



## School Newsletter – 18th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

### Food Bank Appeal

Thank you so much for all your kind and generous donations for the food bank 'The Gathering Place' are truly grateful for your help to help support those in need of extra help this Christmas.

### Rhythm of Life:

The children have really enjoyed the "Rhythm of Life" advent resources from the Diocese and will be bringing home the remainder of them for you to complete together should you wish to running up to and including Christmas day.

### Christingles:

Once again we are very grateful for the support and generosity from Tesco for supplying everything we need in order to provide every child with a Christingle. Our service was held this afternoon in our bubbles. This year the candle has been replaced with a glow stick – watch out for the tweets!

### Christmas Jumper Day:

A massive thank you for the support you gave to "Save the Children's" Christmas Jumper Day. A donation of £99.15 has been sent to the charity. The children all looked amazing.

### Website News:

Please visit the school website to enjoy each class's virtual nativity. You will find them behind the 'More' tab under 'Christmas at Norland'. Whilst there are occasions when the sound quality is not BAFTA standard, we hope that this will not detract from the very special moments of watching the children perform together. Thank you for the plentiful supply of tinsel which we used in lieu of costumes.

You will also find three videos provided by Reverend Jeanette explaining Advent, Christingle and The Christmas Story. Our grateful thanks to her for providing these.

Our wonderful Year 6s have also provided a couple of Christmas Carol renditions on their clarinets which we have uploaded for you to enjoy. I am sure you will agree in such a short space of time they have done really well.

### Covid 19 Update:

The guidance states that I must inform Public Health England if any of our children test positive over the Christmas period. Please use the [head@norland.calderdale.sch.uk](mailto:head@norland.calderdale.sch.uk) email address to get in contact with me should you need to do so. If I am informed of any positive cases that may affect you, I will be in touch via text message.

Thank you all for following our protective measures and guidance in order to keep each other safe. It is a testament to our community spirit. There is a letter to families from Public Health England at the bottom of this newsletter.

This year may not be the Christmas you had hoped for. However, the staff and Governors join with me in wishing you all a peaceful and restful time.

Please note Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January is a staff training day so **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January** will be the first day back in school for the children after the Christmas break.

Many thanks for your continued support and I look forward to welcoming you all back to school in January.

With very best wishes,

*Ali Oliver*

### **Letter from Public Health:**

As I am sure you appreciate, schools are working incredibly hard to keep staff and pupils safe through COVID-19. The protective measures in place in Calderdale schools are in line with national guidance and will work to reduce the risk of transmission within the setting. Whilst additional measures in place at pick-up and drop-off times are there to keep everyone safe, it is not the responsibility of schools to enforce these.

When a decision is made to close a bubble, or to send pupils home to isolate, Head Teachers are working under strict Public Health guidance. While it may be frustrating, especially if this happens more than once, it is not a decision that is taken lightly. If you have a child at home isolating and are struggling to drop off and collect siblings, please do speak to your child's school.

Please help our schools to keep everyone safe by:

- Staying at home and arranging a test if anyone in your household has COVID-19 symptoms
- Self-isolating if you test positive for COVID-19 or are identified as a contact of someone who has
- Keeping your distance from others at drop-off and pick-up, and wearing a face covering if asked to do so. If anyone you have come into close contact with in the school yard tests positive for COVID-19, you may have to self-isolate. Please don't stop to chat with other parents
- Avoiding using local playgrounds before and after school when there are likely to be more people around
- Remembering that school staff are working under incredibly difficult circumstances and doing all they can to provide a good quality of education whilst ensuring that everyone remains as safe as possible

If you or your child have any concerns about COVID-19, contact the Healthy Futures Calderdale school nursing team by phone on **0303 330 9974** or by text on **07480 635297 (young people)** or **07507 332157 (parents/carers)**.



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