



FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2020

# School Newsletter

[www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk](http://www.greattotham.essex.sch.uk)



## IMPORTANT REMINDER PLEASE

Unfortunately we are still receiving reports of parents feeling unsafe and somewhat distressed on the pathways to/from school due to other parents not following our previous requests to be mindful and courteous to others.

Upon collecting your child from the playground, please ensure that you leave the area as quickly as possible, walking in a single file. Please keep to one side to allow others to pass at a social distance. We really appreciate the difficulties of the limited space but we can all do our part to make this process as safe as possible for all.

Dear Parents,

The festivity preparations are in full swing ready for the start of December and a wide variety of decorations will adorn the classrooms, courtyard and KS2 library over the coming week. It is lovely to hear the children outside on the playgrounds rehearsing their class songs for the Christmas performance to be filmed on Wednesday.

A timetable for the arrangements of Christmas Week (14th—18th December) will follow shortly. We are all looking forward to celebrating the Christmas season together.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

**Sarah Vass - Headteacher**

**Week starting 30th November 2020:**

**Autumn menu: Week 1**



## Carol Singers!

On Wednesday 2nd December we would like the children to look like traditional carol singers for the filming of our Christmas performances. The children need to bring in a combination of the following for that day (no item is compulsory):

- \* **Bobble Hat or similar**
- \* **Gloves**
- \* **Scarf**
- \* **Outdoor coat or Christmassy jumper**



## Reception Admissions 2020

As you may be aware, the primary school (Reception) admission round opened on **Monday 9th November 2020**. This is for parents/carers of children due to start school in September 2021.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15th January 2021**. Please be aware there are no postal notifications or reminders sent to parents. Applications can now be made online via <https://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions>.

## New Intake 2021 School Tours

We are sad not to be able to offer face to face tours of the school this year however, we have produced a video to give new parents a flavour of who we are.

Further information can be found on our dedicated 'New Intake 2021' page on the school website.

## Important Dates:

**1st December** - Christmas post boxes open!

**14th—18th December** - Christmas Week

**15th December** - KS1 Christmas Dinner

**16th December** - KS2 Christmas Dinner

**17th December** - Christmas post boxes close

**18th December** - Last day of Autumn term

**21st December to 3rd January** - School holidays

## Christmas Post Boxes

After careful consideration and risk assessing how this can be safely organised, we are delighted to be able to still distribute Christmas cards.

Each class will have their own post-box and cards will be 'quarantined' before distribution.

However, we must insist that envelopes are **tucked in NOT licked!**

As always, please ensure the cards are addressed with the recipient's full name and class.

Post boxes will be in operation from 1st to 17th December.



## Poppy Appeal - Thank you

We have received a letter of thanks from the Royal British Legion to confirm that our school raised a fantastic **£343.60** from the sale of Poppies in the classrooms.

The contribution is greatly appreciated to help members of our forces, past and present.