

# Newsletter

27th November 2020  
Issue 4



Dear Parents/Carers,

We all recognise that Christmas is going to be very different this year. However, we are keen to find creative ways to run as many of our usual events this year as possible.

As with all plans and proposals at the moment, these are all subject to the local situation and guidance from Croydon LEA, Oasis Community Learning, Public Health and the DfE—we shall keep you updated via our school website, text messages and additional letters home.

Like most schools, we have been keen to organise a virtual nativity for our younger children that could be filmed and then sent to families. Unfortunately, after looking at our permissions from parents for filming, we simply have too many pupils who are not allowed to be filmed rendering this event impossible. Instead we are planning to run a live Christmas service across the whole school but sadly this cannot be shared externally for GDPR reasons. Whilst we appreciate this will be disappointing for many, we hope you understand that we are doing all we can to find alternative options during this pandemic.

On the following page, you will find a list of Christmas activities and events that we are planning to run through the month of December. We hope that your children enjoy the planned festivities and thank you as always for your understanding and support.

Best wishes,

Clare Wingrave (Principal)    James Norris (Deputy Principal)

# **Christmas at Oasis Academy Byron**



**Friends of Byron (FOB) Virtual Secret Santa Room - see separate letter from FOB coming out early next week!**

All shopping requests will need to be returned by Monday 8th December to allow time for distribution.

**Mufti Day for Christmas Raffle Donations - Friday 4th December**

Please send in a donation of £1.00+ to help buy prizes for our raffle.

**Christmas Lunch and Jumper Day - Friday 11th December**

Children can wear their Christmas jumpers to school on the day of their Christmas Lunch. This is not a fundraising event so there will not be a collection or any donation required. This year, our Christmas Lunch is only available for our pupils due to Covid-19 restrictions.

**Whole School Virtual Pantomime - TBA**

This year the children will be treated to an online production of Sleeping Beauty.

**Carrot Productions Virtual Production of The Snowman by Raymond Briggs - TBA**

**Christmas Service (pupils only) via Microsoft Teams - Tuesday 15th December**

This event will take place in classes via our classroom Clevertouch TV Screens.

**FOB Virtual Christmas Raffle Draw - 17th December 2020 (more info to follow)**

**Christmas Class Parties - Thursday 17th December 2020**

(Pupils can wear their own clothes on this day)

**Virtual Santa - (North Pole to update us soon!)**

**Class Christmas Quiz organised by Friends of Byron - last week of term**

**Last day of term - Friday 18th December 2020 Early finish!**

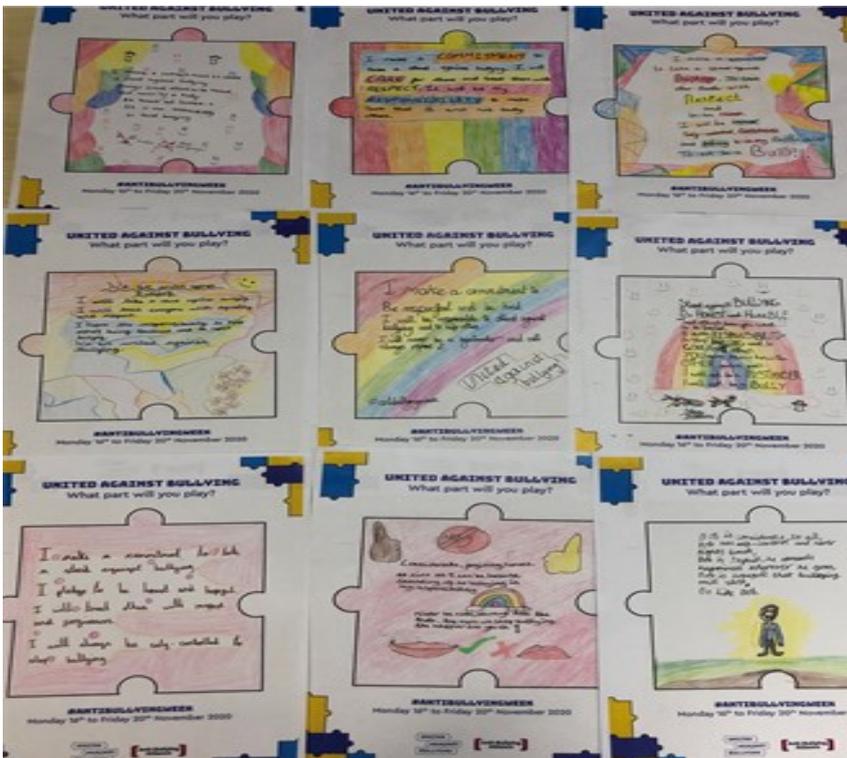
*There are various other events that class teachers will be organising to ensure that the children have a magical time.*



Last week at Oasis Academy Byron, we took part in anti-bullying week which is organised nationally each year by the Anti-Bullying Alliance. Although we talk as a school weekly about kindness and respect through lessons and assemblies, this special week provided another opportunity to further engage in important themes and to raise awareness to all of our community.

The week started with a virtual whole school assembly with Andy from CBBC who launched Odd Socks Day! All pupils at Byron were invited to wear odd socks to demonstrate the fact that we are all different and unique.

As well as taking part in class workshops, all of our pupils created a pledge to stand up to bullying and designed their own sock to promote individuality.



## WE ARE A NUT AWARE SCHOOL!

Children who suffer from nut allergies can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.



If someone has a nut allergy, it is not just eating nuts that can cause a severe reaction, just being touched on the skin or smelling the breath of someone who has had nuts or a product containing nuts can trigger anaphylactic shock (which can cause breathing and swallowing difficulties).

We can not have nuts in school in any form.

So please can we ask that you have no nut products in lunch boxes or brought into the school as treats.



A massive thank you to all of you for your kind donations to our Children in Need appeal. We can now announce that we raised...

**£273.90**

Well done Byron!



### PLEASE DO REACH OUT!

We know that during these difficult times, many families throughout the country will be struggling and needing financial support. Please do reach out to us at school if you need any help in terms of food or advice. We would hate for a family in our Byron community to be experiencing hardship and not be able to offer help. We work with many organisations who are ready to help. For non judgemental support, please do call us at school or email [Byron@oasisbyron.org](mailto:Byron@oasisbyron.org)

### SCHOOL HOUSE POINTS

Ahlberg House 1892

Donaldson House 2046

Morpurgo House 1824

Wilson House 2023



*Well done Donaldson House!*



## Is your child using WhatsApp?

It has been brought to our attention that a number of our pupils have access to WhatsApp and are using this to communicate with friends outside of school. Whilst we do not wish to interfere with pupils being sociable outside of school, there have been reports of children chatting to others online and using inappropriate language which is obviously a huge concern. It has also been reported that some children are even texting others at 11:30pm at night. If your child has access to this app, please do talk to them about their digital footprint and language used online. Even when deleted, messages can still be recovered and name calling or being rude is never appropriate. Did you know that the age limit for this app is 16+? If you do allow your child to talk online using this app, please can we suggest that you add yourself to their group chat so that you can monitor their conversations.

# Friday 18th December

Usually we finish school at 1.30pm altogether on the last day of term. However, due to Covid –19, we need to ensure that we keep our school community safe by having a staggered end time on this day. Therefore, pupils will be finishing at the following times:

**Reception collection is 1.15pm**

**Year 1 and 2 collection is 1.15pm**

**Year 3 and 4 collection is 1.30pm**

**Year 5 and 6 collection is 1.20pm**

If you have children in different year groups, simply keep your distance as you usually do after school. We are operating the same system as usual but just at earlier times. Please be on time to avoid bubble mixing.



## Whole School Learning

