



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November

## Christmas Plans at Canon Popham

Dear Parents and Carers,

As attention turns to forthcoming Christmas festivities and what will, or will not be possible this year, staff have been working hard to plan our Christmas celebrations in school.

Obviously, we have to ensure that we keep things safe and therefore Christmas will look different this year, but we will be doing our best to make it a happy and special time for everyone.

I would like to share with you our festive planning so that you can see for yourselves how we are working to make this Christmas 'different but special'.

During the **week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> November** the classrooms will be trimmed up and have a festive feel to them so that even though children won't be seeing our usual fabulous Christmas displays across the school they will have a celebratory feel in the classroom bubbles .

So that we can share some of our school celebration with you, each classroom will be developing a festive **Christmas window**. We will be able to walk each separate bubble of children around the outside of the school to look at the festive windows from the other classes. This will help children to feel a connection with each other even though they are separate.

We would like children to be able to exchange **Christmas cards** with friends in their class, as they would usually. However, this will need to be done following COVID safe rules and quarantine for them to be safe both in school and for being brought home. Therefore:

- Children should only send cards to children **in their own class bubble**. We are sorry but to prevent the risk of cross bubble infection we are unable to send to friends in other classes this year.
- Cards should be bought into school in the week beginning **7<sup>th</sup> December**. They will be placed into a class Christmas card box and the contents will be quarantined. The last day for cards to be brought into school is **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**.
- Following quarantining the cards will all be given out within classes on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**.

**Please help us by sticking to these dates, so that we can easily monitor and ensure that all cards have been appropriately quarantined before giving out. We are unable to give out cards that come into school after 11<sup>th</sup> December.**

A few parents have asked if staff in school will be able to accept Christmas gifts this year. Staff are very grateful for the kind thoughts, but please do not feel that this is expected. We fully appreciate the financial and other pressures, particularly this year and don't want anyone to feel under any expectation that they should bring in a gift. However, we are also mindful that for some children, this may be something that is important to them. Therefore, if this is something that you and your child would like to do, please can any gifts come into school on **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December** (the same day as the final day for Christmas cards). If gifts can be small that would be helpful as we will need to collect them in and quarantine them for 72 hours before they can be opened. Because all gifts will need to be quarantined, please do not send flowers or plants which do not lend themselves to being left unattended for this time.



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# CANON POPHAM CofE PRIMARY ACADEMY

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We hope to have a **Christmas dinner**, in class bubbles, served in the same way as our hot meals on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

This year all class parties will have a different and exciting theme. The whole school will be celebrating by having a **pantomime party**, in their classrooms on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**. We will be 'live streaming' Cinderella the pantomime from the Sheffield Arena into every class bubble. Children will have an individual 'snacks pack' containing drink, crisps, chocolate etc. (just as you might do on a real visit to a theatre). We are unable to accept food donations this year, but a £1 contribution from parents, payable via Parent Pay to cover the cost of the live streaming, which has a charge to schools, and the snacks would be very welcome. Children can come to school in their party clothes on this day instead of uniform.

We still want to be able to share with you the magic of our **Nativity Play/ celebrations** and so over the next few weeks every class will be recording their own class bubble Nativity/ Christmas assembly.

We are mindful that for Y6 children this will be their last Christmas with us and so they will be doing the traditional Christingle, so that they can light their candles.

**In the last week of term** we will e mail directly to you a secure link to your child's class performance so that you will be able to sit with them and watch this together at a time that works for you. Please be aware that, for safeguarding of all of our children the link is a secure one for you to see your child's performance.

Because we are recording their performance, next week you will be sent a consent form, which you will also need complete to give your consent for your child to be in the recording.

Also, we are unable to sing **inside** school at the moment and therefore, if you notice that singing is missing, it is for this reason!

The last day of term- **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December** will be a **non- uniform day**. There will be no charge for this- just a non- uniform day for fun!

We hope that you can see from these plans that we aim to have a special Christmas at Canon Popham and we look forward to sharing this with everyone in school.

Mrs Navas



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