



# Newsletter 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

## Caring about our learning

### Dear Parents

What a first term we have had at Gagle Brook! After welcoming the children back, they have thrived in their new classroom environments. This is thanks to their incredible teachers and all our staff in making them feel welcome and sparking their love of learning as well as the fantastic support from you at home.

In just the past few weeks, the children have had music workshops, supported Age UK, continued their run to Abuja, shared with Ocean View in Durban and put together festive tunes for parents and families not to mention Christmas lunch and a sighting of Santa.

I would like to personally thank everyone for helping us ensure the children are safe in school by keeping your distance, wearing masks and respecting our rules around class bubbles. Everyone has shown complete resilience in these different times and whilst we hope to return to normal as soon as possible, we will continue to maintain a high-quality education and nurturing environment throughout Gagle Brook.

However you spend the festive break, we wish you a restful and special time with those closest to you and we will see you at 8.30am on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021!

Mr Price

### Diary Dates

#### Jan:

4<sup>th</sup> Inset day

5<sup>th</sup> Start of term One Planet Principle: Materials & Products  
Topic What is the Greatest Invention?

#### Feb:

5<sup>th</sup> Book Fair open outside school (weather dependent)

11<sup>th</sup> One Planet parent celebration (online)

11<sup>th</sup> Safer internet day

12<sup>th</sup> End of Term

22<sup>nd</sup> Start of Term

This term we introduced “Handwriting Heros” in school. Year 1 & 2 Children who have been making notable effort and progress with their handwriting shared their expertise by “teaching” Reception children online. A great collaborative celebration to support our efforts with handwriting across the school.

All parents should have received a letter this week regarding Home learning plans we have put in place. Whilst this is a contingency at this stage, please do check your child’s Microsoft Teams account works and let us know if you envisage any difficulties accessing home learning.

### Lunches and drinks

We are pleased the children are enjoying our freshly cooked lunches in school and the new menu is available for January with even more choice – please take a look.

Can we remind all parents that children should only have water in bottles (no juice, squash) in line with school policy.

### One Planet Principle and Value Culture & Community and Responsibility

Thank you to all families who have continued tracking your mileage; we have made it to mainland Africa having travelled 2,680 miles with the children having run 150miles in their Tuesday lunchtime running club alone!

Our community discussion has continued this term and the children have shared Christmas carols with the residents of Launton Grange as well as producing Christmas cards for Age UK to include in their Christmas hampers.

Thanks to the PTA (FROGS) for the many activities this term Winners: name the bear (Blake Robinson) cupcake raffle (Grace Kelly), calendars, keyrings which has raised another £120 – taking the total this term to £350!

## Covid-19 reporting protocol Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> / Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December

As we approach the end of term, it is important we continue to follow all guidance for social distancing and keeping everyone safe.

As has always been the case, any child with Covid-19 symptoms (loss of taste/smell, high temperature, new continuous cough) must get a test and isolate at home (<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>).

However, if your child gets any symptoms on either Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December (within 48 hours of school ending on Friday 18<sup>th</sup>), you will still need to contact the school so we can inform other contacts and Public Health England. Please call 07770857500 to speak to Mr Price on either of these 2 days should your child have symptoms.

If your child has any symptoms after Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December there is no need to call school but please do follow NHS England advice for testing.

We certainly hope that this planning is a contingency and is not needed for any parents but please do contact us if you have any questions before the end of term.

