



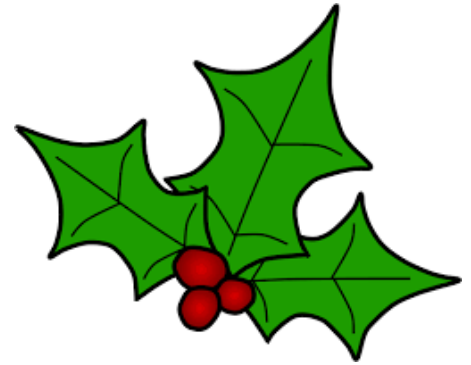
Walsden St Peter's Newsletter 11th December 2020

Dear parents/carers,

A long one this week; lots to update everyone on so please keep scrolling!

Christmas holiday closures

We break up next Friday - 18th December, as planned, and return to school on **Tuesday 5th January**. We're aware that there have been media announcements regarding the Department of Education's decision to allow all schools to hold a teacher training day on the last day of term. **However, we will be open as normal on Friday 18th December**. Some schools had already designated this as an INSET day and had given parents and carers plenty of notice. It seems very late in the day to be altering our plans. We are also aware of, and very grateful for, the support families have given us when children or bubbles have had to self-isolate and remain at home. Although, we sincerely hope that we will not have to do this next term, it does remain a possibility. Therefore, we would like to remain open whenever we have the choice.



Contacting school



Please be aware that teachers are unable to read or answer emails sent to their class email address when they are teaching. Also, they are often supervising children during lunch time. If you need to speak to your child's teacher or pass on a message, please contact the school office who will ensure that queries and concerns are dealt with as soon as we can.

Overgate Hospice Reindeer Run

This is taking place next **Monday morning, 14th December**. **Your child will need trainers, joggers/leggings and a hoody/Christmas jumper; they can wear this to school. Junior children will be running around the village in accompanied groups within their own bubble. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who have offered to marshal the route – your child will have brought home a letter tonight with more information.** Due to the rain today and weather forecast over the weekend we are moving the Y1/2 run to the playground as the field is already wet and muddy. We will therefore not need volunteer marshals but thank you to everyone who offered; if you would still like to help, we can allocate you a checkpoint on the junior run! The run is to raise much needed funds for our local hospice and we suggest a **minimum donation of £2**. Thank you.



Friends of Walsden – Christmas update

- *Thank you to everyone who has bought and sold raffle tickets for our **Christmas Bonanza Draw**. The last chance to return the money and stubs is Monday 14th December; the raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 16th December.*
- ***Walsden Winter Wonderland** - The walk will take place on Saturday 19th & Sunday 20th December. Maps will be available to purchase at the start of the trail from our Covid secure stall where hot drinks and sweet treats will also be available to buy. The stall will be located in The Mill carpark on both nights from 4pm to 8pm. Please come and support us.*
- *Just a reminder that **next Friday 18th December is our Christmas themed non-uniform day (£2 donation)** – Lots of festive class fun with games, crafts and treats for everyone!*



Santagrams

As we mentioned in our previous newsletter our Junior pupils have been busy designing and creating 'Santagrams' to deliver to members of our local community. Some of our staff and students made socially distanced deliveries to a number of residences this week including Milreed Lodge Nursing Home and John Eastwood Homes in Walsden. We have received so many messages of thanks! We are so proud of our staff and students for their thoughtfulness towards others at this difficult time for so many and it was heart warming to know that we have spread a little Christmas cheer around our local community.



Christmas Hamper Appeal

Thank you for all your donations. It will make families who have not had the best lead up to Christmas have a smile on their faces.

Thank you again from all of the school councillors.



Christmas performance 2020

Whilst we are disappointed that we cannot hold our traditional nativity and carol service in person this year, we hope that our virtual version will more than make up for it. We have had great fun making it! As soon as the performance is available to view, we will let you all know when and where.



Community news - Memory tree

At 1 Maitland Street, Walsden there is a memory/wish tree. This tree is for anyone to pop by and put a memory/wish on. There is a box on the table with paper/pens and hand sanitizer (or you can write your own at home) then post the note in the box which has been attached to the fence. The note will be laminated and put on the tree. A lovely idea for local people and all social distanced.

Summary of diary dates for last week of term

Monday 14 th December	Reindeer Run in aid of Overgate Hospice
Wednesday 16 th December	FOW Christmas Bonanza raffle is drawn
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas dinner
Friday 18 th December	Non-uniform day (festive themed) and class Christmas parties
Friday 18 th December	School closes for Christmas break (<i>normal time</i>)
19 th & 20 th December	Walsden Winterland Wonderland trail (see above)

Stars of the week

This week's stars are: Toby Kavanagh, Inga Whittaker, Aubrey Rawlinson, Betsy McMillan, Amelia Bi, Violet McGuire and Martha Dawson. Well done to them all.



Lunchtime Awards

Our midday staff have chosen: Sienna Lillis, Gracie Hamer, Harry Stansfield, Edward Jones, Austin Bates, Isaac Rushton and Martha Dawson for their excellent behaviour at lunchtime.

Emma Crowther and Esther Logue

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