

Our Christian Value this half term is Compassion

'Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you'
Ephesians 4:32

It's hard to believe we are in our very last week of the Autumn term. It has been a long term but a very productive one. Whilst things have been different, the children have been happy, lively and have learnt a lot! We are all now looking forward to the future, with hopefully the promise of better times ahead of us and a return to our more normal ways of life.

The run up to Christmas is always so exciting in any primary school and it is wonderful to see the children's eyes light up when they see the Christmas tree or when practising their songs for the nativity and carol concert. This year, we had three different nativities, which has been a feat in itself! I am just so sorry parents have not had the opportunity to see them "live" but a huge thank you to Rowan's (Reception) parents who so kindly arranged to film the Nativities and Carol Concert, so that parents are able to see and hear the children act and sing. I think the children have done amazingly as always and I am very proud of each and every one of them. Our children have also enjoyed an online pantomime, a Christmas entertainment with games and fun, as well as listening to our very own Mrs Langhorn's new Christmas album.

PTA - I would like yet again to thank our wonderful PTA, who have pulled out all the stops, to ensure our children have had fun things to do in the run up to Christmas. Last week saw the **Winter Wonderland Trail**, which our children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in. The PTA put in many hours to make sure the trail for our children was magical and awe inspiring.





Thank you to Mrs Nakajima for filming the Winter Wonderland trail, we all enjoyed seeing the end result!

Christmas Shopping Day was another resounding success! Thank you again PTA for giving up your time to organise and run it for our children.



Nativities, Christingle and Carols

Huge thank you to Mr & Mrs Jibson, Rowan's mum & dad - Apple class) who kindly arranged for Alisa to film three different nativities as well as the Key Stage 2 Christingle and Christmas carol singing!

Reception Nativity





Year 2 Nativity



Whilst Christmas celebrations have been very different this year in school, children and staff have still enjoyed them. Thank you PTA for ensuring we could buy small gift bags for the children and enjoy an online pantomime.

Staffing – We say thank you and goodbye to Mrs Charles, who is relocating with her family to Germany, and Mrs Walker, who is leaving to spend more time supporting her family. We will miss you both. We welcome Mrs Perera, Mrs Loxley and Miss Taylor-Croft to our staff team.

I would like to thank my amazing staff for all their hard work this term. I have received so many appreciative messages from parents about our staff, who regularly go the extra mile for our children; it has been incredibly touching to read them. Things haven't always gone to plan, but children, parents and staff have pulled together. Thank you parents for your support this term!

In the words of one of our national treasures, Captain Tom “The clouds will lift, the sun will shine; tomorrow will be a good day!”

I would also like to thank the kitchen staff, premises officers and cleaners, who have helped us in keeping the school running as smoothly as possible.

Another fantastic group of people I would like to thank are our school governors, who have been so incredibly supportive, reading numerous risk assessments, policies and who have just been there for us all when things didn't always go to plan!

Of course we also must not forget to thank our parents, who have been cheerful, positive and who have adapted to the different things our school has had to introduce this term. Your support has meant so much to us all. We are all definitely learning how to work remotely, whether it be through learning at home, parent consultations, ILP meetings, on line nativities or many other things too numerous to mention. Technology has been a wonderful thing for us!

The staff and I wish all our families a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We look forward to seeing you all again next term in 2021. May our school community all stay safe and well. Merry Christmas!

