



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Dear Parent and Carers**

**As we approach the Christmas holidays, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to you all for your support this term. It has been, in some ways, an incredibly difficult one and a period of our lives that I expect we will ever forget. However, I know I can speak for all the staff at the Rookeries when I say we have also felt incredibly privileged to work here, with you and your children during this time. Despite all the difficulties, the children have shown resilience, courage, positivity and amazing commitment to their learning. This term has seen many challenges, but it has also been a very happy time at the Rookeries and that is entirely due to the commitment of our staff team and your amazing children.**

**Thank you to all of you for your support and for continuing to show the faith and trust that you have in the school. We are so grateful to you. I know the children have had a wonderful end to the term. We have enjoyed Christmas lunch, two Christmas jumper days, Christmas signing performances, Christmas quizzes, designing calendars, making Christmas decorations, a gift for every child and much more besides! All of this has been carefully planned to make sure it happens in a safe way and in line with our risk assessments.**

**I hope you and your families enjoy a lovely festive period and stay safe throughout the holidays. I look forward to welcoming you back in the new year.**

**Kind regards**

**Richard Grogan  
Headteacher**

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION IF ANY CHILDREN RECEIVE A POSITIVE COVID TEST UP TO 23<sup>rd</sup> DECEMBER**

Public Health England has agreed a 6-day window after the final day of teaching (17<sup>th</sup> December) in which schools 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. Beyond 6 days after the final day of teaching, school staff will not need to be contacted or play a role in any contact tracing. It is also likely that the need to support the tracing process will reduce dramatically over the course of the 6 days as the majority of cases should be identified earlier in the week.

#### **Steps to take up to 23 December**

If a child tests positive email the school on [admin@rookeries.patrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@rookeries.patrust.org.uk) **and** text the following number 07432 720935.

We need to know the pupil's name, year group, teacher and immediate friendship/sibling group within the school.

Follow normal PHE advice in terms of isolation.

## Attendance

Class	Attendance
Nursery	98%
Reception	99.9%
Year 1	97.6%
Year 1/2	98.6 %
Year 2	99.1%
Year 3	97.6%
Year 3/4	98.2%
Year 4	96.8%
Year 5	96.7%
Year 6	98.1%

### Days off school add up to lost learning

#### 175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR

175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments

0	6	15	19
DAYS ABSENCE (190 school days)	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE	DAYS ABSENCE OR MORE
<b>100%</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>Below 90%</b>
EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE <i>Best chance of SUCCESS</i>	SATISFACTORY ATTENDANCE <i>Harder to make good progress</i>	REQUIRES MAJOR IMPROVEMENT <i>Less chance of success</i>	PERISTENT ABSENTEE <i>Serious concern Possible Court Action!</i>

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – School returns after Christmas break

12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – School finishes for Half Term

## Star of the Week Certificates



Class	Star of the Week
Reception	Amelia-Rose Nicholson
Year 1	Alfie Crookes
Year 1/2	Georgia Wilson
Year 2	Leo Randall
Year 3	Whole class for their hard work and commitment all term
Year 3/4	Tyler Brooke
Year 4	Everyone for their dedication and effort to their work this week
Year 5	Lucas Threapleton
Year 6	Harvey Everitt
HI & Deaf Resource	All children for always trying their hardest.



## Fantastic Fundraising



We are very pleased to let you know that the school raised £220.00 on our Christmas Jumper day. These funds will be split between our 2 charities The Prince of Wales Hospice and MNDA.

A further £56.00 was raised for the MNDA through the Art Competition. A great start to this years fundraising. Thank you for all your donations.

### Care Home Cheer

Mrs Smith has today visited the staff and residents at the Carleton Court Care Home who were delighted to receive the festive bauble messages and some goodies from the staff and pupils at the Rookeries and they hope we may be able to return in future years to our usual carol singing!



### Inclement Weather

In the event of school closure due to snow we will send notification to parents via Class DoJo and ParentMail in the first instance. You can also get updates from Pulse Radio.



Wakefield Mumblor is a hyper-local listings website for parents in Wakefield District; to make parents' lives easier and allow them to access the huge number of events and activities happening in the Wakefield area for children. As well as the website there is a supportive and caring facebook group where parents share recommendations and general parenting questions & queries.

If you're looking for an event, day out or Christmassy things to do with your kids at home check out the Christmas pages on the Wakefield Mumblor website!

<https://wakefield.mumblor.co.uk/school-holidays/christmas-holidays/>

Thinking of buying a real tree this Christmas, but don't like the hassle of getting rid of it after? Leave it to The Prince Of Wales Hospice!



**CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION**  
in aid of  
**THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPICE**  
Charity No: 514999  
and other local charities

**LEAVE THE EFFORT OF GETTING RID OF YOUR TREE TO US!**

Our aim is to collect 600 trees which could run the Hospice for a whole day!  
Our volunteers are collecting trees from postcodes: **WF6, WF7, WF8, WF9, WF10, WF11 & LS25 5** on 13th, 14th & 15th January.

Logos of partner organizations: BARKERS, geos, brakes, sc landscaping, CHEP, CMC SERVICES, and others.

To arrange a collection, in exchange for a donation please visit:  
**[www.pwh.org.uk/christmas](http://www.pwh.org.uk/christmas)**

After costs, 90% of the monies raised will go to the Hospice and the remaining 10% donated to other local charities.



### Supporting you to support them

This year has been extra stressful, especially if you're a parent. With so much uncertainty, it's entirely normal for your child to be finding things difficult, and for you to be unsure how best to look after their mental health and wellbeing, as well as your own. It's not easy, but you're doing the best you can and you deserve credit.

But whatever you and your child are dealing with, you are not alone. We're here for you and we have lots of advice and practical tips that can really help.

Use our new Supporting Parents Help finder to find the support that is right for you and your child,

whatever they've been going through during the pandemic. Use the link below:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/supporting-parents-helpfinder/>



## Useful Contacts

### Useful well-being and mental health information:

Pontefract Food bank

<https://pontefract.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/>

Children's First Hub Family Support

Phone : 01977 724350

Email : [cfhnortheast@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:cfhnortheast@wakefield.gov.uk)

NSPCC Concerned about a child

Phone: 0800 800 5000

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/reporting-abuse/report/>

Domestic Abuse: Wadass

Phone: 0800 915 1561

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/health-care-and-advice/adults-and-older-people-services/domestic-abuse>

### **For children and young people:**

WF- I-CAN

<https://wf-i-can.co.uk/>

Young Minds

<https://youngminds.org.uk/>

CAMHS Single point of access

01977 735865

<https://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/services/camhs-wakefield>

Childline:

Phone: 0800 1111

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>

### **For Adults:**

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/health-care-and-advice/public-health/mental-health-wellbeing/mental-health-support>

Mind

<https://www.mind.org.uk/>

**Turning Point Talking Therapies**

01924 234860

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/health-care-and-advice/public-health/mental-health-wellbeing/mental-health-support>

### **School Uniform Stockists**

Our School Uniform stockists are both still operating and orders can be made for school wear, book bags and PE kits.

Signature Retail, Ropergate, Pontefract

Signature Retail are operating a click and collect system as well as accepting orders online through their website [www.signatureretail.co.uk](http://www.signatureretail.co.uk)

If you would like to make a purchase via phone, please telephone 01977 600324. Payments can be made over the phone and items can be collected at certain times.

Better and Bright Schoolwear

Better and Bright Schoolwear are currently taking orders through their website:

[www.betterandbrightschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.betterandbrightschoolwear.co.uk)

Alternatively, you may purchase items by calling 07486 140776 or 07837 078981

**Thank you for your continued cooperation and support**