

16 December

Dear families,

I hope you are well and looking forward to the Christmas holidays. We have much to celebrate as we reach the end of term and a few things to remember for the start of a new one!

Exciting Experiences

Despite COVID impacting on some of our routines, we have had so many wonderful experiences already this term. I would like to thank all staff for making sure that our children's learning is the best it can be and that they collect as many happy memories as they can during their Primary years. Take a look at some of our best bits so far:



Above: Y2 at the Park
Below: Y3 at Magna



Y6 at Eden Camp



Above: Y4 at Bagshaw Museum
Below: Y2 Fashion Show



Christmas Shows

Due to the renewed concerns about COVID, our Christmas show and nativities have had to be virtual once again. Children in Y1-Y6 performed songs to create 'A night at the Christmas Movies' and those in Reception performed 'The Bossy King'. The email link for the Y1-Y6 performance is:

<https://sites.google.com/dixonsaa.com/primaryxmasshow/home>

You may need a username and password to access the site if you have not logged into Google sites before. The username is daaprimary@dixonsaa.com and the password is Dixons2020!. Please let us know if you have any difficulties.

Miss Robertson will be in touch with access details for the two Reception nativities. They are currently in the editing suite!

Christmas Holiday Dates

The academy closes for the Christmas holidays tomorrow at 12.15pm. A reminder that children can wear party clothes and will have a Christmas lunch before they leave. Our gates will open at 12.10pm and we will begin releasing children as soon as they are ready after this time. **There will be no afternoon Nursery tomorrow.**



All Primary children should return to school on Tuesday 4 January. Dates for secondary children will vary slightly due to a requirement for on site testing. Information about this will be sent to families with children in Y7-Y13.

Staff Appointment

I am delighted to inform you the Mr Paul Weston will be joining the Primary team after Christmas. He will take over PE from Mr McGowan and bring a wealth of experience to our team. Mr Weston is passionate about sport and the impact it has on wellbeing and very much looking forward to developing our curriculum and provision in the new year.

PE Kit

We are seeing a rise in the number of children who are wearing their own choice of clothes on PE day. PE kit is uniform and therefore should be in line with our expectations. We expect that every child wears the following on their day:

- **Plain** black or navy-blue tracksuit bottoms or leggings (no logos or stripes)
- **Plain** black or navy-blue hoodie or tracksuit top (no logos or stripes)
- **Plain** white t-shirt or polo shirt (no logos or stripes)
- Trainers
- Y6 can wear their leavers hoodies as soon as they have been delivered
- Stud earrings only- no hoops, necklaces or bracelets should be worn at any time.

Training Day February 22

All academies within the Dixons Trust will be closed to children on Friday 11 February 2022. This is so that all staff can come together to share best practice and learn together to improve and develop.

Menu

The family dining menu has been reviewed and updated for the next term. We have looked at the popularity of dishes and introduced some new ones after speaking with children. Could we please ask that you commit to your meal choice for the whole half term to help us keep catering costs consistent. On the first day back, we will inform the kitchen of those children choosing a packed lunch and then add charges for hot meals for the whole half term.

The new menu is attached with this letter.

You will have seen from the news that concern around the COVID pandemic is once again growing. At this moment in time, schools have only been directed to carry out the advice shared by email yesterday (testing after contact with a positive case). We will respond to guidance as it is released and will always contact you as soon as possible with any changes to arrangements in school.

I really hope you enjoy the festive break with your loved ones. Whatever your beliefs and traditions, there is no denying that Christmas brings a feeling of happiness, joy and appreciation to all homes.

Take care, stay safe and we will see you back and refreshed for the new year.

Thank you for your continued support,



Mrs Greenwood
Primary Head Teacher

