



# A letter from Miss Holgate

Monday 7th December 2020

## WOW moments - my three highlights of last week...

- Reception 'It's a Party!' - you're in for a treat. The songs were beautiful and the children remembered all of their lines. It was a real treat for the end of my week. Well done to all of the children and adults involved
- Parents - thank you for your continued support and kind messages to staff - we appreciate these
- I am giving my last Wow of the week to ... the office team. Thank you to all of them for organising all of our communications and for keeping the school moving!

## This week

Last week I was set free from the mobile! And what a week it was...I have seen some fabulous work from around the school including some mythical creature descriptions from year 6!

I was really impressed with the year 5 children who reenacted the lifecycle of a dragonfly and oh my goodness...my highlight has to be the invitation I received from the Reception classes to see their fantastic Christmas performance. It was such a fabulous invitation that I have displayed it in my office. Mr Cranmer was so impressed with my invitation...he came along as well! Now I'm super excited to see year 1's performance and to be able to share all of our performances with parents.

Just a reminder, 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](mailto:head@harleston.stbenets.org) and I will collect them and print them for him.

The Friends advent draw was a huge success! Thank you so much to them for all of their hard work and support.

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.





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## Focus of the week

This week we have continued to focus on 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...the top three from each class have been sent to me and are currently being voted on.

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

The top few posters will be professionally printed and displayed around the school for everyone to see. Don't worry if your poster wasn't chosen - they were all so good that we will be displaying them as well.

I have been really impressed with the classes and their STAR! all week.

## Prayer for today

Today's prayer, which I would like to share with you, is about the birth of Jesus and this Christmas time.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
your birth at Bethlehem  
draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth:  
accept our heartfelt praise  
as we worship you,  
our Saviour and our eternal God.  
Amen.

## Coming up

Parents' evenings start on 7th December and are on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

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.





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**Last day of term** The last day of term is **Friday 18th December**. We will be finishing school between **1pm-1.30pm**.

**Christmas Cards** Christmas cards may be brought into school between **7th - 11th December**. The cards 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** Christmas Lunch will be on **Wednesday 16th December**. All orders should have been received by 12pm today.

**Advent** Continue to look out for windows being displayed (and on twitter) by each class to celebrate Advent.

## Last Day of Term

As a special treat we have arranged for a PANTO to be shown on the last day of term....oh no we haven't....but seriously OH YES WE HAVE! We were really lucky to be able to secure a booking for the panto this year and all classes will be able to watch it in their classrooms on the last morning of term. We are hoping that this little bit of Christmas magic will allow our children to start the Christmas holidays feeling happy and very festive.

## Field Update

Thank you for your letters regarding our field - I have responded to everyone I have had a message from. We were expecting the matting to be with us on 30th November, but have been severely let down by our suppliers. The office team and I have been calling different companies to see whether we can source the matting needed and on Friday we found a company who we thought could help. They have contacted us this morning and have got grass matting available for delivery. I have spoken to our contractors, who are happy to fit this and will prioritise it this week. Therefore, we will have matting by Friday across the grass. The new suppliers have told us it will take two days for delivery and we have ordered it this morning - so I am saying Friday but praying for sooner. Thank you for your continued support in this matter - we appreciate your patience.





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## Covid-19

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](mailto: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. I have asked my Alexa to play mindfulness music, as I turn off the telly and just concentrate on my breathing.

Kindest Regards,

Hannah Holgate  
Headteacher

