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| **DECEMBER 2020**  **NEWSLETTER** | |
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| Dear Parents, Carers, Governors, Friends, Staff and Pupils,  Over the past few weeks the news, both nationally and locally, has made everyone’s mood downbeat. However, you’ll be pleased to know that life here at school has been anything but and the children are clearly loving coming to school despite some of the safety measures we have to make.  There is no denying that things have been very challenging in school. On some days, we have been short of large numbers of staff and we are managing day to day the best we can. I also know full well, the difficulties you as parents face when bubbles close. My own children (and lots of other staff’s children) have had to self-isolate during this time and the joys of home learning and trying to juggle this with the day job is incredibly challenging. So I would like to say to all our parents who have already done this, or are doing so at the moment you are doing a fabulous job!  Finally, is it without saying that as we are now in Tier 3, please continue to follow the safety measures as you enter and leave the school site. We are really appreciating your cooperation during this difficult time.  As always, thank you for your support, compassion and kindness over the past few weeks. Hopefully we will come out of this soon and as a school community we will be even stronger. Stay safe.  Have a Happy Christmas!  Jane Marson |
| **Christmas Countdown** |
| Free Christmas Garland Clipart, Download Free Clip Art, Free Clip Art on  Clipart Library  As you will be aware, Christmas celebrations and preparations at Christopher Pickering are going to be a little different this year. Unfortunately we will not be able to welcome you into school to see carol concerts and performances but don’t worry, we have planned some exciting activities for the children to enjoy.  **Christmas Parties**  You will all have had the information about your child’s Christmas Party Day. These again are being done very differently to ensure all bubbles stay safe.  **Christmas Dinner Day**  We are holding our Christmas dinner day on Friday 11th December. We will combine this with our Christmas Jumper Day. Children can come in non-uniform and can wear a Christmas Jumper.  **Christmas sing-a-long**  All classes have been asked to sing a Christmas song and film it – once this is done we will be sharing these with you on You Tube! |
| **Last Day of Term** |
| On Friday 18th December we are asking you to collect your children from 12pm. Year 6 and Group A to be collected at 12pm and Group B at 12:10pm. Please collect your children from their usual exit door. School lunch will not be served that day. |
| **Covid-19 updates and reminders** |
| Thank you for all of your support. |
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| We wish you a Merry Christmas and  a Happy New Year!  Looking forward to seeing you all on 5th January 2021! |
| **School Holiday Dates** |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Autumn Term 2020 | School opens | 9th September 2020 | | School closes for half term | 23rd October 2020 | | School opens | 2nd November 2020 | | School closes for Christmas | 18th December 2020 | | Spring Term 2021 | School opens | 5th January 2021 | | School closes for half term | 12th February 2021 | | School opens | 22nd February 2021 | | School closes for Easter | 26th March 2021 | | Summer Term 2021 | School opens | 13th April 2021 | | **BANK HOLIDAY CLOSED** | 3rd May 2021 | | School closes for half term | 28th May 2021 | | School opens | 7th June 2021 | | School closes for Summer | 23rd July 2021 |   \***please note we have 1 training day to be confirmed**. |