



# Lydbrook Primary School

School Road, Lydbrook, Gloucestershire, GL17 9PX

Head Teacher: Mr Simon T Lusted, M.Sc.



**ROBINS NURSERY**

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020

Dear Parents,

As we now enter a new phase of the pandemic and the reduction of the “lockdown”, it is important for all of us to stay vigilant to remain safe and well. We all want to be able to enjoy Christmas and although it may prove to be a bit different, it is a very special time for families. In the lead up to the end of term, we are all looking forward to some of the traditional Christmas school events (but sadly not all).

## **Successful applications!!**

I am absolutely delighted to inform you that we have been accepted onto two national projects. Our main priority on the School Development Plan is to improve all aspects of language and the way our pupils speak and discuss. It is recognised that language increases confidence, well-being, academic outcomes and future employment opportunities. Our Early Year's department will be trained on the NELI programme (Nuffield Early Language Intervention) to target vocabulary, narrative skills, active listening and phonological awareness while the whole school has also been accepted on to a Voice 21 programme and we look forward to the training starting in January.

## **Climate Change and Our Environment**

We have also been asked to join in with an exciting tree planting project to celebrate the Queen's 70<sup>th</sup> year of her reign in 2022. The project is being run by the Coleford Partnership and all the children will be planting an acorn every year for the next 10 years. In 2015, the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy was launched to encourage all 54 member countries to provide trees to replace much of what has been lost by logging in the World's rainforests and which are so important for our planet. Apart from the benefits of CO2 storage, the trees will provide a home for many creatures.

## **Assembly presentations**

The classes are preparing to present their end of theme assemblies where they will present their learning from the topic they have been following this term. This started with Magpies on Friday where they presented their information on The Vikings. Considering there was no audience they rose to the occasion and performed well. The presentations are being filmed and they will be accessed through the website so that the other classes and the families at home can enjoy watching.

## **Christmas activities**

Although there will be no School Carol Service or Community Carol Service this year, there will be the traditional parties (in class bubbles), Christmas Dinner and the Christmas Post Box. I know each class have started decorating their classrooms in time for the festive season too!

For **Christmas cards**, there will be a post box in each classroom. The children can send cards to anyone in the school but there will be a quarantine period. To help, please cards need to be posted on a Monday or a Tuesday only. They will then be given out on the Friday. Please include full name and class details on the envelope.

The **post boxes** will be available on Monday 7<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>, Monday 14<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Christmas dinner** will be served on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December and the parties will arranged during the last week.

**Christmas Jumper Day** will be celebrated on the last day of term – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. This will involve a donation of £1.00 to the Save the Children charity. Do not worry if you do not have a Christmas Jumper, you can decorate a favourite jumper and make it Christmassy!

### **Parent Governor**

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs. Becky Westlake has been elected unopposed to the role of Parent Governor. She will be joining her first meeting on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

### **The LSA**

The Lydbrook School Association has been an amazing support to the school for many, many years. They have raised so much money over the time and the projects supported by the LSA have been used to enhance the learning to the children. Projects in my time at Lydbrook include:

- contributions to provide the levelled playing field
- the development of the wildlife area, Forest School and clothing for Early Years
- the Well-being garden
- The screen, projector, speakers and music centre in the hall
- Smaller on-going donations to support regular trips, Christmas events, the Head teacher certificates and book tokens and reading resources.

Without all the hard work and commitment over the years by everyone on the committee, Lydbrook School would not be in the strong position it finds itself and I thank all those who have voluntarily given up their time. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, the LSA is having a “break” due to the current pandemic and we look forward to it restarting as soon as the situation improves. In the time being you may want to consider whether you may be able to contribute in the future as we will be needing new members and a new committee.

### **Children In Need**

We all enjoyed the Children In Need day (especially the Duck Race!!) and altogether we raised £110.18. Thank you for your kind donations.

### **Diary Dates**

Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	End of Term 2
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	School closed – INSET for Language training
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Start of Term 3