



Mousehold Infant and Nursery School    Mousehold Avenue    Norwich    NR3 4RS  
01603 427012    [officemousehold@istnorfolk.co.uk](mailto:officemousehold@istnorfolk.co.uk)    [www.mouseholdinfants.com](http://www.mouseholdinfants.com)

4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

December has arrived and it feels like there is extra sparkle in the air. Children have been telling us about their Christmas trees and decorations at home. Decorations are popping up in classrooms and the magic of Christmas will still be alive at Mousehold this season, despite some restrictions. Do have a look at the Christmas Tree in our school library. You can see it all lit up from outside on the playground.

#### **Christmas Performances**

You might have heard in the news and on social media that Nativity plays are now allowed. We heard this a couple of days ago. However the restrictions are still there in how they can be performed, how big (or small!) the audience can be etc. We worked out that if we were to put on performances, with a safe sized audience then there would have to be between 30-40 performances for all parents and carers to attend. So we are doing something different this year. Each class is performing a Christmas song, in smaller groups within the class, and this will be videoed and sent to parents nearer Christmas. The children who don't have permissions for this will not be in the video. By doing this we can still spread Christmas cheer and all will be safe.

#### **Christmas Cards**

Please remember if you would like to send Christmas cards then they can be brought into school on a Monday or Tuesday and will be sent home on a Friday.

#### **Support for families**

There are various ways that Norfolk County Council can help you this season, if you are struggling or worried about providing for your family. Please contact the office if you would like help in any way and a member of staff will get back to you as soon as we can. We can help with financial worries, food, support with household essentials such as nappies, formula milk, electricity, gas, daily expenses.

#### **Free School Meal Vouchers**

All children who are entitled to free school meals (the means tested pupil premium element and not the universal free school meals that all children in reception to the end of year 2 are entitled to) will receive vouchers over the Christmas holidays. We will ensure we sort this for you. If you are unsure as to whether

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



this is for you then please contact the school office.

Thank you so much for your support over the last few months, which have seen school communities having to deal with some Covid cases in schools. At the time of writing this letter we have not had any positive cases of Covid 19 at Mousehold yet and will let you know if we do. Having to close classes and tell staff and children to isolate is a heavy responsibility which the current circumstances have forced on head teachers across the country. None of us would do it lightly because we know how important school is and we know the pressures that isolating puts on families. I know that many of you are looking at the last week of term, which is usually magical in our schools and are worried about receiving one of those letters saying that your child has been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive because the thought of isolating or being ill over Christmas would be a sad end to a sad year. It's a very difficult moment for all of us. I would like to take this opportunity to say that as a staff, we do understand because we are going through the same thing and that we will be continuing to do everything we can to make school as safe as possible.

Please remember that our **last day of term is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Our Christmas dinner is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December.** Children can wear **non-uniform** for the last 3 days of term (16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.) This can include Christmas jumpers, but we don't expect families to buy one especially.

Thank you again for your understanding and cooperation during this time. We continue to work very well together.

Yours faithfully  
Rebecca Westall  
Headteacher

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

