



Autumn Term Newsletter 4

December 18th 2020



Dear parents/carers

We have made it to the end of our first, post-school closure, Covid-influenced, SBPS term. It has been a fabulous term! Back in August the staff could only hope that we would be able to return and remain open under circumstances that we could not predict. What has been proven this term is that with hard work, care, positivity and dedication from the whole SBPS staff team, combined with the support and sensible actions of all our SBPS families, added to the joy and enthusiasm of all our school's pupils, we have been able to provide a highly successful, fun and safe term back in school. SBPS children are thriving and staff are so impressed by how fast they are returning to pre-closure ways.

We hope you enjoyed this year's Nativity and Christmas performances. The staff and I think they are wonderful. The quality of performance, delivery and musicality from Reception to Year 6 is truly first class. The children thoroughly enjoyed performing and singing for you all as is clear to see. They have also enjoyed most of the usual school Christmas traditions too like their Christmas parties, watching a panto, making cards, calendars and other Christmas crafts, Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day too.

Thank you, this term, to everyone who contributed to our local food-bank. Mr Patterson and I had to fill two cars to get all your donations to Consett. Thank you also to everyone who helped raise £667.18 for The Royal British Legion by buying poppies and other items back in November.

Fingers crossed that the SBPS community continues to do the right thing over the Christmas holidays and that we all stay a little bit lucky. Hopefully we will be able to return in the new year and have another safe and successful term.

Have a very merry Christmas and we'll see you all for a happy new year.

Mr Bell

Instructions re contacting school over the holidays in case of reporting symptoms and then a positive or negative test result. I will read school emails every day up to Christmas eve. Mr Bell.

In order to ensure families and staff are warned of any need to self-isolate over the Christmas holiday, please can we ask all staff and families to do the following:

If your SBPS child develops symptoms (or if you as a staff member develop symptoms) of Covid-19 within 48 hours from the last day they attend school you MUST contact school by emailing Shotleybridgeprimary@durhamlearning.net as soon as possible, exactly as you currently do. (ie. they are in school on Friday up to 3:30 pm and develop symptoms BEFORE 3:30 p.m. on the Sunday.) I will reply to your email and will wait for confirmation of whether your test result is negative or positive. Fingers crossed that test results are negative but if results are positive I will contact trace anyone/everyone who will need to self-isolate due to being in contact with that child/staff member.

We strongly advise you book any test at a test centre rather than via post as the results from test centres are returned quicker than postal tests.

If symptoms of Covid-19 appear after the 48 hours from the last day they attended school (i.e. they develop symptoms AFTER 3.30 p.m. on the Sunday) then you do not need to inform us until school returns in January, and only then if test results are positive.

Hopefully no child and no staff member will develop symptoms and no-one will need to self-isolate over the holidays. Keep doing what you are all doing. To only have 4 confirmed cases, in our 393 pupils and 4 confirmed cases from our staff team of over 40 staff, since September is truly remarkable. The fact that not 1 of these cases was contracted in school is even more amazing

Calendar of Events December 2020 to July 2021

Please note some dates may change and hopefully **LOTS** of other dates will be added throughout the year.

Dates	Event
December 18 th	Last day of Autumn term.
Dec 21 st to Jan 1 st	Christmas holiday.
Monday 4th January	Inset Day. School closed to children.
Tuesday 5 th January	First day of Spring term.
15 th to 20 th February	Half term holiday.
Saturday 6 th or 13 th March	Provisional Y4,5,6 ski trip week???? (This is looking highly unlikely but we are on the list if it does go ahead.)
19 th March	Red Nose Day.
29 th March to 10 th April	Easter holiday.
12 th April	First day of Summer term.
12 th to 14 th April	Provisional Y6 Robin Wood residential?????
3 rd May	Bank Holiday.
31 st May to 5 th June	Half term holiday.
TBC	Provisional Y5 residential????
16 th July.	Last day of summer term.
19 th and 20 th July	Inset days. School closed to children.