

THE VICTORY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Executive Principal: Mr. J. Hartley

Head of School: Mrs K Jones

Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs V Gidney

08/12/2020

Dear Parents/Carers

RE: Festive period at school

I hope this letter find you well. The festive period at school has already started and we are finding ways to make the build up to Christmas as exciting as possible for the children. I am sure you will agree that this has been a year like no other for not only the children, but for parents, carers and of course our staff who have worked tirelessly whether it be during the school day or, and quite often, at home, to ensure the children are provided with the best opportunities to maintain their learning whilst also safeguarding them during these Covid affected times. We recognise that children have missed playing with their friends in other year groups and their normal school assemblies and PE lessons. I know that they have been disappointed about postponed school trips and days out. However, I think that it is important to be positive and feel satisfied that together we have made the best of things. I have been proud of feedback from United Learning on how well our school community has adapted to operating under coronavirus restrictions and continued have also been touched by the support that we have received from you parents.

We also know that it has not been easy for you parents and carers and appreciate that the safety procedures that we have put into place at school are becoming very tiresome. However, it is extremely important for the health of us all that we remain focused and continue to adhere to measures that have been put in place - we thank you for bearing with us and for your continued support. We also appreciate that many of you are suffering from anxieties, as a result of COVID-19 , be they financial, not having the usual levels of support of family or friends or simply because you have had not had the opportunities to take part in the activities that use up the energies of the children!

As school staff, we are grateful that our employment environment is as safe as can be, however these times have been hard for us as well. We have had to adapt our practices with most staff having to work harder and for longer hours. In addition, we have placed our focus on trying to support families and the community whilst at the same time often having concerns about our own health or worries that have and continue to affect our families. We are now tired and would like your support to give us the boost we need to get to the end of term.

In order that this end of term is positive for children, families, and staff, please can we ask the following of you:

- Continue following our Covid rules with regard to masks, arrival times, social distancing etc. We have done well so far, let's not drop our guard now.
- If you do not already receive free school meals and think you are entitled, please come into the school office, and fill out a free school meal form by Friday 11th of December 2020. This is important to enable you to receive your Christmas food voucher from the government.

- Avoid bringing domestic disputes on to the school site - it is not fair on staff or your children.
- If you think that you are going to be short of food over the Christmas holidays, contact us at admin1@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk by the end of the week and we will see what we can do to help.

-Please do not try to enter the school car park once the chain is across. It is there to stop traffic because we are trying to keep the children safe. By removing the chain and driving in, you are risking the safety of children.

On the 24th November 2020 we sent out communications about staff training on Friday 18th December and the children finishing early.

As the class have staggered starting times, the children will need to be collected at the following times after they have eaten their lunch:

Reception and 30-hour Nursery children, Year 2 and Year 4 at 13:00pm

Rainbow fish and Year 6 at 13:15pm

Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5 at 13:30pm

Over the next few days, we will be writing to you to inform you about our arrangements for the Christmas holidays. This will include what to do should one of the children test positive for Covid.

Yours sincerely



Mr J Hartley
Executive Headteacher



Mrs K Jones
Headteacher