

Red Oaks Primary School
2nd December 2020
Newsletter



Christmas Toy Appeal

Thank you so much for your overwhelming generosity for this good cause. The trolley has been laden every day this week - you will truly make a difference to Christmas Day for many children. These will be donated to the church appeal at the end of this week. Thank you!

Mobile Phones

For safeguarding reasons we ask that parents do not enter the school grounds whilst using mobile phones please. Children who have phones in school are asked to sign an agreement and should only switch phones on outside of the main school/car park gate. Thank you for your understanding.



Christmas Virtual Concert Assembly

We all LOVED watching our first Virtual Concert Assembly last week! We want to say a huge well done and thank you to everyone who recorded and sent in videos of their instrumental performances!

We are going to hold another Virtual Concert this month with a Christmas theme. If you can play a Christmas tune on your instrument, record it at home and send to your teacher on Dojo. We can then put them into our special Christmas Concert Assembly. If you have a Christmas jumper or reindeer antlers to wear while recording, even better!

Please send your videos by Friday 11th December. Look forward to seeing some more videos soon!



Class Christmas Parties

Class teachers will be in touch to let you know which day they are planning on having their class Christmas party these will be held in the last week of term. Please can all children come to school dressed in their party clothes but please ensure they wear sensible footwear (for safety) and also bring a coat. This year it would not be appropriate to ask for food donations for obvious reasons. Instead, we are asking for a voluntary 50p donation in an envelope that can be handed to the class teacher.

Teachers will buy a few treats for the children that are pre-packaged so that each child will have individual snacks. Children will still have lunch as usual on party day.

Advent Calendar Messages

As you may be aware, it is around this time of year when the staff at Red Oaks try to amuse and entertain the children with our version of a pantomime or something else of a jovial nature. Due to the current circumstances, it will not be possible for our usual gatherings in the hall which we will miss greatly 😞.

So...this year we have decided we will do something slightly different as we don't want the children to miss out 😊.

On the website, there will be a virtual advent calendar. Each day, you can click on the corresponding number and there will be a new short video from a member or staff or group of children who will bring some Christmas cheer. These will be shown in class but please also click on these with your children at home.

<https://www.redoaks.org/home.php>

Last Day of Term Timings

On the last day of term (Friday 18th December), please note that finishing times will be as follows:

Classes that start at 8.30am will finish at 1.15pm

Classes that start at 8.45am will finish at 1.30pm



Nursery - All children will be invited in for the morning session only. This will run from 8.30-11.30am. Please note that Nursery will then close for cleaning, there will be no lunch or afternoon session for Nursery on this day.

Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day - Monday 14th December

Christmas dinner will be on Monday 14th December - this can be booked as normal through ParentPay. If there are any items on this menu (attached) that your child cannot have then please email Mrs Tyler on tylerm@redoaks.org.uk to let her know.



This year, Christmas dinner for Years 2-6 will be served in a box delivered directly to the classrooms on a trolley so that children can eat in their own bubbles. Reception and Year 1 will eat in the hall as usual.

This will also be our Christmas jumper day where we invite all children and staff to come to school in their craziest, loudest, most FUN Christmas jumper to raise money for Save the Children. This money goes towards helping those children who need it the most! **Please note that normal uniform is still to be worn on the bottom half.**

Christmas jumper day is in aid of 'Save the Children' and voluntary donations can be made through Parent Pay - no cash please. Thank you. 😊



In light of Christmas Dinner being on the Monday, Wednesday 16th December's menu will be changed to an All-Day Breakfast with the vegetarian option being Quorn sausage breakfast.



Christmas Cards

This year, we are adapting to make spreading the Christmas cheer COVID friendly. If your child/children would like to send their friends, **in their own class**, a Christmas card this year please bring these in. Each teacher will have a post box in their class where the cards will be kept and quarantined for 48 hours before sending out. Please make sure they only write cards to children in their own bubbles as we are unable to safely cross these this year.

Bubble Closures

We are trying desperately hard to cover all our classes at the moment. We have been hugely affected by the knock-on effects of the Coronavirus. We have many staff with children in schools across Swindon who have been asked to isolate. This means they have had to be off school for childcare reasons. If we are unable to keep a bubble open, we will aim to give as much notice as possible but we may not always know until the morning of closure due to the nature of the pandemic. Please bear with us and know that we are always doing our best.

FREE Drawing Workshop!! - Saturday 12th December

We are excited to announce that Emma from Go Sketch Club has been providing workshops for our teachers to use in class and is now offering a free live workshop on **Saturday 12th December** just for Red Oaks!

Kawaii Cartoon Workshop with Go Sketch Club - FREE 😊

Live on Zoom and **suitable for the whole family!** Saturday 12th December 10.00am-11.00am

To join register here: <https://www.gosketchclub.com/live-webinar/red-oaks-kawaii-cartoon-workshop/register>

Secure link to join: You will be asked to enter a name and email to access the class. This is to ensure you are emailed a unique URL address to access the meeting rather than a meeting ID and password (You can access link in email or click GO once registered if workshop is starting soon). This makes it secure for the families attending. You will not be added to any mailing list and your data is deleted after the workshop.

Will there be a replay?

Emma at Go Sketch Club has a recording of the same workshop that she can share with those unable to turn up live. You will need to register to get this emailed to you after the workshop. I would recommend turning up live as it is fun to interact with everyone :)

What if I lose my link to the workshop after registering?

The link will have been emailed to you so search in your email for emma@gosketch.co.uk (sometimes it may end up in your spam folder). Still can't find it? There may have been a typo in your email. Register again here: <https://www.gosketchclub.com/live-webinar/red-oaks-kawaii-cartoon-workshop/register>

Any questions?

Email emma@gosketch.co.uk and she will be happy to help. To see other online courses and to get £5 off just for Red Oaks Parents click here: <https://www.gosketchclub.com/courses?affiliate=uYFoWk&coupon=REDOAKS>
Any courses that you sign up to will give 50% of the proceeds back to the school.

Blended Learning

In the event of a partial or full closure Red Oaks Primary School will continue to provide blended learning for all those affected. Please refer to the scenarios and protocols document for the details. (Attachment to newsletter). Pre-recorded lessons will be sent out daily via class Dojo.



Face Coverings

Please ensure that you wear a mask or face covering when dropping off or collecting from school. We aim to make all children and adults feel safe as they come into school. Can you ensure that you also keep children with you whilst waiting to enter the building so that they are not mixing with children from other bubbles. Many thanks.

Bags2School - Friday 11th December 2020 (collection at 9.00am)

They are a company that specialises in good quality second hand clothing that can be re-used. Bags are weighed and the school will receive a payment by the total weight collected. Bag 2 School will accept any good quality adults and children's clothing, paired shoes, hats, belts, handbags, soft toys, bedding, curtains and towels.

They **DO NOT** accept any work or school uniform (with or without logos) duvets, blankets, pillows or cushions, mats or rugs nor any soiled, ripped or wet clothing.

Please do NOT bring any donations in until morning of Friday 11th December as we have nowhere to store the bags. Many thanks.

Contacts

If you have any questions or concerns, please use the following contacts:

Mrs Surch - head@redoaks.org.uk

Mr Lee - deputyhead@redoaks.org.uk

General Queries - Admin team - admin@redoaks.org.uk

Mr Lee - fsmanager@redoaks.org.uk - Foundation Stage queries - Nursery & Reception

Mrs Maxfield - Yr123@redoaks.org.uk - Years 1, 2 & 3

Miss Gerrard - Yr456@redoaks.org.uk - Years 4, 5 & 6



REMEMBER CHRISTMAS LUNCH MUST BE BOOKED THROUGH PARENTPAY BY TOMORROW (3/12/20)



Upcoming Dates

12/12 Go Sketch Workshop

14/12 Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper

18/12 School breaks up for Xmas Hols @ 1.15pm and 1.30pm depending on start times.

4/01/21 School reopens

PLEASE READ OUR CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL LETTER

(Separate attachment)

**DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER NOW
FOR YOUR **FREE** ART SESSION**

Free

Live on
zoom

**Family Christmas
Cartoon Workshop**

Sat 12th Dec
10am-11am

All you need:
Pen, pencil, paper,
colouring pencils
or pens

GO SKETCH CLUB

RED OAKS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Aspire Achieve Grow

<https://www.gosketchclub.com/live-webinar/red-oaks-kawaii-cartoon-workshop/register>

Red Oaks Primary School Blended Learning Scenarios

In the event of a partial or full closure Red Oaks Primary School will continue to provide blended learning for all those affected. This two-page guide explains the different tiers of lockdown for the school and then explains the protocols that staff, parents and children must follow.

Scenarios

There are 3 main scenarios that we have placed into 3 Tiers. There are as follows:

Tier 1 – A child is self-isolating at home

- Online learning through existing platforms (EducationCity, MyMaths, SPAG.com, Purple Mash)
- Work pack sent home with paper-based learning
- School website – links to learning resources in each year group (insert link)

Tier 2- A class bubble or year group is closed or asked to self-isolate

(if the teacher is well please see below. If the teacher is unwell, please see Tier 1. In some situations, the other year group teacher will produce the online lessons, unless they are unwell too.)

- Daily pre-recorded online lessons in English and Maths (4 days) and 1 pre-recorded online lesson in another subject e.g. Science, History, Geography (this will vary dependent on the week). These lessons will be posted on the schools private YouTube page and links sent out via Class Dojo
- Online learning through existing platforms (EducationCity, MyMaths, SPAG.com, Purple Mash)
- Work pack sent home with paper-based learning in addition to online lessons e.g. Art, P.E and Music ideas
- School website – links to learning resources in each year group (insert link)

Tier 3 – Partial or full school closure (school stays open for key worker and vulnerable children **)

- Daily pre-recorded online lessons in English and Maths (4 days) and 1 pre-recorded online lesson in another subject e.g. Science, History, Geography (this will vary dependent on the week). These lessons will be posted on the schools private YouTube page and links sent out via Class Dojo
- Online learning through existing platforms (EducationCity, MyMaths, SPAG.com, Purple Mash)
- Work pack sent home with paper-based learning
- School website – links to learning resources in each year group (insert link)

** Key worker and vulnerable children in school will access the online learning sessions in school where possible.

Red Oaks Primary School Blended Learning Protocols

In line with government guidance and our safeguarding policy this blended learning protocol sheet will provide staff, parents and children with a list of do's and don'ts. Our aim is to provide clarity of expectation during periods of blended learning as well as keeping all children safe.

Teachers

- Will provide online curriculum content that is relevant and allows children to progress
- Lessons will be adopted where necessary to address any misconceptions in learning that may have arisen during the week
- Will display the same standards of dress and conduct that they would in the real world
- Will acknowledge children's learning via Class Dojo and comment where necessary to take learning forward.
- Will not communicate to parents or children later than 4pm.
- Will contact anyone who is not regularly participating in the online learning via telephone call to check in. Teachers will be able to identify these children via Class Dojo.
- Senior Leaders will quality assure online learning lessons
- Senior leaders will oversee the uploading of the online lessons and make sure this is done in a timely manner
- Senior leaders will support staff and parents with any concerns or safeguarding incidents that may arise.

Parents

- Will communicate through Class Dojo or via year group emails. If the communication is sent later than 4pm then the teacher will respond the next working day.
- Will post their child's work online via Class Dojo- this will then be acknowledged by the class teacher.
- Try to establish a routine for you child. This may look different in each household. Because lessons are recorded, this gives more flexibility with learning time.

Children

- Be ready to learn when you start the online lesson. Make sure you have everything you need- pens, pencils paper etc
- Make sure you are comfortable and in a good position to learn.
- Try and access the lessons at the same time everyday – a routine is very important, just like being in school. Your routine may not be the same as your friends.
- Try to take regular exercise and eat a balanced diet
- Try to always have a good night's sleep
- Try you best!



Christmas Toy Appeal – Monday 30th November – Friday 4th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you again for the enthusiasm and generosity with which you supported our Food Bank Collection in October and the Christmas Box donations in November.

For Christmas we would like to give pupils and staff the opportunity once again to demonstrate support for their community through the Swindon Christmas Toy Appeal.

This appeal was launched last year by churches across the town, with the aim of bringing hope and happiness to families who would find giving presents to their children difficult without resorting to loans. Last year, it was very well received by everyone involved with many schools, churches and organisations getting involved. 134 families, a total of 353 children, were able to choose two main presents each, a soft toy and a book and some stocking fillers.

Red Oaks Primary School would like to support the 2020 Swindon Christmas Toy Appeal. Between Monday 30th November and Friday 4th December we are inviting staff and pupils to *voluntarily* buy a present for a child between the ages of 0-16 years old. **Please bring donations into school where a member of staff will be waiting with a trolley under the canopy at the front of the school during morning drop off.** We ask that the presents are *NOT WRAPPED* as the recipients' parents would usually do this. If you would like, we would also accept donations of Christmas wrapping paper. You may like to add a tag to the box with a message and /or age range. For further information please visit gcswindon.org.uk/toy-appeal

Stuck for what to buy?

0-3: Dolls, teddy bears, baby clothes, bath toys, puzzles, educational toys (sorting) and role play items.

3-5: Dolls and action figures, cars and lorries, colouring sets, pencils, crayons, books, puzzles, Play-Doh sets and role play items.

5-9: Educational games and toys, stationery (colouring sets, pencils, crayons, school sets), CDs and family-friendly DVDs, books, puzzles, wordsearch, crosswords, craft sets, annuals and novelty back packs.

9-12: Games and toys, gadgets and novelty toys, stationery, DVDs, books, hair accessories, annuals, novelty back packs.

13-16: Books, accessories, gift vouchers, gadgets and novelty items.

Many thanks in advance for your support as we encourage our pupils once again to support the Swindon community.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Surch
Headteacher



Executive Principal: Mrs R Surch
Deputy Head Teacher: Mr J Lee
SENDCo : Mrs K Clarke

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