

'Striving for Excellence'
Headteacher: Mrs D. Dack

NEWSLETTER 4 DECEMBER 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the last two weeks we have seen an increase in absences due to illness. Many of these absences appear to be cough/colds/sore throat and flu like symptoms.

Symptoms of COVID-19, flu and common respiratory infections include:

Continuous cough, high temperature, shortness of breath, tiredness/lack of energy, muscle aches and pains, loss of appetite, headaches, sore throat, stuffy/runny nose, diarrhoea and feeling or being sick.

We would like to clarify the current COVID-19 guidelines: If a child has tested positive they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after they took the test. After this time if they feel well enough and do not have a temperature, they can return to school as the risk of passing the infection onto others is much lower. Please contact the school to inform us of your child's absence.

Children who live with someone who has tested positive should continue to attend school as normal.

I hope you have a healthy Christmas break.

Mrs Dack

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

We are delighted that we have been able to invite parents and carers back into school to see your child's work at their class assembly. We have received some wonderful feedback and the children have loved performing for their parents/carers. These assemblies will start at 2.40pm. KS1 - Millenium Hall and KS2 - Viking Hall. Please put the date in your diary. They are all held on a Thursday and there is no need to book. Younger siblings are welcome but must be quiet!

4S— 19th January
4P— 26th January
3A—2nd February
3W—9th February
2N—2nd March
2W—9th March
1Q—16th March
1S—23rd March
F1—27th April
F2—4th May
F3—11th May

DECORATION DAY

Decoration day will take place on Friday 2nd December. We are asking for a donation of a £1 to contribute towards this event. Payment can be made on Pay 360. Please wear school uniform or PE kit.

CHRISTMAS DINNERS

We will be hosting Christmas Dinners on Wednesday 7th December, Roast Turkey with all the trimmings. (Please note there will be no jacket potato option on this day). Christmas dinner is free for Foundation, Year 1 and 2. For Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 the Christmas dinner is the normal price of £2.50. Please wear school uniform or PE kit.

FUN SWIMS

It is Fun Swim week commencing 5th December. Your child will have already received their invitation. If you have not yet paid your child's swimming contribution, there is still time for you to pay. Contributions are vital to ensure we keep the pool open.

LAST DAY OF TERM

Tuesday 20th December is our last day of term. This will be a non uniform day and we ask the children to wear something Christmassy. Christmas jumpers, anything red or green or come along dressed as an elf, a Christmas fairy, Santa, reindeer or a snowman! Do not forget to still provide your child with a coat on the day and suitable footwear for playtimes.

ATTENDANCE

A reminder that all planned absence must be requested by parents, please. This includes absence for reasons you expect to be denied, such as for holidays or family celebrations. It is essential and lawful for schools to know where a child is if they are not at school and we follow investigative procedures when absence is not explained, as outlined in our Attendance Policy. **Please be aware that children are very honest about where they are going/have been if a term-time holiday or celebration is planned.** Where an alternative reason is given for absence in such cases (e.g. reported as illness), the school will follow this up and could result in authorised absence marks being changed to unauthorised.

It is appropriate at this point, to remind all parents of the law and of the possibility of penalty fines for unauthorised absence, with an extract from our Attendance Policy: ***Unauthorised absence may result in the school referring to the Local Authority for sanctions and/or legal proceedings. This may include issuing each parent with a Penalty Notice for £120, reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days or referring the matter to the Magistrates Court, whereby each parent may receive a fine of up to £2500 and/or up to 3 months in prison. If a parent is found guilty in court, they will receive a criminal conviction.***

Full details are found in our Attendance Policy

30th November & 1st December	Parent Consultations on School Cloud—Book online (Further information will be sent nearer the time) Weds 30th Nov 3.10 – 5.20pm Thurs 1st Dec 3.10—5.20pm
2nd December	Decoration Day (£1 donation) Full uniform or PE kits
6th December	Year 3 Viking Day— Pupils come dressed in costume
7th December	Christmas Dinners
8th December	Christmas Fayre (Pupil only - Donation online) Non uniform
9th December	Year 3 Christingle—2.30pm. Parents welcome to come and watch. This will be outside weather permitting.
12th December	Choir rehearsal - Christchurch Chelmsford 1.00 –2.00pm Choir—Walking in the Air performance 5.30pm
14th December	Year 2 Performances: Mill Hall Wed 14th Dec – 9.30 and 1.30pm, siblings allowed at both performances. 2 adult tickets per family
14th December	EYFS and Year 1 Nativity Day— Pupils come dressed in a costume or Christmas outfit
15th December	Year 5 Ancient Greek Day - Pupils come dressed in costume
15th December	PTA Discos—Non uniform EYFS/KS1 Stay at school 3.15-4.15pm KS2 Return to school at 4.30-5.30pm
19th December	Christmas Raffle PTA
20th December	Santa Day Staff and pupils to dress up as Santa, reindeer etc. or wear Christmas jumpers.
21st December— 4th January 2023	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
5th January	Pupils return
25th January	2 Johns E-Safety Workshops—pupils, staff and parents (online)
13th to 17th February	HALF TERM
20th February	Pupils return

WELL DONE WENTWORTH

This term we have received many positive comments from visitors about our wonderful environment, vast range of resources and outstanding pupil manners and attitudes to learning. This is a credit to you and your children. I am very proud of the Wentworth community. Well done.