



**'Be Ready, Be Respectful Be Safe - 'To believe, achieve, succeed together.'**

*Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023*

### **END OF TERM LETTER – December 2023**

What a brilliant end of term three days we have had – as I write, children are in the hall watching the pantomime kindly purchased by the **PTFA – Jack and the Beanstalk!** Seems to be a lot of laughing – so it must be good! Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is!

**Sunday's Village Carol Concert** was a super way to start off the week with a small group of children attending and singing, as well as reading one of the lessons. Thank you to those children and families as well as staff who supported this.

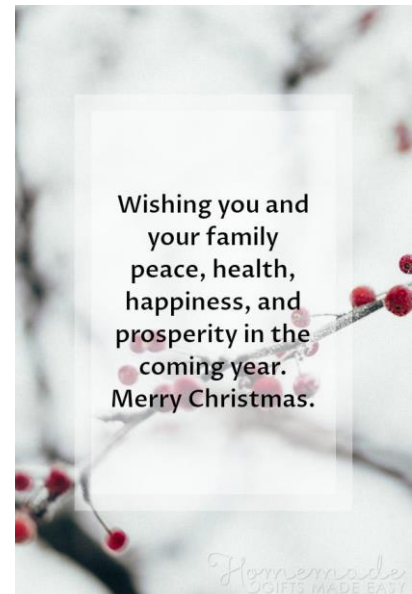
On Monday we had our **Homework Gallery day** where there were some super pieces of work completed. There was some great creative work including bird boxes, boats in a bottle, musical instruments and family trees.

The **Santa run** on Monday afternoon was a really fantastic event which has raised an astonishing amount of money – so far to date £820 for Helen and Douglas House. Thank you to the children for participating (they all received a Santa hat and a medal) as well as the tremendous donations received.

The **KS2 Christingle** service was a beautiful evening bringing a true Christmassy feel – the children who attended did a truly superb job at singing, acting, and sharing about the work of the Children's Society and the meaning of the Christingle. Thank you for the wonderful support for this event – the amount raised was £140 which has been shared between the four charities.

On Tuesday we started the day with a festive sing song – each class had chosen a song which they performed for us to enjoy – the staff also got involved and pulled a routine out the bag and tried some singing too! Much fun. Following that there was the **Kingswood Christmas lunch** which was enjoyed by so many children – there were some lovely manners and great enjoyment as they ate it in two sittings. After which we ventured to Bicester for **ice skating and hot chocolate with cookies**. We all had a superb afternoon and the children very much enjoyed this opportunity – we had novices who attempted to get to grips with the ice and we also had some children with some previous experience gliding and moving across the ice confidently – whatever their ability they all had such an enjoyable time, even when maybe on the floor! The hot chocolate and cookies went down really well too.

Today we had the **end of term church service** led by Reverend Terry who reminded us about the true meaning of Christmas – Year 6 shared poems and prayers whilst the choir and school sung Christmas carols and songs. It ended our term brilliantly.



At this point I would like to **express my thanks** to all the staff for their tremendous work in all areas of school life. Each member of staff provides an important cog in the school's working and they all do give so much to the children day in day out (and beyond). They put up with my crazy ideas and have run with initiatives to help support the school be an even better learning environment for your children to succeed. I would also like to **thank you** all for your valuable support too and the help you give in a variety of ways to make Croughton such a special place to be.

This marks the official end of my first year and boy, what a year but one I am so proud of in what everyone has achieved.

As we welcome in 2024 the fun doesn't stop as we prepare for some new experiences and adventures! I attach **some dates for term 3 and 4** so far – there will be lots more to come I am sure but this gives a start.

Staff will be in school on the Inset days of Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January before we look forward to **welcoming the children back on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January**. We are starting the term with a whole school project that has an Art focus!

The diary for week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> January is below too.

Finally, as a school community, we are to give our very best wishes to Jake HI, Molly A and Elena H as they embark on a new chapter and leave us here at Croughton. I am sure you join me in wishing them the very best of luck as they begin 2024 in new schools.

*May the Christmas season bring happiness and joy to you and your families and may 2024 be full of adventure and growth!*

*Take the very best of care this holiday season, stay safe.*

*Kind regards*

*Sarah Smith – Headteacher*

---

### **Diary week Beginning 8<sup>th</sup> January**

Whole school Art project

Phase 2 of building works in place – letter sent this week with update on details and impact on school

Monday	Start of Term 3
Tuesday	
Wednesday	Swimming 1 for selected Year 4/5/6 Mini Medics session for all pupils
Thursday	Geo Bus Experience - Ash & Sycamore
Friday	2.45pm VIP assembly in classes

**APPLYING FOR A PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE** – SEPT 2024. The application window is now open for those starting school in September and you must apply by **15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024**.

**Safeguarding** - Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

**Designated Safeguarding Lead** Mrs Smith **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead** Mrs Green  
**Governor Responsible for Safeguarding** – Mrs C. Barrett

**Attendance Figure** for the whole school this academic year: 95.46%