

ST. DOMINIC'S Gazette



Issue 412 - Friday 17th December 2021

Our **SEAL**
word of the week
commencing
17th January
is
Brave.



Attendance & Punctuality Class of the Week

Congratulations to Class ** for the best class attendance in EYFS/KS1 this week with **%. In KS2, congratulations to Class ** whose attendance was **%.

Can we please remind parents to inform the school on the first day of any absence and to give an expected return date. GP and dental appointments should be made after school whenever possible.

If your child is not going to be in school please call the office on 020 8985 0995 (option 1) to report their absence. Please do this before 9:00am on each day of absence.



School Holidays

We would like to wish all the children, parents/carers and staff a very holy and peaceful Christmas and New Year. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2022.

Have a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Deirdre Finan



Nativity Celebrations

On Wednesday everyone enjoyed a day full of Nativity celebrations and attended or watched a Zoomed Advent service from the church. We think you will agree that the nursery children all look angelic! Well done everyone.



School Holidays

Tomorrow school will close for the Christmas break from 1:40pm. Please ensure that your child is collected on time:

1:40pm	Year 5 & 6
1:50pm	Year 3 & 4
2:00pm	Reception, Year 1 & 2



Spring Term

The new term will start on Thursday 6th January 2022 from 8:45am.

8:45am	Year 5 & 6
8:05am	Reception, 3 & 4
9:05am	Year 1 & 2



Staying Safe

In order to keep everyone safe and well to enjoy the Christmas holidays and beyond, we are asking that all parents and visitors to the school wear a face a mask and are mindful of social distancing. Children can get coronavirus (COVID-19), but they seem to get it less often than adults and it's usually less serious.

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

*a high temperature - 38C or above
*a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours

*a loss or change to sense of smell or taste - this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

What to do if your child has symptoms:

If your child has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, even if they're mild:

1. Get a PCR test (test that is sent to a lab) to check if they have COVID-19 as soon as possible.
2. Your child should stay at home and not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get the test

result - they can only leave home to have the test

If your child falls ill at school with any of the symptoms above, you will be called and expected to collect your child immediately and arrange to take a coronavirus (COVID-19) rapid lateral flow test.



Coronavirus (COVID-19) Rapid Lateral Flow test.

Each household can get two free lateral flow tests from your local chemist. You need to register at www.gov.uk/get-collect-code and follow the instructions below: Use this service to get a collect code so you can pick up rapid lateral flow test packs from a pharmacy.

How it works:

1. Get a collect code

Before you go to the pharmacy, use this service to get a collect code. This is a code that you need to show when you collect your test packs. You can also get a collect code by calling 119 They'll send your collect code by email or text. You can print your code.

2. Collect your tests

Take your collect code to the pharmacy. Someone will record your code and give you the tests. You need to get a new collect code for each collection.

3. Do the test

After you've done the test, you should report your test result. They'll tell you how to report your result when they send your collect code.



Christmas Travel

If you are travelling abroad over the Christmas period please be aware that upon your return to the UK you will be required to take a Covid-19 PCR test and isolate until you receive a negative result. Children aged 5 to 17 have to follow the same testing and quarantine rules on arrival in England. Travel rules for 'RED' list countries are different and information can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus-taxon/entering-england>

Please ensure that you factor any required isolation into your travel plans so that children are ready to

return to school on **Thursday 6th January 2022.**



Winter Mini Reading Challenge: (supported by Hackney Libraries)

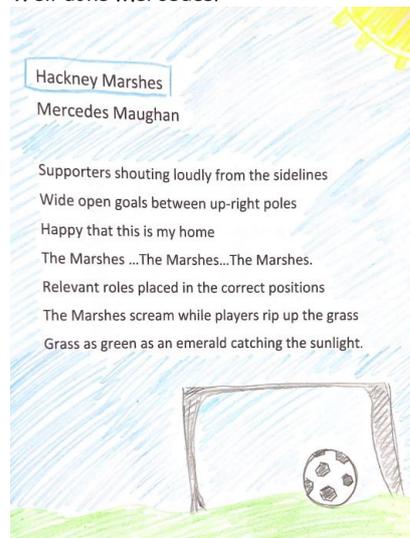
Taking part in the Winter Mini Challenge is simple. Read at least three books between 1st December and 16 January and add them to your online profile at wintermini.org.uk to earn fun digital rewards! They can be any books you like including ebooks and audio books. You'll find loads of other great stuff on the website too, including games, book reviews, reading activities and content from the best children's authors and illustrators around. For parents there is a Home Zone and Library Zone. The Wild World hero characters are there to help as is the summer reading challenge list of books linked to nature and the environment.



Hackney Future Stars Poetry Competition.

Congratulations to Mercedes 6A whose poem 'Hackney Marshes' has been awarded *Highly Commended* by the judging panel for the Hackney Future Stars Poetry Competition. Her poem will be displayed on Hackney Education's website and on the park's board.

Well done Mercedes!



Thank you!

Season of Goodwill

A huge thank you to Fr. Patrick for his generous gift to the school. New books will be bought for our library and equipment for the sensory area.



IMPORTANT: Providing the school with up-to-date details

Can parents please ensure that contact details are kept up to date. It is essential that we have current telephone numbers for at least three adults who we can contact in case of illness, emergency or absence.

If you have changed your contact details recently, please advise the school office immediately.



Birthdays at St. Dominic's

Happy Birthday to all the children who will be celebrating their birthdays over the coming weeks



4TH SUNDAY OF Advent

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mary was chosen to be the mother of Christ, and so became the mother of Christians everywhere. Filled with the Holy Spirit and understanding that nothing is impossible for God, she set off to visit her cousin Elizabeth to share her joy and wonder.

Prayer

Let us thank Mary for becoming the mother of Jesus and for sharing her son with the world.

Amen