can happen to any family at any time. We are reaching out to you again this year to support us in collecting food for the food bank. Collection boxes will be at both site entrances from 30th November to 11th December. Watch out for a letter coming home containing further details.



# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

## And so the countdown begins....

Thank you very much for your incredible effort in supporting your children to enter the Fantastic FSS Advent Competition. We have been absolutely overwhelmed with entries and have today had the tough challenge of picking just 25 winners. We could quite honestly have chosen 500! The winners will be announced daily in assembly from December 1st. The winning designs will be proudly displayed in the Northwood window with one being unveiled each day as we count down to Christmas.



The Solent Schools Christmas Advent Drawing Competition  
Sponsored by Northwood Letting & Estate Agency



## Christmas Carols!

There is no better way to ease into the Christmas spirit than some good ole caroling! You will probably have assumed by now, that we wouldn't be able to continue with the Solent caroling tradition this year, but that is where you are wrong! With a little bit of technical wizardry and creativity, we would like to invite you to our 'Live Virtual Carols', on Wednesday 9th December, at 5.00pm. We will begin by presenting a live draw of the grand raffle, that is being run by the Fantastic Friends of Solent Schools (FSS), and then will move on to singing a seasonal selection of our Christmas favorites. The event is expected to last around 40 minutes in total. Why not take advantage of the warm this year and snuggle up with a hot chocolate or mulled drink of choice and [click here](#) just before 5pm on Wednesday 9th December to join us.

## Christmas Cards

We know just how much our children enjoy giving and receiving Christmas cards and so we were keen to continue to make this possible this year. The feeling of friendship and connectivity with others is possibly more important than ever! We are asking that you carefully read the arrangements below in order to find out more about how cards should be sent into school.

The Christmas Postal Service will resume this year on **Monday 30th November**. The red Christmas post-box will be on the playground at the infant school and there will be collection points on the driveway entrance at the junior school. These will be out every school morning until **Friday 11th December**. We will not be able to accept any cards that come into school after this date. This will allow the elves in the sorting office to quarantine the cards and deliver them to classes on Thursday 17th December. Please do not put any chocolates in the cards as the sorting office is situated near the underfloor heating! Please address the envelopes to: Child's First Name and Initial of Surname, Class Name so that we can ensure safe delivery!

## Festive Lunch & Party!

On Thursday 17th December all pupils are invited to come into school in non school uniform and to join us for a festive themed lunch. A letter with further details will be emailed home today. On the same afternoon all classes will be holding their Christmas parties! We are all very much looking forward to getting into the festive spirit.

## Get Your Sparkle On!

On Friday 11th December we will be 'Getting our Sparkle On!' to raise the profile of the wonderful work that is done by the NSPCC. We are asking all pupils to come into school dressed in their Christmas jumpers and sparkle!