



Dear parent / carer,

We are on the verge of closing school for the Christmas break after a very different and challenging Autumn term, the highlight of which should be the Christmas celebrations; for many of us Christmas may not be the usual festive affair we are used to. Like so many things since late February/early March we've had to create new ways of doing things both in and out of school and work. I'm sure Christmas will continue to be a special time for all our families and staff – we'll all just do it a little differently this year.

Out of the turmoil and challenges, we must look for the positives so...

Ten things to celebrate and be thankful for this term:

- School has been able to remain open throughout the autumn term
- The children have received a bespoke Wrenbury wellbeing Curriculum for Recovery that has helped secure them back into school after the long initial lockdown and summer break. The Colour Monster has helped our children to share their feelings and staff have been able to recognise and support all those children who have found things a little bit tricky.
- Our Little Wrens children, taught by Mrs Turner and Mrs Agnew, have settled well and have had a wonderful first term at Wrenbury, as have our 'new to school' reception children and Jesse in Y6.
- Every child in Y1-6 has completed a super Learning Journey book based on 'A sense of place; a sense of belonging' and quickly got back into the Wrenbury Way of learning.
- Sarah Goodwin has been a star and raised the magnificent sum of £7,780.55 on behalf of FOWS (with some help) to support our children's learning opportunities and curriculum enrichment. We're spending a chunk of it on updating our IT provision for teaching and learning.
- Whole school attendance for the term has been 97% - a fantastic achievement and dedication from you as parents, ensuring your child(ren) get the very best from the face-2-face teaching we offer.
- Achieving the national School Business 'Community Award' as a celebration of our wonderful work with the Nursing home and Doctor's surgery.
- Cakes and goodies from our parents and Mrs Mansfield across the term to keep the staff 'going'.
- Our wonderful school community for supporting our children's learning including the village shop/post office; Rev Alison; PC Sharon; Broomhall chapel and of course yourselves as parents.
- Finally, our brilliant staff! I am humbled and privileged to work with such a fantastic team at Wrenbury. Every single one of them has given their all for the children and school this term, often whilst facing their own personal challenges and worries away from school. I applaud each and every one of them!

In school we have had a wonderful Christmas week of Christmas stories and poems followed by each base and Little Wrens singing carols, across ZOOM, connecting us all together. Christmas lunches were lovely - thank you Sharon and Liz - and with thanks to FOWS for the festive tablecloths and crackers. A selection box and personalised Christmas tree decoration were an added treat for each of the children – thank you FOWS! The children filled the post box twice with their Christmas card greetings (thank you to Lily's mum for loaning us her post box).

And to close the term...

On a personal note, a very sincere and heartfelt thank you for your support of my-self and the team this term. I have to be honest and say that leading the school at times this term has been incredibly difficult as well as exhausting. Your kind words of encouragement have kept me going and in turn the team has stayed strong and united in our commitment to all our school families and to each other. I would also like to thank the governors for their support and commitment to the school this term.

Thank you on behalf of my-self and the staff for the lovely Christmas cards and gifts – never expected but always appreciated.

As we look to the New Year, please do:

- continue to follow the protective measures we have put in place
- continue to park safely and considerately in the communal car park and around the village and walk where possible
- continue to drop your child(ren) off within the given time slots and collect promptly

Please do keep checking EMAILS for any further updates from the DfE via school. We expect more changes!

And something to look forward to this Saturday in the village:

Between 5-8pm, there is the opportunity to take a 'Christmas lights walk' around the village looking at the lovely light displays. It is expected that families will be sensible and follow the latest government guidelines as they did for the village Pumpkin Trail.

There is a quiz: Some houses will have a letter displayed in their front window. Make sure you have a pen and paper handy to note these down. At the end, see if you can spell the name of one of Santa's reindeer. Some houses may even have sweet on offer.

If the weather is good, the 'Funky Choir' may be singing either outside The Cotton Arms or near The Green.

There may be mulled wine for sale outside The Cotton Arms.

Both village pubs are open for meals.

The Wrenbury Team look forward to seeing you all back on **Monday 4th January 2020** for a prompt start to the spring term and another great term of community togetherness and learning.

In the meantime, many thanks and best wishes for a peaceful Christmas,
Bessa Cador