



*Finchingfield St John the Baptist CofE
Primary Academy
Newsletter* Date: 18th December 2020

**We grow healthy bodies, loving hearts and inquisitive minds at
Finchingfield: living 'life in all its fullness' John 10:10**

**Our Christian Values: Reverence Compassion Friendship Peace
Koinonia Endurance**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had an amazingly Christmas festival of a week this week. All children attended the Christmas Church service, with thanks to Mrs Sykes and Reverend Alex for organising. The children enjoyed Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper day. Class 1 performed a fabulous Nativity, which we managed to record and will let Class 1 parents know how to access the video once we sort out some technical challenges. All classes watched a pantomime, kindly purchased by the PTA. Thank you for your donations to the 'Christmas Giving Tree' boxes for Essex Police.

The Wonky Wheel gallery in Finchingfield announced last week the winners of its community colouring book competition. Residents were asked to submit original designs in black and white that could be coloured in. The best designs are being printed into a book. A huge congratulations goes out to Jack, who won the age four to ten category, and Annabel who achieved highly commended for her design. The original designs are now on display in the gallery until the end of February. Profits raised through the sales of the colouring book are going to Freshwell Health Centre's Community Resource Equipment and Medical Equipment Reserve Fund (CREAMER Fund) which provides health resources and equipment to the community.

Congratulations to Jack, Jasmine and Grace who receive the Head of Schools Award in their classes for demonstrating outstanding school values and Learning Powers throughout this term after being nominated by their class teachers.

It just leaves me to say a huge thank you to all the children, families and staff for persevering through this term and through 2020. Your support has been incredible and greatly appreciated.

Wishing you a great Christmas. Best wishes,

Miss M Raymond

Reminders;

Next term some PE days have changed. Class 1 will have PE on: Wednesdays, Class 2 will have PE on Tuesdays and Fridays and Class 3 will have PE on Thursdays and Fridays.

Reporting cases/suspected cases of Coronavirus over the Christmas Holidays:

- If your child develops symptoms within 48hours of being in school you MUST inform the school (preferably via email on office@finchingfieldacademy.com or please leave a message on the answer machine before 10am) and seek a test for your child. The household must isolate at home until the test result is returned. You MUST let the school know the result.
- If your child does not display symptoms however tests positive within 48hours of Friday 18th December you MUST inform the school (preferably via email on office@finchingfieldacademy.com or please leave a message on the answer machine before 10am).
- If your child develops symptoms more than 48hours after the end of term you MUST self-isolate and seek a test. If the result is positive you MUST use the NHS track and trace service to identify any close contacts. Please inform us if they will not be attending school at the beginning of term as a result.
- If your child requires a COVID-19 test it is recommended to use the testing centres rather than postal tests as currently results are being returned within 24hours from testing centres.
- If school are notified of a positive case, within 48 hours of the end of term or from someone who displayed symptoms within 48 hours of the end of term and subsequently tested positive, we WILL contact you via ParentPay providing the guidance for your child who may need to self-isolate for 10 days.

Christmas 2020 at St John the Baptist Finchingfield

Because of Covid restrictions, we are sadly not able to hold our normal carol services in the church this year. However, we are running a number of activities to help you celebrate Christmas in this very unusual year. Of particular interest might be our online carol services:

- A traditional 9 lessons and carols, going live on Sunday 20th December
- Carols in the Cowshed, filmed at its usual venue of Boydell's Farm, going live on Sunday 27th December

These can be found on our Facebook Page (search for 'The Benefice of Finchingfield, Cornish Hall End, Wethersfield & Shalford'), or on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMRERnp3aVcaYnL3LlhyCwQ>

Additionally, St John the Baptist Church in Finchingfield will be open from 12-4pm on Sunday 20th December and on Christmas Eve with a display telling the Christmas story in flowers, and with artwork on display by children from the school.

As part of our festive decorations, we are also inviting families from the parish to produce Christmas-themed painted rocks to form a 'rock snake' starting by the door at the foot of the church tower. The first rocks will be going into place this weekend, so do go and add yours to the chain. And above all, we at the church wish you all a happy and healthy Christmas, and a hopeful New Year!

Please note: Primary School (Reception) admission applications opened on **Monday 9th November 2020**, for parents/carers to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year starting in September 2021. The national statutory closing date for these applications is **Friday 15th January 2021**. All applications should be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. All parents/carers of children due to start school in September 2021 **must** make an application online not directly to the school.

This week's Proud Cloud: Class 3



Star of the week

Class 1

For an amazing performance.
They were shining stars and everyone is
very proud of them.

House Points

This week's
house points
across the school:

Ruby: 151
Sapphire: 128
Emerald: 155

House points so
far this term:

Ruby: 1485
Sapphire: 1396
Emerald: 1328

Class Champions



Attendance:

This week: 98.5%
Autumn term: 97.2%
School Target: 95%

Key Dates:

Mon 4th Jan - INSET

Christmas Break:

Mon 21st Dec – Fri 1st Jan (Mon
4th Jan – INSET day)