

Friday 4th December 2020



Dear Parents,

Despite the cold weather this week, the Christmas warmth is glowing in school! We are very busy preparing for Christmas and this letter does contain a significant amount of information. I will start with some 'other' news!

Relationships and Health Education

Thank you to the parents who have taken the time to read the new relationships and health Policy and to share some feedback with us. In January, I will collate this feedback and share it with the whole community. Please do send me any feedback you have about this policy before the end of term.

Admissions for Reception 2021

I am delighted to see siblings applying for places at SBS for September 2021. The deadline for application is 15th January 2021. I have a number of flyers advertising our school and I would love to get them out into the community. If any families have friends or family who would be interested in receiving a flyer, please do let me know and I can send a flyer electronically or in an envelope for families to share.

Staffing at SBS

As you will remember, Mrs. Stoneham is retiring this December and so we will be welcoming Mrs. Lucy Stewart to our teaching team. Mrs. Stewart has a background in secondary school teaching and teaching at an all-through school (year R to 11). She has led on RE, PSHE and more recently been Head of English at Priestlands. Mrs. Stewart will be teaching on a Monday and Friday across KS2. In addition, Mrs Caroline Davis, will be joining our supply teaching team.

We would also like to extend a big welcome Mrs. Ria Logan and Ms. Emily-Jane Slade who have joined our support staff team. Both ladies will be working with individual children and groups of children across the school.

The appointment of additional staff will allow us to offer further support to individuals, groups and classes, enabling further catch up education or increased challenge for some pupils. This is really positive news. In general, we are seeing children make exceptional progress in their learning and we are already pleased with the interventions, support and curriculum design that we have put in place. The recruitment of additional staff members will help us increase this offer further.

Covid-19 risk assessment and tier 2 restrictions

As you all know, we are now officially in tier 2 of covid restrictions. This changes very little about the way we are running things at SBS, however does mean we will need to continue our restrictions on after school clubs for a little bit longer. I am hoping that we be able to start phasing some of these clubs back in during Spring term 1 but will continue to monitor the local rates of infection and DfE guidelines before making a final decision.

Our measures have helped to reduce the spread of covid 19 within our school community and we have been particularly grateful for the sensible approach of the SBS community. It is so important not to send your child to school if they have **any** one of the covid symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new and continuous cough
- A loss of taste or loss of smell

If a member of your family has any one of the symptoms above, the whole family must isolate and the individual with the symptoms must take a covid test. If the result is negative, as soon as the individual is well they may return to school and other family members may return immediately as long as they do not have any symptoms. Closing down quickly on any individual who has symptoms is critical in supporting our school community to stay well.

If a member of your family receives a positive covid result, it is critical that you email the admin email address immediately. During this period of time, we monitor the school emails 7 days a week in order to quickly pick up on any covid related issues. The quicker we are made aware, the quicker we can act. This will be the same throughout the Christmas break, we will be monitoring the school emails very frequently.

Face coverings

Please can families continue to wear face coverings when dropping off and collecting children from school. In addition, all KS2 children must wear a face covering on the school bus. Thank you so much for your support with this.

Warm clothes

Despite the colder weather, we do get out as much as possible at SBS. Please do send your child to school with a warm coat and on the coldest days a hat and gloves are helpful.

Christmas.....

The Christmas postbox is now open. Children may post cards to teachers and friends across the school. To ensure this is covid safe the following system is in place.

First day of posting	Last day of posting	Post delivery dates
Friday 4 th December	Tuesday 14 th December	Monday 7 th December Monday 14 th December Thursday 17 th December

On a related topic – I have received a certificate this week, informing me that from the children's Christmas cards, we raised £233 for SBS – so thank you so much!

Christmas dinners and parties

Please note we have switched EYFS and KS1 with KS2 due to Woodland School.

Class	Christmas dinner and party day
Tulane, Shadow and Aslan	Tuesday 8 th December
Gruffalo, Elmer and Paddington	Wednesday 9 th December

There is a separate letter attached explaining the lunch choices for the day.

Christmas Panto afternoon

On Monday 14th December we will be holding a Christmas Panto afternoon. The Friends of SBS have kindly purchased us access to two theatre performances. The children will be offered hot chocolate and a gingerbread biscuit whilst watching the performance. We will contact individual families regarding specific dietary requirements.

Christmas Charities

As a school we would like to support two Christmas charities this year.

The first charity that we are supporting is the Wave 105 Christmas Mission.

<https://planetradio.co.uk/wave-105/charity/events/mission-christmas-south-coast/>

If you and your child would like to select a gift and send it into school, we will organise for it to be collected and taken to the local drop off.

The second charity that we are supporting is the Southampton Hospital Charity Appeal. The link for this charity is below. Donations can be made online to support the patients being treated at Southampton this year.

<https://southamptonhospitalscharity.org/christmas-appeal-patients/>

Christmas nativities and concerts

Separate information will follow about these events from classes.

Christmas gifts

Children are starting to bring gifts to school for their friends. There is no expectation that this should happen but I know some families like to do this and at the moment school is the only social outlet children have. It would make life a bit easier for us if you could keep gifts for the last week of term, when children can give their gifts to their friends.

End of term Celebration Assembly

Normally we look forward to inviting many parents into school for this celebration, as we are unable to do this this year, we will be creating a film for parents so that you can watch some of our celebrations in your own time.

Friday worship and Explorer Awards

This week worship was led by Tilly Waddington, Freya Gower and Ellen Moir. They spoke beautifully about a topic they have shown a great interest in recently, 'Refugees.' Thank you girls!



Gruffalo class - Well done Minnie – this week you have learnt to write not only your own name but the names of each of your family members! Fantastic!

Elmer class – Well done Polly you have settled in so well to Elmer class and SBS. You have worked very hard all term – well done!

Paddington class – Well done to Ronny McAdam for your brilliant mathematics and hard work again this week.

Tulane class – Well done Lilla Ryder for a super piece of narrative. Great use of expanded noun phrases.

Shadow class – Well done Max Britton for increasing the number of Explorer points awarded this week and for your efforts in English.

Aslan class – well done Jonny Rogers for a super piece of discussion writing – well balanced points and explained so clearly.

In addition, well done to the following children for successfully completing the Library Summer Reading Challenge: Sophie & Amelia Boulter and Ronny McAdam. The children are bringing home some sparkly medals today!

Finally, if you have any energy left at all....don't forget we are running the virtual sports challenge until 9th December. Activities were sent home last week with the Friday letter and there is a folder on Learner's Pool to upload your results to.

Have a fabulous weekend everyone and see you next week.

Warm regards

Anne Moir