



OASIS ACADEMY HENDERSON AVENUE

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Newsletter Friday 11th December 2020

HELLO AND GOODBYE

Thank you for your patience during our recent surge in coronavirus cases. Although at times we had a lot of staff and children off, the staff in the academy pulled together and made sure that the children's education was not affected. I should like to thank them for their amazing work in very challenging circumstances. I am pleased to say that we appear to be over the worst and are looking forward to welcoming the children back next week when their isolation periods end. We have a lovely week lined up for them: on Tuesday we will be showing a specially filmed pantomime, and there will be dance workshops and other panto-related activities throughout the week. **Children may wear Christmas jumpers all week.**

It will be my last week as principal and I know it is going to be a very special one with lots of wonderful memories. I'd like to thank you all for your support and friendship over the many years that I have worked at this school, and to wish you and your families all the best for the future. Have a happy and healthy Christmas everyone!

EARLY FINISH

As you know, the Academy is closing early for Christmas on **Thursday 17th December**. To make sure that this is as safe as possible for all our children and parents/carers, we will be staggering the finish times to reduce congestion:

- Year 6 children who walk home alone may leave from 1.45pm.
- F2, Y1, Y3 and Y6 classes will leave at 1.50pm.
- F1, Y2, Y4, Y5 will leave at 2.00pm.

Please make sure all children are collected promptly from their usual departure points.

PANTOMIME WEEK

The last week of this term (week commencing 14th December) is Panto Week and there are lots of lovely activities for the children to engage in during the week.

Our Christmas treat for our children is a visit to the pantomime! Because of the current situation we cannot go to the theatre to see this, so instead we have arranged for the theatre to come to us, in a specially filmed version of 'Cinderella', which the children will be viewing on **Tuesday 15th December**.



Through the week we will be holding other pantomime-related activities:

- A health and wellbeing dance workshop with 'Buttons'
- Story time with Cinders
- Writing letters and reviews which will be sent to the characters, who will film a personalised reply in return.

To make the week extra special, children may wear Christmas jumpers for the whole week (with their normal uniform).

COVID REPORTING OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Public Health England has agreed a 6 day window after the final day of teaching (17th December 2020) in which schools and further education providers are asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts in the education setting to be traced.

As per government guidance, during the Christmas holidays we are asking if any pupils or parents have a confirmed case of COVID 19 it is reported to the academy up to 23rd December 2020. You can report any confirmed cases on **07783 325591 between 1pm and 3pm** daily up to 23rd December 2020. If you display Covid-19 symptoms more than 48 hours after school closes (i.e. from Sunday 20th December onwards) you do not need to contact the academy. Any cases after this date should be reported to the academy on 4th January 2020.



OASIS CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL

There are 10 days to go on the appeal and up to now £200.00 of £500.00 has been raised. If you feel you would like to help us with this, you can either donate money through our crowd funding page:

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/community-christmas-hamper-scunthorpe>

or donate a selection box.

Please send any selection boxes into school before the end of term. Your generosity will make a big difference to many lives this Christmas and is greatly appreciated!

JEAN FREEDMAN FOUNDATION GRANT

Carol Dawson the Music Lead for Henderson Avenue is very pleased to announce that we have been awarded a grant of £1900 from the Jean Freedman Foundation.

The Jean Freedman society aims to Preserve and Promote Music in Schools. When Jean Freedman, a long-time member of the North Camden Chorus died recently her children thought of a way to honour her love of music. After a long teaching career as a music teacher in primary schools, Jean had given lessons from her home in singing and piano to children and adults. How lucky she was that as her age increased and her voice no longer carried her through auditions, that she was able to become a member of the North Camden Chorus. In her earlier life she was a member of the London Symphony Chorus and regularly sung at the Albert Hall and Festival Hall taking part in many of the proms. As she got older her voice wasn't as strong but she still maintained her complete love of all things musical (classical that is!) Mary and Allan, Jean's children, decided to start a foundation that combined her deep love of music and children by supporting music in education.

This money will help preserve instrumental lessons for all children at Henderson Avenue Academy. Thank you.

DIARY DATES

DECEMBER

W/C 14th Pantomime Week

17th Academy closes for Christmas Break (please note the earlier finish time and the collection arrangements earlier in the newsletter).

JANUARY

6th Academy re-opens

