



Mousehold Infant and Nursery School    Mousehold Avenue    Norwich    NR3 4RS  
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18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We near the end of 2020. We've worked so well together and kept things going for the children at Mousehold. We are all so fully aware how challenging this year has been for everyone. From the darkest times there have been such wonderful, special moments too. I have written a poem for the school community and it captures just a snapshot of the year from my perspective. If you would like a paper copy of the poem, please ask at the school office.

**A Poem for our Community**

*2020 started with hope and fun,  
We held hands and hugged, a new year had begun.  
It promised good things together with friends,  
And now we look back as we come to the end.*

*It's not all bad as we've looked after each other,  
It's what's helped us get through this year together.  
School closures in March were not what we planned  
The virus spread throughout the land.*

*Mousehold stayed open for just a few,  
All the routines were different and new.  
Most of the children were learning at home,  
Teachers made contact online and by phone.*

*Community spirit got stronger and stronger  
As the school closures went on for longer and longer.  
Staff worked hard and worked well as a team,  
They persevered not losing steam.*

*Our new school logo was bright and smart  
A collective effort and a piece of Art.  
Our new school Facebook page made all of us smile,  
Seeing each other was taking a while.*

Headteacher: Mrs Rebecca Westall    Deputy Headteacher: Mr Ian Tolson  
Designated safeguarding leads: Mrs Westall, Mr Tolson, Miss Wood



*September arrived and all seemed good,  
Risk assessments were understood.  
The school community worked as one,  
New ways of working had begun.*

*Staggered start times to the school day  
Were quickly got used to and a different way.  
The thank yous from parents to staff and the team,  
Meant leading this school was at times like a dream.*

*There's been challenge and trauma,  
And hard times and tears,  
But we should all feel proud of facing our fears.*

*No hugs but there's love  
No closeness but smiles  
I thank every one of you straight from my heart.*

*Rebecca Westall  
Headteacher December 2020*

### **Communication from the Local Authority (the same as in last week's newsletter)**

*During the school holiday please can we ask that you follow all the national guidance, we have included some helpful bullet points and web addresses below. It is by everyone taking individual responsibility to follow this guidance, that we can together manage a safe and secure return to education in the new year.*

- . If your child is unable to start the new term because of COVID-19 or any other illness please let us know in the normal way. School reopens 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021*
- . If your child lives in the same household as someone with coronavirus, your child must stay at home for **10 days** from the first day the person with coronavirus had symptoms or had their test.*
- . If your child develops Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) they should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared (or from the date they received a positive test result).*
- . COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)) has information for households with possible coronavirus infection including easy to read guides in a number of languages.*
- . Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the*

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person - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)) has information for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus infection including an easy to read guide.

- . If your family is need of support to help you through a period of isolation, please see the Norfolk Assistance scheme.
- . Some residents are also entitled to a self-isolation support payment of £500.
- . Please remember; there are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other
- . 1. Wash hands, 2. Cover face, 3. Make space

Although the festive season will be different this year as we all continue to try and keep each other safe and healthy, we do hope that you can all enjoy this period and we wish you a safe and happy new year.

**COVID 19 TRACK AND TRACE** – The DfE have informed schools that they should be available to support Public Health England with Test and Trace during holiday period. Following LA guidance **please be advised that the school should be informed immediately if your child receives a positive test result before 3pm on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December.** This can be done via email to: [officemousehold@istnorfolk.co.uk](mailto:officemousehold@istnorfolk.co.uk)  
If your child receives a positive test result after this time then the school does not need to be informed.  
Many thanks

I wish you all a wonderful time together with your families at Christmas. You all deserve rest and relaxation. If you are working over the Christmas period, thank you on behalf of us all at Mousehold. You do a wonderful job keeping the country going. Stay well and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Yours faithfully  
Rebecca Westall  
Headteacher

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