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"Lasting learning experiences for life"

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Thursday 17th December 2020

Dear Parents,

This Autumn Term has been a really positive start to the school year. The children have been amazing and have worked really hard to catch up on their learning from last school year whilst also accessing their current school curriculum; they certainly deserve a well-earned Christmas break! I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at school for their excellent work during these very challenging times. The great teamwork they have shown makes Mereworth a special place to work.

The government have requested that school leaders remain on duty to engage with the track and trace programme from the **end of term for 6 days, this will be until 23rd December**. We request that all parents remain vigilant with regard to COVID-19 symptoms and if your child develops symptoms they must be tested and the school informed via: office@mereworth.kent.sch.uk **If a child or member of staff tests positive within the first 6 days, then the school is required to inform all relevant contacts.**

Our children have produced Christmas stories and songs for you to enjoy, which you can access here: KS1 <https://vimeo.com/492026368> and KS2 <https://vimeo.com/491596494> . We have also updated the class photographs so please check your child's class page on the school website to see what they have been up to.

A massive thank you to FOMS and to everyone for supporting the different fundraising activities that have taken place since September. So far, FOMS have raised:

£976.00	FOMS Family Christmas Game
£222.00	Bag2school
£76.00	Easy fundraising
£176.00	Break the rules day
£96.00	Christmas puddings
£1086.00	Class raffles
£400.00	100 club
£TBC	Staff raffle for a bottle of gin

The money from today's FOMS Christmas non-uniform day is still to be counted, and there have been a number of additional class events that have raised money for their individual class budgets. We have also received a number of generous donations from individual Year 2 and Year 5 parents. All your support is very much appreciated and the money raised will go directly to the children. Thank you.

Blended Learning: We have reviewed our home learning offer for when children are not able to attend school due to COVID-19 in line with the government guidance. In order to ensure that they are able to fully engage with their learning, we want to provide them with the best opportunities to access the curriculum whether they are in school or at home. Our new blended learning offer has been trialed with one class in school this term and we have had extremely good feedback from the parents. We will share the details of the blended learning with you on Monday 4th January.

I would like to wish you and your family a lovely Christmas, and I look forward to seeing all the children return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Yours sincerely,
Miss Lavelle, Head Teacher