



A letter from Miss Holgate

Friday 27th November 2020

WOW moments - my three highlights of the week...

- This week has been full of 'Wow moments' I particularly enjoyed watching the Nursery children practising for their Nativity in the forest. I'm very excited to see the finished product.
- A huge wow from me goes to Charlie - he was really responsible this week and came to see me (in the mobile) with some great ideas to solve an issue he was having.
- I am giving my last Wow of the week to our fabulous cleaners. They have been working really hard to ensure that our school stays clean and we are all safe.

This week

This week has been a funny one from my mobile confinement. It's been great seeing our children showing respect at break and lunchtime. I have seen children modelling the Growth Mindset which we all learnt about during our NED show last week. It's great to see!

I have to say that I'm feeling a little lonely in the mobile - and I need to thank all of you who have emailed me or waved to me - it honestly makes my day! I am counting down the days until I can leave the mobile and see all of our fabulous children in their classes.

I would like to start a new tradition on a Friday. I would like to shine a spotlight on different members of staff and the school community each week. Miss Webber-Walton will be my first 'Spot light' member of staff. 'Spotlight on...' will be attached with this letter each week.

As you are all aware, Mr Richardson will be leaving us at Christmas, to start an exciting new chapter in his life. Mr Richardson is renowned for writing poetry for people when they leave the school...If any of you would like to write a poem for Mr Richardson, please email it to me at head@harleston.stbenets.org and I will collect them and print them for him.

It's been great seeing so many of our children playing new games on the playground, but I do need to ask that we refrain from playing some computer game related 'tag' games as these are not appropriate for our age group. Thank you.





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I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the kind words and emails, whilst I've been in my mobile confinement. I am hoping to be free on Thursday 3rd December - but will keep you all updated! Please keep waving.

On Monday, Mr Richardson and I will be drawing the 'Friends' Advent draw' live to our children. Good Luck to everyone who has entered.

I also want to take a little time to thank all of our wonderful staff for their continued hard work at this time, we all appreciate the kind words we receive from parents and carers.

Focus of the week

This week we have been looking at behaviours for learning and have worked together as a Staff to create a 'Harleston Way'. Your child may have told you about this and the competition to create a whole school poster to remind us of these behaviours. We are looking for STAR! Sitting in all lessons.

- S** - sit up straight
- T** - track the speaker
- A** - ask and answer questions
- R** - respect for all
- !** - Interested and excited learners

Mr Richardson and I will be looking at the posters on Monday and will be choosing the winning ones. These will be photocopied and will be up around the school. I'm very excited to see all of our children's hard work.

Prayer for today

Today's prayer, which I would like to share with you, is for those who have been isolating or are shielded from those that they love. We pray that all of those in our community are safe and well.

**God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**





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Coming up

Parents' evenings will be the week beginning 7th December. The office will be sending you a letter with how to sign up to yours.

EYFS and Year 1 - will be using Tapestry.

Year 2 and KS2 - will be using video calls.

Christingle We will be having two Christingle services for the children this year - they will be outside and socially distanced. These will be on 11th December 2020. Unfortunately, this year we will be unable to invite parents/carers because of our Covid-19 restrictions. We will be sharing pictures and short videos on our Twitter account and on our website.

Last day of term The last day of term is Friday 18th December - there will be a letter coming out tonight in conjunction with ASHS. We will be finishing school between 1pm-1.30pm. Please see attached letter for more information.

Christmas Cards We have had to risk assess Christmas cards coming into school and think that it would be lovely to continue with this. We are asking that Christmas cards come into school between 7th - 11th December and will be given to children on the last week of term. This will allow them to be quarantined.

Nativities These will be recorded and added to Tapestry for you to watch. I'm very much looking forward to these - please remember that we do not need costumes this year, but if you would like your child to wear one, they will have to wear it all day at school.

Christmas Lunch Hooray! We have been able to arrange Christmas Lunch for the whole school. Key Stage 2 will be able to order a hot Christmas lunch - we will be using 'takeaway' style containers to allow all pupils (and staff) to enjoy our Christmas meal. Christmas Lunch will be on Wednesday 16th December. We will be sending a form via MyEd which must be completed and returned by 12.00pm Monday 7th December. Any orders received after this date cannot be processed

P.E. Each class will be reverting back to having a single PE session each week, which will allow them to fully engage with the curriculum. We would like children to wear their PE kit to school. An email was sent by Mrs Beaumont and Miss Stead yesterday.





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Advent

During December we will be unveiling our 'advent windows' across the school - we will be sharing a letter with you about this today. I'm very excited to see them all and I know Miss Quick has been working really hard on hers!

Covid-19

As we prepare to leave the second National 'lockdown', it is very important to remember that we still need to be vigilant. We must ensure that we remain as Covid secure as possible. I am thankful that there are vaccinations on the horizon, but until they are with us, it is imperative that we continue to follow the government guidelines. Face coverings must be worn when on the school premises and it is important that we continue to socially distance. I want to thank you for your continued support in school.

If a child is asked to isolate for any period of time because of Covid-19, we will ask them to complete their work via Google Classroom. If you need any support during this time please contact the school office via MyEd or email office@harleston.stbenets.org.

Wellbeing

As a nation, we are being told about wellbeing and taking time for ourselves. I think that this is really important for both us and our children. We need to ensure that we take a little time to look after ourselves. I wanted to share with you my 'Wellbeing tip of the week.' This week I am looking at Mindfulness colouring - this can be great for both adults and children. I have attached a small example.

I hope that you all have a fantastic weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on Monday morning.

Kindest Regards,

Hannah Holgate
Headteacher

