

Vice Principal's Message

We've made it! We've reached the end of the Autumn term and I am pleased to say, without any COVID positive cases amongst our primary children or closure of class or year group bubbles. What have we missed? We have missed coming together for our assemblies, singing together and connecting with friends and siblings in other year groups. What have we gained? The ability to adapt and discover that the new way of doing things, can sometimes be better than what we have done before!

As part of our work on closing any learning gaps that may have developed during the national lockdown, we are pleased to have appointed Mrs Honeywood, who is an experienced HLTA specifically for supporting and implementing our government funded, catch-up strategy. Mrs Honeywood will focus on working with small groups to ensure that everyone is back on track in their English and maths learning. We have also invested in a new on-line, mathematics programme - 'MyMaths' for Years 1-6, to support maths skills development at school and at home.

Since I last wrote, the whole country has finally had some good news in the form of vaccine approval and rollout and as we approach 2021, we hope this will bring light at the end of the tunnel. However, COVID protocols will remain in place for the foreseeable future and if we can all play our part in avoiding big gatherings that could result in cases of the virus spreading during the holiday, we will be able to welcome everyone back to school on Tuesday 5th January.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff here at Caroline Chisholm School, I would like to wish you and your family a happy holiday and better times to come in 2021!



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CCS Friends

CCS Friends are delighted to announce a brand new fundraising initiative where you could win 1 of 3 cash prizes EVERY month while raising money for the school.

The first prize draw will take place in February 2021 and you can register now to subscribe for the chance to win a percentage of the total membership fee received for the month. To be in our FIRST prize draw in February 2021, we would need to receive your payment and application form no later than 25 January 2021.

For more details and to take part, visit the [CCS Friends page](#) on our website and download the application form.

**Next CCS Friends Meeting:
Monday 11th January via Zoom**

Changing Circumstances

In these very difficult times, we are aware that financial circumstances have changed for lots of families. If this applies to your family, there is help available that you may qualify for. We would encourage you to visit the GOV.UK website to check if your changing circumstances mean that you are now entitled to one or more government benefits.

If you are in receipt of one of the following benefits, you may also be entitled to apply for pupil premium funding for your child:

- **Income Support**
- **Income Based Job Seekers Allowance**
- **Child Tax Credit Only (with income up to £16,190) with no element of Working Tax Credit**
- **National Asylum Seekers Support**
- **Guarantee Element of the State Pension Credit**
- **Employment and Support Allowance (income related)**
- **Universal Credit (income dependent)**

Pupil premium funding is additional school funding for disadvantaged children. It is paid directly to school to improve the quality of education for that pupil. This funding could be used to pay for free school meals, items of school uniform, school trips, additional learning support and other things.

To apply for this funding for your child, please visit the [pupil premium information page](#) on the Northamptonshire County Council website.



Merry Christmas!

We have had a wonderful time celebrating Christmas over the last two weeks with lots of different fun activities. We started with Christmas Jumper Day, raising money for CCS Friends and Save the Children. We also collected donations of non-perishable, festive food to create food parcels and care packages for those most in need in our local community.

On Tuesday, our FS / KS1 children had a very special visit from Santa who came to see us for a fun-filled breakfast event. Lots of fun was had by all.

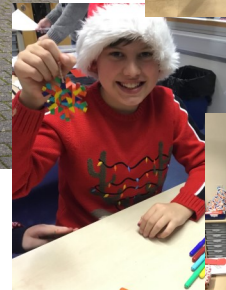
The celebrations continued with an 'All Things Christmas' afternoon for our primary phase children. Wednesday afternoon was filled with lots of festive activities including our annual Mince Pies and Milkshakes event for our Foundation Stage children. The rest of the primary phase took part in a Christmas quiz and crafts to the sound of lots of Christmas tunes playing throughout the building.

In KS1, the children had fun getting creative and making their own unique snowflakes. We are missing singing but enjoying all the actions and signing during our festive Big Sing!

KS2 had a lovely time completing lots of festive activities including decorating their own wooden snowflake and completing a Christmas quiz.

Lots of us got creative making our own special Christmas cards for special people at home.

Even Mrs Patterson was getting in the festive mood in her cosy, elf onesie!



FS Superhero Day

A quick reminder that Foundation Stage students have Superhero Day on Tuesday 5th January which is our first day back.

The day will consist of fun-filled learning including learning a 'super' song. Children will complete exciting challenges and use their mathematical powers to solve lots of problems.

We encourage FS children to come to school dressed up as their favourite superhero / hero for the day.

Stop Press! - School Reopening Plans

Yesterday, the government announced a staggered return to school in January for some school years. We can confirm that this does not apply to primary students meaning that we will reopen to primary students on Tuesday 5th January as planned. A separate communication has been sent out to parents of secondary students to confirm their reopening arrangements.



Dates for your Diary



Teacher Training Day 4
School Reopens
FS Superhero Day
CCS Friends Meeting via Zoom
Parent Voice Virtual Meeting

Monday 4th January
Tuesday 5th January
Tuesday 5th January
Monday 11th January
Thursday 28th January

Extra-Curricular Clubs - Coming Soon

We are aiming to offer some club opportunities for year group bubbles in Term 3. Information to follow at the start of the new term.



Foundation Stage - Nativity 2020

Our Reception children have worked incredibly hard to learn and perform our very own Caroline Chisholm School Nativity, which we have filmed for the whole family to enjoy. Despite the current restrictions, we have found a different way to present the Christmas story, filming in small groups both indoors and out. We are very proud that we could still make this happen and we hope that the families of our Reception children will enjoy the gift of our special Nativity DVD over the festive period. The link to the video will also be available to Foundation Stage parents by the end of term.

*The CCS values for next term are **Wisdom & Honesty**.*

Wootton Angel Trail 2020

We are delighted that the community of Wootton* has worked together to offer you the Wootton Angel Trail 2020. Covering a distance of approximately 3.5km around the paths of Wootton, Wootton Fields and Simpson Manor, this treasure hunt / quiz walk is for everyone to enjoy as you discover the nativity story.

You are able to download a map of the route and a quiz sheet from <https://www.stgeorgeschurch.org.uk/angeltrail>.

All of the scenes are visible from the public footpaths, apart from at Merrifield House, where you will find the display in the main entrance at the end of the drive.

Look out for angels to guide you along the route!

Remember:



- Please take care when walking – there are uneven paths, robots and other delights to navigate!
- Always be careful when crossing the roads.
- Please be considerate of others, maintaining social distance and adhering to government guidelines.
- Please do not touch the displays.
- If you are walking in the evening please take a torch.
- Anyone under 18 remains the responsibility of parents / guardians

We hope this walk brings you joy and will be a fun (and healthy!) addition to your Christmas festivities.