



# Maryport Church of England Primary School

*'Learn, achieve, shine'*

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## December 2020

As we approach the final few weeks of the Autumn term, I would like to once again take the opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone involved in our school community. The children have been fantastic and their resilience and positive attitude in school during such uncertain times has been wonderful to see. The staff (teachers, teaching assistants, admin, lunch ladies, cleaners and Mr Ross) have all worked tirelessly since September to ensure that keeping the school open alongside making sure the children are safe, happy and re-engaged with their learning has been their top priority. I am immensely proud to have such a dedicated team of people work at our school. We are also blessed to have parents and grandparents who have continued to be as supportive of the school as always – albeit from a distance at the moment!

The run up to Christmas in school is always a very busy time although this year, things are a little different. Unfortunately, we are unable to put on our usual infant Nativity performance or Christingle service in the church. Our choir are not able this year to go out singing in the community or take part in the annual carol service. We will however record and then share with you all on our Facebook page a video of each class performing a Christmas piece. Rev Susan has very kindly agreed to also record a Christingle service which we will share with the children in their bubbles once they have made their Christingles. We usually have a collection in church for the Children's Society so ask, that in lieu of this, donations are made on Christmas jumper day.

Unfortunately, our PTA are also unable to hold our usual Christmas shop this year.

Cards and presents – We know how much the children love the excitement of giving and receiving cards and gifts in school. In order to do this safely this year, we kindly ask that if these are brought in, they are placed in a designated box in each classroom on **Mondays only**. On Fridays, staff will then distribute out to the children confident that everything has been quarantined appropriately.

Thank you to everyone who supported our virtual Christmas fayre. This will continue to run until 4<sup>th</sup> December so if you still need gifts, head over and get shopping. Our total raised so far is £250 with commission still to come in. Thanks also to those who bought tickets for the festive hamper raffle. To date, this has raised £664. The remaining draws will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December so still time to buy a ticket via Lunchshop if you haven't already done so. Money raised is being used to gift each child in school a present and to pay for the Christmas parties during the last week of term. On party day, children may come in their party clothes and festive accessories. The parties will of course take place within bubbles.

**Year 2 phonics check** – As the children in Y2 missed doing their phonics check in the summer term, the Government has said that they must now do this before the end of term. The checks will be carried out in the next 2 weeks and are done on a 1:1 basis with a familiar adult. Mrs Holliday has already sent out information about the expectations of the check but if you require further details, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

School closes for the holidays on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December however it is still very important that we are notified in the following 5 days (up until 23<sup>rd</sup>) of any children testing positive for Covid 19 so we can notify anyone who has been in close contact during the last few days in school. To do this, please email me directly at [head@maryport.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@maryport.cumbria.sch.uk)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December – party day for N-Y6. Little Acorns will have parties on different days of the week and Mrs McCallig will let you know when



Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas jumper day (min £1 donation to the Children's Society)  
- Christmas dinner – this will be available to order via Lunchshop soon



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – school closes for the Christmas break at staggered times of 1.25, 1.35 and 1.45 **THERE WILL BE NO LITTLE ACORNS SESSION THIS DAY**



Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January – school reopens (staggered start times unless notified otherwise)

**From all the staff and Governors of  
Maryport Church of England Primary School -**

