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EASTRY CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL
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Friday, 26th November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am pleased to say that being in bubbles has resulted in Covid cases dropping significantly. Thank you for supporting us with this, I know it has been disappointing for many children and a challenge for some of you having to adapt childcare routines. As we do still have cases in the school, and with the hope to reduce the numbers further, we will be continuing in Year group bubbles until **Friday, 3rd December** when we will review this again. We hope if cases continue to drop we may then be able to start some outdoor mixing.

Clubs:

These will unfortunately still be cancelled and reviewed again on 3rd December with the exception of Early Morning Club.

Swimming:

Year 4 will be returning to swimming lessons as we have seen a decline in cases in this year group and they will be travelling as a year group.

Christingle Service – Tuesday, 30th November:

Year 2 will attend the service at the church. The rest of the school will be joining in virtually so they can share this service. All year groups will be able to make their Christingle in school. Unfortunately, we are **not** able to invite parent and carers to this event but we will share it with you via class dojo.

Carols around the Christmas Tree and Father Christmas- PTFA event – Friday, 3rd December:

As per my previous letter, this has unfortunately been cancelled and refunds will be given. Please call at the school office for your refund.

Year 6 Class Worship – Friday, 3rd December and Year 5 Class Worship – Friday, 10th December:

These will go ahead and parents/carers will be invited in to watch worship in the hall socially distanced. We request that you wear a mask. We ask that only family members who live with the child attend. A recording will be available for those unable to attend. The rest of the school will be able to watch a recording.

Reception Nativity – Monday, 6th and Tuesday, 7th December:

These will go ahead and parents/carers will be invited to join in the hall socially distanced. We request that you wear a mask. We ask that only family members who live with the child attend. A recording will be available for those unable to attend. The rest of the school will be able to watch a recording.

St Nicholas Service - Tuesday, 7th December:

We will confirm the year group(s) that will attend the service at the church. The rest of the school will be joining in virtually so they can share this service. Unfortunately, we are **not** able to invite parent and carers to this event but we will share it with you via class dojo.

School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Dinner Day – Wednesday, 8th December:

If we still remain in bubbles the infants will eat in the hall in their year groups and the juniors will eat in the classrooms. The PTFA have kindly provided crackers for the children and time will be given on that day to decorate the classroom and corridors with bunting and paper chains. We may even have a 'special visitor' joining us!

Year 1 and 2 Nativity - Monday, 13th December:

We will review if this goes ahead as combined year groups or as individual year groups at the end of next week. We will however invite parents/carers in to watch the production in the hall socially distanced. We request that you wear a mask. We ask that only family members who live with the child attend. A recording will be available for those unable to attend. The rest of the school will be able to watch a recording.

Christmas parties - Wednesday, 15th December Yr. 4 and Thursday, 16th December Yr. R, Y1, Y2, Y3 Y5 and Y6:

These will continue as planned in classes. Children are asked to bring in 1 individual treat item e.g. a bag of crisps, small bag of popcorn, small chocolate bar to eat as part of their party.

Parent Open Afternoon – Thursday, 16th December

This will be virtual through a selection of photos of learning from this term.

How you can help us:

- Take part in lateral flow testing: many families are testing their children (including primary aged children) daily or at least twice weekly to pick up asymptomatic cases quickly.
- Be aware that many of the cases we have seen in the children in school have presented as headaches, runny noses and sore throats.
- Getting your child a PCR test if they present any of the main symptoms, even if they often get a cough during the winter.
- Continuing to wear a mask unless medically exempt in the school grounds.

We appreciate parents and carers support in this ongoing situation, whilst it is not desirable we want to do all we can under the current guidelines to mitigate the risk. Please do contact the school if you have any questions or concerns, we will be happy to help.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Moss', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Sarah Moss
Headteacher