



Dear Parents,

I am aware that you may have seen in the press the option for schools to move one of the training day closures to Friday 18th December to allow the window for school's involvement in track and trace to finish on Wednesday 23rd December (further information in the right box). The day closures we have pre-planned in the diary for the rest of the year are important for our school training and I know that many parents will also be expected to go to work on Friday 18th December, so I will therefore not be changing the end of term date.

I hope that all the parents in Year R, 1 and 2 enjoy the lovely Christmas productions which will be coming home next week. I am in awe of the staff for ensuring the children could continue this lovely tradition - even if it is through the virtual world. I would like to say a massive thank you to Mr Chapman for his amazing IT wizardry, giving so many hours of time supporting our school. Thank you Mr Chapman!

Kind regards

Lindsay McCarthy Headteacher



Christmas Arrangements

An additional event has been added to our calendar. **Monday 14th December**— non-uniform/house colours for our House Winners which are Sovereign (yellow)!

Mon 14th Dec Christmas Raffle

Mon 14th Dec—Fri 18th Dec Classes will watch the virtual Pantomime

Mon 14th—Thurs 17th Dec Christmas Lunch

Thurs 17th Dec Christmas cards delivered

Fri 18th Dec Last Day of Term



Congratulations to our Values Ambassadors of the Week!

It gives me great pleasure to announce our Values Ambassadors...

Chestnut Class - *Ruby.. **Achievement**...* super independent writing.

Willow Class - *Archie ... **Excellence**...* always working hard and some lovely writing.

Apple Class – *Jessica...**Resilience** ...* fantastic effort in phonics and growing in confidence.

Cherry Class – *Jack ...**Trust** ...* being a super role model and always doing his best.

Lime Class – *Rosie ...**Resilience**...* superb quality and presentation of writing.

Holly Class – *Tessa...**Excellence** ...* amazing, descriptive language in her writing.

Cedar Class – *Mia ...**Resilience**...* a positive 'stick with it' attitude when learning to sew.

Silver Birch Class - *Cora...**Aspiration & Kindness**...* superstar sew-er and supporting others.

Hazel Class – *Alex...**Growth**...* improving the presentation of handwriting.

Yew Class – *Naomi ...**Excellence & Partnership**...* sharing her work and a fantastic travel brochure.

Juniper Class – *Eva... **Excellence & Partnership**...* amazing home learning—a moving model of the planets.

Sycamore Class – *Millie...**Achievement**...* focussing to learn a new method for division.

Maple Class – *Grace ...**Excellence**...* an excellent start to Park Gate!

Oak Class – *Cain...**Excellence**...* completing all work to a very high standard.

Important information regarding reporting positive Covid-19 cases during the Christmas Holiday

I have now received guidance from the DfE regarding the reporting of a positive case of Covid-19 for pupils and staff during the Christmas holidays.

Reporting positive cases for pupils and staff between Saturday 19th December and Thursday 24th December (6 days after the last teaching day)

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 between the above dates, **having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school**, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

In these circumstances, please email

lmccarthy@parkgate.hants.sch.uk reporting your child's name (who has a positive result), their class, the date that they first showed symptoms, the date that your child was last at school and the date that the positive result was given. I will check my emails daily at 2pm and then take the relevant action required. Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), **having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school**, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace. School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching, therefore parents do not need to email me directly with positive cases after 24th December. I do ask, however, that parents email adminoffice@parkgate.hants.sch.uk on the 4th January if your child is self-isolating when we return to school and to report any further positive cases.



Diary Dates

Confirmed Dates for 20/21

New Tour of the school and Welcome Meeting available on the website and Facebook page.

Date	Event
Monday 14.12.20	Non-Uniform for House Winners
Monday 14.12.20—Thursday 17.12.20	Christmas Dinner
Monday 14.12.20—Friday 18.12.20	Virtual Pantomime
Friday 18.12.20	Last Day of Term
Monday 4th January 2021	Return to School
Thursday 14th January 2021	Individual portrait photographs

New dates will be added in blue.

Food Voucher Allocation

We are hoping to send the £30 per child Christmas food vouchers by Monday, for those children eligible for free school meals or who have been identified under the Hampshire County Council criteria of Early Help.

The food vouchers for those families who have applied for the discretionary grant will receive these by the end of next week. The initial grant of £600 to share amongst those families who have applied has now risen to £875, thanks to the generous donation of £200 from a parent and £75 from Ambulance Unit Union South Central Branch. We are very grateful for these fantastic donations.

The vouchers will arrive by email.

