



Churchfields Infants' School Newsletter

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Autumn Term Issue 11

11 December 2020



Happy Retirement!

This Christmas we will be saying goodbye to a much-loved member of our nursery staff. Miss Brown has worked in our nursery for 44 years, and even taught the parents of several of our current nursery children. We wish Miss Brown a very happy retirement and all the best for the future.



Jolly Jumper Day

The array of jumpers was dazzling! Thank you very much for your generous donations. We raised this amazing amount for YoungMinds.

£348

Free School Meals

Did you know the government gives additional funding to schools for those children entitled to free school meals?

Schools use this money to obtain additional staff and resources that help improve the quality of education, as well as free school meals.

There is a new, quick and easy way to check if your child can receive Free School Meals: [Free School Meal Eligibility Checker \(lgfl.org.uk\)](https://www.lgfl.org.uk)

Please check if you are eligible – even if your child wants a packed lunch instead. This also applies to children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 who receive **Universal infant free school meals (UIFSM)**.

You will only need a **mobile number** and **NI (National Insurance) number** to check and it can be completed **in less than 2 minutes**.

If you are eligible, we should be notified and can take the next steps for you.

School Admissions - Applications for Sept 2021

If your child will be starting Reception or transferring from infant to junior school next September, you must apply online for a place at <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/primary-school-admissions/>

Applications must be submitted by 15 January 2021.

If your child has:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

This could be a sign of coronavirus

Book a test

If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or feeling unwell
But they don't have:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste

These are not normally symptoms of coronavirus

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial 111 or see your GP

Philosophy Friday

Please talk about the question below with your child at home. They will then discuss/vote on it in class at the beginning of next week.

Remember, it doesn't matter if you have different opinions to your family members.

Please give the reason why you have made your choice.

Hope you have lots of fun!

It would be exciting to meet a real dinosaur. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Why?



Diary Dates

Yr 2 Concert Zooms

Panda & Koala

Mon 14 @ 10:30am

Jaguar & Giraffe

Tues 15 @ 10:30am

Christmas parties and a visit from Father Christmas

Thurs 17 Dec

Christmas Break

Monday 21 Dec
to
Friday 1 Jan

For other important dates, please visit the Calendar page on our school website.

Absences

The Education Welfare Service has asked us to advise you that if your child is absent before or after a school holiday we must see medical proof for the absence. We cannot authorise any absences before or after Christmas without this evidence and you risk being issued with a penalty notice.

We are open all week until 3:30pm on Friday 18 December. You may have seen in the news that some schools are swapping INSET days, but this is not happening at Churchfields Infants' School. We set these days well in advance to facilitate staff training, and we do not wish to create problems for parents with childcare arrangements at such a busy time of year.

If you call to report that your child has a temperature and needs a Covid test, any siblings must isolate and their schools also have to be informed.

Covid-19 and the Christmas Holiday

Please be aware, as required by the government, we have been asked to continue to track and trace any possible Covid cases during the first few days of the Christmas holiday.

If your child develops symptoms and tests positive for Covid **from the evening of Friday 18 December up to 4pm on Sunday 20 December**, please email the school admin account at admin.churchfields-inf@redbridge.gov.uk as soon as possible and put **POSITIVE COVID TEST** in the title bar so we can identify your email quickly. **(If symptoms appear after 4pm on Sunday, the track and trace will be done by the NHS.)**

It is important to arrange a test for your child as soon as symptoms appear. Please DO NOT order a home test, but book an appointment at a local test centre as you will receive the results quickly – at present, tests are back within 24-48 hours.

We will need the following information:

- **the date of the first symptom**
- **the date of the positive test**

This way we can trace and inform any known close contacts quickly and ensure the safety of us all once we break up. If your child has been in contact with a positive test case before the end of term, the school will inform you during the Christmas break and your child must self-isolate up to the date provided.



Christmas Dinner

The children and staff enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch, listening to festive music while they ate.

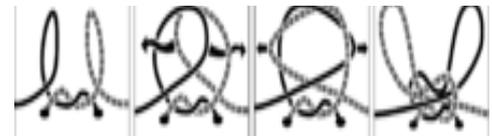
Everyone looked very jolly in their jumpers too!



Year One Christmas Sing & Sign Assemblies

We have missed preparing our usual Christmas performances that we hold for parents and other family members due to Covid, but the children were very excited about our special Zoom assemblies this year.

Thank you to everyone for your lovely comments and praise.



Shoelaces

Please do not send your child into school wearing shoes with laces if they cannot tie them. Velcro straps are the safest at this age.

End of Term Parties

Parties will be held in class bubbles. This year we are not asking for food donations (to be Covid-safe), but would ask instead for a small donation of £1 so we can provide the food.

There will be the usual visit from Father Christmas (Covid-safe this year) and all children are able to wear party clothes to make this even more special.