



21.12.21
Urmston
Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers,
So, that's that...for now!

It has been the most challenging of terms for so many reasons and I cannot thank our staff enough for their dedication, care and resilience.

We are also tremendously grateful for your support, patience and understanding with the various measures that have needed to be taken, both Covid and non-Covid related. I appreciate that in some cases we've not been able to please everyone, but can assure you that all of the decisions made to date, and going forward, are made with the children's best interests at heart.

Our biggest thanks are reserved for our children. Despite the challenges, and the obvious impact that the last couple of years have had, they have shown a steely resilience which is admirable and quite incredible, and they often teach us more than we can them in this aspect!

We wish you all the best Christmas possible and genuinely look forward to the new year with great promise and positivity...after a much needed break that is!

May I also take this opportunity to express my thanks to Mrs Haigh for all of the work she has done for our school and our children over the past seven years. Very best of luck, Steph.

And to Mr D...St Monica's are so, so lucky to have you...and although we feel our children are something quite special here at UPS, children are children...and we know that there is now another school's worth who will benefit from your kindness, your leadership, and your dedication. All the best mate.

Happy Christmas everyone and may we all use this time to look at the things we can be grateful for, even if that might not always be easy.

All the best,

Mr Parker and everyone here at UPS



Dear Parents,

I just wanted to write a little note to thank you all for your kind words, good wishes and generosity over the last couple of days. I have been totally overwhelmed and humbled by it all. I just want to say how lucky I feel to have been able to play a small part in in the lives of our brilliant children. I want to thank all of our staff too for all of their support and to Simon and the Board of Governors in agreeing to my secondment. Whatever happens over the next few months, I hope that I am always welcome to come back to UPS and know that the school will continue to get better and better. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas holiday and a great New Year.

Take care,

Mark Doherty

Thank you to everyone for all your good wishes, gifts and good luck as I leave UPS at the end of this term. I have been involved with the school from my own children starting here some 21 years ago and so will miss being a part of it very much! I am sure I will still see many of you around Urmston, so please give me a wave. The children at UPS are a credit to the staff here and their parents and wider family, and are certainly very special little people. Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and Happy New Year!

Steph Haigh - Infant Office.

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

We are none the wiser on what might be happening in January. We fully expect school to be fully open but take nothing for granted after last year! If there are any updates, we'll let you know asap.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT IN GM

With the holidays providing many with an opportunity to see family and friends, for others it may also be a very difficult time. The link below gives information on support for adults and children around Greater Manchester.

<https://hub.gmhsc.org.uk/mental-health/whats-new/mental-health-support-in-greater-manchester-2/>

PTA

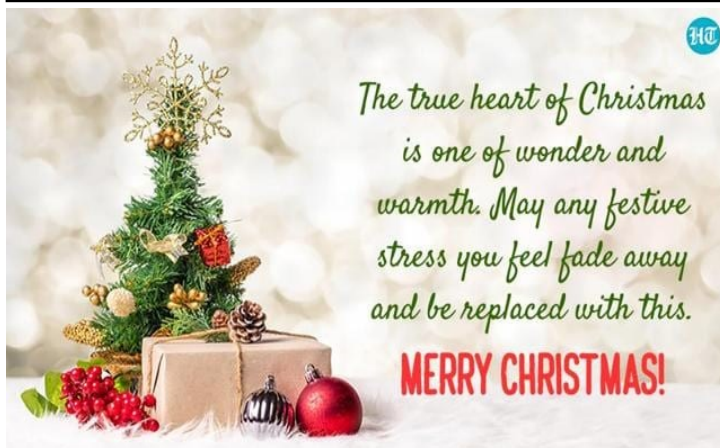
Thanks to our PTA and to everyone who bought raffle tickets...it was certainly worth it as we raised £1219.67! Well done everyone—all proceeds will go towards resources for our children!

NATIVITIES AND ST CLEMENTS VIDEOS

Infant parents should have all been sent a copy of the infant nativities. In truth, we've had a great deal of difficulty in uploading the St Clements videos. If you are desperate for a copy, please send us an email and we'll sort something out!

PLACE 2 BE

Year 6's charity is Place2Be and last week, Nicky and Julia visited our Y6 bunch. It was lovely to hear their feedback and they commented on how they found our school warm and friendly and our children were polite with a high level of self-awareness because of our great emotional literacy. Great stuff! The leaflet below is for their Parenting Smart website which offers practical advice for supporting children (aged 4-11) and managing behaviour.



Parenting Smart



We all want the best for our children, but parenting can be really tough sometimes. We've all been there.

Place2Be's Parenting Smart is a new site for parents and carers of 4-11 year olds, offering practical advice on supporting your child and managing behaviour.

All of our content is created by Place2Be's parenting experts. It's based on evidence and their experiences working with children, young people and their families



Designed with busy parents in mind, the site has short videos and articles on topics from meltdowns to bullying, from sleeping difficulties to encouraging self-confidence.



Learn more at place2be.org.uk/parentingsmart

