**DECEMBER 2020 END OF TERM NEWSLETTER**

Merry Christmas!

We returned to School in September under new guidance, with new measures in place and needing to teach in ways we had not needed to previously, all as a response to Covid-19. The School has risen to that challenge and has overcome many challenges that came our way. We are exceptionally proud of our School community and so grateful that we have been able to have the children in school as much as possible!

Parents. I would again like to reiterate my thanks to you for the role that you played in this. You have understood and acted within our requests and this enables us to have your children come to school, start learning promptly and leave us every day - happy. The emails, cards and comments we receive, stating your thanks and acknowledging what the staff do, are most greatly appreciated. Thank you.

School staff. I would like to thank you all for your efforts, the personal changes and sacrifices that you have made, and will continue to do so, to allow all our children to attend school. The children respond to your enthusiasm and invariably love coming to school.

Children. Thank you for arriving every day with beaming smiles, an eagerness to learn and such a sense fun and wonder. You have continued to respond to all changes and meet all the expectations we have of you, whilst continuing to learn and enjoy school. Well done!

Whilst it has been different, we have thoroughly enjoyed Christmas this year and we have been able to share parts of it with parents. The class productions and Carol Concert you will find on SeeSaw and Tapestry (Reception). I am sure you will agree they are quite spectacular!

Thank you also to the PTA for organising an exceptionally successful raffle. Thank you also to the Elves for getting Father Christmas to Tutshill!

In the New Year, the same entry and exit arrangements will remain in place. Please ensure that children arrive on time to ensure we are able to start learning promptly and to avoid the mixing of bubbles. Unfortunately, due to lateness, we have recorded over 43 hours of missed learning since September. This equates to just over 7 full school days; a lot is taught and learnt in that time! In the New Year, we will make contact with families should punctuality continue to be a barrier to your child’s learning.

From all at Tutshill School, we wish you and your family a restful and peaceful Christmas! See you in the New Year on Tuesday 5 January 2021.

Miss Lane

Headteacher

**Staggered Start and Finish Times Reminder**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Start time** | **Gate** | **Finish time** |
| Year 6 | 8.45am | B | 2.45pm |
| Year 5 | 8.45am | A | 2.45pm |
| Year 4 | 8.55am | B | 2.55pm |
| Year 2 | 8.55am | A | 2.55pm |
| Year 3 | 9.05am | B | 3.05pm |
| Year 1 | 9.05am | A | 3.05pm |
| REC | 9.15am | B | 3.15pm |

**Maternity Leave**

Mrs Ryder has left school to start her maternity leave. We would like to wish her a relaxing Christmas before her babies arrive! We can’t wait to hear of their arrival and look forward to meeting them!

**Year 4 Teacher**

We have the privilege of welcoming Mr Woodcock to the Tutshill team. Mr Woodcock comes with years of experience, working in a variety of schools. He has previously met the children and Mrs Ryder and himself have met to talk about and share the information needed for his new class! We look forward to seeing him in the New Year.

**Community News**

A community sing along Carol and quiz event featuring our very own Year 6’s will be held on **Tuesday 22 of December** at 7pm. The event will premiere live on YouTube and can be accessed via YouTube under ‘Tidenham Parish online church’ or via a link on their Facebook page.

All carols will be performed by local schools and music groups plus there will be Christmas messages sent by local businesses, Castleford Residential home, Garden City FC, local Preschools and more. For little ones there will be a ‘Spot the stars’ competition and quiz for the older and more competitive of you.

If you know of any of your neighbours and friends who need cheering up (and who can access this) please let them know.

**Message from Tidenham Parish Church**

All members of the school community are invited to 'Bobble Hats and Lanterns'. This is a short time of outdoor, Covid-secure worship for Christmas Eve on **Thursday 24 December** at 3.30pm on the field behind St Luke's Church. For more info contact Jane Penny or see the Church website

**ParentPay School Meal Booking Service** ([www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)).

Please don’t forget to book your child’s school meal via ParentPay in advance. We would highly recommend that you book and pay (if applicable) for a week’s meals at a time. You can book as many meals as your child requires for the week. You can, of course, book as many weeks in advance as you wish. **Please note that this is the only facility for booking school meals**.

**Free School Meals**

We are aware that during recent times, families/households may have experienced changes in their financial situations. Should you think at any point you may be entitled to receive additional money for your child at school and a daily school meal, please look at <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Should you think you may qualify, please apply, regardless of what year your child may be in. The response is immediate.

**Contact Information**

Please ensure you advise the School Office of any changes to your contact details. It is vital that we have your up to date information for all correspondence purposes and in case of emergency. Please email any changes to office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

**Diary Dates for January – July 2021**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **EVENT** |
| **Jan**  | 1 | BANK HOLIDAY |
|  | 4 | INSET DAY |
|  | 27 | Reception and Year 6 Vision and Measurements Screening |
|  | 5 | Term 3 begins |
| **Feb**  | 12 | Term 3 ends |
|  | 22 | Term 4 begins |
| **Mar**  | 15 | INSET DAY |
| **Apr**  | 1 | Term 4 ends |
|  | 2 | BANK HOLIDAY |
|  | 5 | BANK HOLIDAY |
|  | 19 | Term 5 begins |
| **May** | 3 | BANK HOLIDAY |
|  | 10-13 | KS2 SATS |
|  | 28 | Term 5 ends |
| **Jun**  | 7 | INSET DAY |
|  | 8 | Term 6 begins |
| **Jul** | 21 | Term 6 ends at 1pm |

**Cool Club Contact Details**

If you need to contact Cool Club regarding the breakfast or the after school club, parents can do so by email at coolclub15@outlook.com or by their contact phone number on 07763 479119.

**The Cool Club is aware that there may be times you need provision at short notice; be sure to register your child and then you can use them when needed!**

**School Contact Details**

Telephone: 01291 622593

Email: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

Attendance: attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

PTA email: ptatutshill@gmail.com