



Dixon's Diary

December 2020



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Thank you for your ongoing support

This term has been a challenging one for us all, hasn't it? We have suffered disruption to almost every aspect of our lives due to the Coronavirus and yet, you, our George Dixon Community, have been an incredible source of support, understanding and good cheer to us as a school and to each other. Your children have made us proud with how well they have coped with the changes in school and adapted to online learning when they have had to, and you as parents have taken everything on board with patience and understanding. I know you will have seen how hard school staff have worked to make school the best place it could possibly be for us all. I have never been prouder of our school community!

A particular thank you to Mrs M. Bibi, who 'just wanted to do something nice for the school' and helped sweep all the autumn leaves from the playground.

Learning for Peace Big Question

How does how I
feel affect how I
behave?



peacemakers

Staffing Update

Mr Bridges is leaving us to take up a post at a new school next week. We wish him all the best on his next adventure. He will be greatly missed!

We will welcome Mr Devaney as the new teacher for the Jellyfish class. Both teachers will work together next week and Mr Devaney will be the substantive teacher from January.

We also look forward to welcoming Mrs Hamer back from her maternity leave. She will be joining the Year 3 team.

Christmas Cards

Your child will bring home a list of their classes first names and if they wish to send each other Christmas Cards, these must be back in school by Tuesday 15th December before being sent home on Thursday 17th.



Don't forget
to sign up to
Class Dojo!

SATS Update

The government has recently announced changes to Year 2 and Year 6 Statutory Assessments.

Year 6 children will sit tests in Reading and Maths in May, although the SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) test has been made non-statutory. The results of these tests will not be published, but will be passed onto secondary schools when the children move on. Teachers will still provide an assessment for children's writing in Y6 and these will be sent to the government and secondary schools as in previous years.

The timetable is also now flexible to take into account possible COVID closures and also Eid-al-Fitr, but we'll confirm the exact timetable nearer the time. We will also keep you informed of any other changes as there may still be further announcements.

Year 2 tests will be replaced with Teacher Assessments for reading, writing and maths. This will be similar to what has happened in the past, but without an actual test for the children to take.

Reading Book Return

If you have any school books at home, please return them to school as soon as possible. We will be sorting out all of our Accelerated Reader and Big Cat Reading books as well as other classroom reading books ready for a new start in January. You risk a fine if your child does not return a Big Cat Reading book!

Dates for your Diary

These dates and events are subject to change due to the ongoing situation with Covid-19, thank you for your understanding.

CHRISTMAS 2020 AT GEORGE DIXON PRIMARY SCHOOL

First of all a huge thank you for your ongoing support since September. Our attendance has been better than local and national averages and engagement with remote learning through Google Classrooms has been superb!

This year Christmas will be a little bit different, but we will make it as wonderful as we can. To thank the children and staff for all their efforts and to celebrate the end of the Autumn term we have planned a week of enjoyable activities:

**FRIDAY
11TH**

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

- ★ Children can wear Christmas Jumpers or other festive clothing as it is national Christmas jumper day, please send in a voluntary contribution of £1, all proceeds donated to Save the Children

**MONDAY
14TH**

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

- 🌲 In class, children will explore paper craft to decorate the classroom and make cards for loved ones

**TUESDAY
15TH**

CAROL COMPETITION

- 🎵 Classes have rehearsed and prepared a Christmas song, competing over our online classroom platform

**WEDNESDAY
16TH**

CHRISTMAS DAY AT SCHOOL (ANY CHILD CAN BOOK ON SQUID)

- 🍽️ Christmas Lunch will be served to children in their classes (Any child can book on Squid)
- 🎉 Children can come in their own party clothes; there will be parties in class in the afternoon

**THURSDAY
17TH**

BOXING DAY

- ★ Children can come to school dressed in their pyjamas and will enjoy a Christmas Movie together in the afternoon
- ★ We do advise putting on a layer under the pyjamas for added warmth!

**FRIDAY
18TH**

INSET DAY - Teachers will be having training, so the school will be closed to children

**MONDAY
4TH**

INSET DAY - Teachers will be having training, so the school will be closed to children

**TUESDAY
5TH**

CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL!

On behalf of all of the staff here in school, thank you for your continuing support.

To avoid overcrowding at the school gate, please bring your children to school and collect them at your set time. There are too many families who come at 8.50 and 3pm. It is far less busy from 9.00 – 9.10 and 3.10 - 3.20. This keeps us all safe! All children must be collected by 3.20. Thank you.