



## Christmas Essential Information 2020



### 2021 Diary dates

4th Jan return to school  
21st Jan Bags2School  
12th Feb INSET day  
15th to 19th Feb Half Term  
22nd Feb return to school  
26th Feb School photos  
2nd to 16th Apr Easter Hols  
19th Apr return to school  
3rd May Bank Holiday  
28th May INSET day  
31st May to 4th Jun Half Term  
7th Jun return to school  
20th Jul last day of term  
21st Jul INSET day



# Merry Christmas!

### Message from Mrs Eales

Well, what a year 2020 has been! It has been a year of complete change for us all and one we will certainly remember. Since coming back in September the children have been marvellous. They have coped with being back in a class based environment and have renewed their friendships with interest and enthusiasm. The children have tackled work with vigour and determination and have set their mind to achieving all they can. For those children who have found the return to school more daunting, they have embraced the support offered and are coping with the help that is in place.

I would like to thank the staff for their tireless efforts this term. They work so hard to educate, support and nurture the children and are always looking for ways to move the children forward, both academically and pastorally.

My thanks must also go to the governors for the work they do at the school. Their dedication to the school is unwavering and they have the needs of the children at the forefront of every meeting we hold. The Covid restrictions have had a huge impact on school life and we have not been able to welcome back our PTA in the same way or parent readers and helpers who offer their valuable time. We so appreciate the effort that has gone into trying to find new ways for parents to help the school in order that we can benefit from your generosity.

My thanks must also go to you, the parents, for your kind words on the gate, your feedback when we ask for it, your co-operation with the Covid requests such as social distancing and wearing masks and for the help you give your children.

By working together as a whole community, everyone benefits. When I joined the school in September I was prepared for the challenges that a new school brings and for the endless list of things to do, people to meet and meetings to attend. What I was not prepared for was the genuine welcome you have all given me, the acceptance of a new Headteacher and the continued words of thanks you offer for a range of reasons.

So as 2020 comes to an end, we must look forward to a new year. We don't know what 2021 holds for us, and I am sure there will be ups and downs, but I do know we will tackle it together with the children as our number one priority.

Have a lovely Christmas, stay as safe as you can, enjoy time together as a family and we will see you in 2021.

Best wishes, Mrs Eales.



### Important Covid -19 FAQs for the holiday period.

#### Do I have to let school know if my child tests positive in the holidays?

Yes, If your child displays symptoms and has a test up until the 24th December **and the test result is positive** please contact us immediately by using the [admin@overstone-wing.org](mailto:admin@overstone-wing.org) email as we will have to inform anyone who had close contact with your child within 48 hours of the positive test and isolate your child's bubble. We will be monitoring the email but we will not be in school to take telephone calls. Our priority is to keep everyone safe and informed about what we all need to do to prevent the spread of Covid amongst our community.

#### How will I be informed of a positive case in my child's bubble during the holidays?

You will receive an email from us if your child needs to isolate over the holiday. This will only happen if someone tests positive within 48 hours of being in school.

#### Do I need to let school know if we are isolating due to NHS Test and Trace during the holidays?

Yes please let us know if this isolation will run over the return date of 4th January.

#### Do I need to send my child to school in January if I have a close family member who is vulnerable or who we wish to shield?

Yes, the guidance from government says that all children should be in school. If you do not send your child in this will go on record as an unauthorised absence unless they themselves are isolating, ill or have been advised by a doctor that they are vulnerable and should stay at home.



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### SAVE OUR SWIMMING POOL

We would like to take this opportunity to give you details of our "Save our Swimming Pool" campaign. You may be aware that the school pool is currently out of use as it needs some repairs. We have been given a rough estimate of around £15,000 to get it back to a useable state which would mean every child would swim again, here at Overstone. Unfortunately

the school does not have the money in its budget for this.

A small committee has been formed to drive this campaign forward with the aim of ensuring the pool is open for next summer and looking at a longer term plan for structural improvements. We will be looking for external funding for this project and this is where you may be able to help! Do you have any contacts in your network of friends/colleagues/business acquaintances who have swimming pool expertise or know of funding streams we can tap into to? If you do we would love to hear from you. Please email [sbm@overstone-wing.org](mailto:sbm@overstone-wing.org) or telephone the school, 01296 688799, and speak to Mrs Toosey. We are all passionate about keeping the swimming pool open!



Elm class have been very excited about a mischievous visitor that has created a bit of 'fun tidying-up' in the mornings this week!



Look at some of our amazing festive hairstyles!



**Home working during isolation.**



If your child is unable to access appropriate technology and use online learning during any future isolation please let us know as we may be able to help.

We'd just like to say a huge **THANK YOU**

to everyone who generously sent in seasonal good wishes, cards and gifts this year.



**On Wednesday the children enjoyed the visit from Magic Dave, kindly paid for by the PTA.**

