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Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all of your support as we have moved through this very busy half term on the run up to Christmas! I am not quite sure where the weeks have gone to! Parents Evening chats have been completed successfully. Thank you to all parents/carers that have attended over the past few weeks, virtually and in person.

Please always let us know for meetings going forward if you would like a longer appointment as the virtual appointments have been working brilliantly, but do have a time limit on them. Staff are accommodating if there is more you wish to discuss or if you have any concerns. We are all really pleased with how the children have settled into school and are now comfortable with their new year groups and new learning.

We will be setting a date early in the Spring Term for parents to drop into school across an afternoon to share workbooks with the children, which will be lovely and maybe not as rushed as it can be when we have parent chats in school too. There will also be a chance to be involved in a parent workshop alongside your child too. These provisional dates were shared at the beginning of the year, but we will send out an updated calendar with finalised dates early in the new year.

There have been lots of important events discussed with the children over the past few weeks. In school we looked at Black History month across October, we have each looked at the Hindu Festival of Lights—Diwali. Remembrance Day was discussed and the whole school took part in a 1 minute's silence. We have discussed our new character of Respect which fitted perfectly in with our discussions. The school council have been super helpful with Mrs Elliott sharing the poppies and items around school. We will share with you how much has been raised once this has been collected in and counted by the Royal British Legion.

Anti Bullying week took place and we introduced the theme "Choose Respect" with a whole school assembly. We followed up our discussions around the principles of Kidsafe, keeping ourselves safe, knowing about our trusted grown ups who we can speak to. We also spoke about kindness, friendships, co-operation and working together.

All of the children were very clear about bullying not being accepted in school, what it actually means to be bullied and what we can do as a school to ensure that it does not happen. The Reception children have been super pointing out our posters around school and it has generated some really positive discussions!

Finally, we have had confirmation that we have achieved the Music Mark for our commitment towards our music work in school. A huge thank you to Miss Green for her work in school and making the application and of course all of the staff for their efforts too!



Best wishes, Miss Holt

### A few Diary Dates coming up ...

- Monday 2nd December—PTA Christmas Fair in School—3.45-6pm—We'd love to see you there!
- Monday 2nd December—Toy collective drop off—please send in good quality pre loved toys!
- Friday 6th December—Winter Toddler Time 9.15-10.15—bookings only to attend
- Friday 6th December—Class 4 to attend a multi skills event (pm)
- Monday 9th, Wednesday 11th , Thursday 12th and Friday 13th—Winter Warmer activity in school with Sandra at Tides of Change
- Monday 9th December—Toy drop off for Norah's North Pole
- Tuesday 10th December—Year 2 to visit the Pantomime at Customs House am
- Wednesday 11th December— Reception to visit the Pantomime at Customs House am
- Thursday 12th December—Year 1 to visit the Pantomime at Customs House am
- Friday 13th December—Christmas dinner day in school and Christmas jumper day!
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December Year 2 Christmas Sing-a-long! 2.15pm at St George's Church
- Tuesday 17th December—Year 1 Christmas Play 2.15pm St George's Church
- Wednesday 18th December—Reception Christmas Play 2.15pm St George's Church
- Thursday 19th December—Children's Christmas Parties in school...plus a special visitor!

#### Friday 20th December—School finishes for Christmas Holidays! School Returns Monday 6th January 2025— HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### Míss Holt loves a quote!

If you have positive energy you will always attract positive outcomes.

#### Children in Need 2024

On Friday 15th November, to celebrate Children in Need 2024, the children came into school wearing their own clothes plus any

Pudsey accessories! It was also nursery rhyme day for our Reception children too! We raised £225 for the charity.

Thank you!

# World Kindness Day 2024

This is one of our favourite days in school and we made this year extra special! Graffiti Artist Chris came into school on this special day and worked with our Key Stage 1 children in the morning to create some designs, then in the afternoon all children in school were able to watch Chris at work creating the artwork! Amazing! Huge thanks to Chris we love it!



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Some of our children also helped us to make special deliveries in our community to celebrate this special day. We visited St George's Church, East Boldon Juniors and Helen Gibson Nursery to deliver a special kindness gift

made by kindness club! We also left a few items in the community and despite it being a very wet and windy day we know they made their way to some of our residents.

# A great bíg thank You!

A huge thank you to <u>O'Briens in East Boldon</u> who provided us with our beautiful Christmas tree in school which they gifted to us for no charge! Nothing better than sprinkling a bit of kindness! We think it looks lovely! The children helped to decorate it too with a grand switch on from Mr Orr!!



## Norah's North Pole

This year we are happy to be supporting Norah's North Pole. This is a family group who work together with professionals such as social workers and teachers to provide toys to families in need within our local area.

We are a drop off point at school for any new presents you wish to donate. All details can be found online regarding this, <u>however please note that all presents are gratefully</u> <u>received.</u>

I fully understand that this year is a particularly challenging one for everyone, with the cost of living increases. If you are able to donate a <u>new gift</u>, please send these into school on <u>Monday 9th December.</u>

Although we like to make this a part of our celebrations in school, this date helps the gifts to be delivered in enough time to be sorted. They can be left in the shelter at morning drop off and these will be collected and taken for distribution.



### The Greedíest Elf Panto Performance!

We were very lucky today to be treat with a performance of the Greediest Elf from Big Foot Arts Education. This certainly got us in the Christmas swing and all of the children loved it!



