



## 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

7 SLEEPS TO GO.....

Well – I think it is safe to say we are all looking forward to seeing the back of 2020! What a year this has been...... A year ago, we could never have guessed life would change so dramatically and that we would all become accustomed to 'the new normal'. We MUST give recognition where it is due at this point, our children have coped with this year AMAZINGLY well and have shone like the stars they are throughout. Our staff have never worked so hard and so diligently to ensure learning continued throughout the year and that our children were happy, safe and enjoying learning when we returned to school. A huge well done to all of the parents/carers who became unexpected home tutors to the children for a while – you all did a brilliant job!

I think I speak for all staff when I say we have had a year of immense challenges as well as rewards – seeing the children happy and progressing; knowing Covid has not impacted their learning and progress to the degree first feared, is rewarding for all within school. However – we (including the children) all need a well-earned break...... time to relax, recharge and enjoy some quality time with our families.

This week in school: We have all noticed such a difference in school this year 😕 the distinct lack of carols being sung has left us all with heavy hearts .... HOWEVER we have had a lovely week in school and are all feeling more Christmassy. We had a virtual whole school magic show on Monday which the children enjoyed! On Wednesday each class received a special personalized video message from Santa Claus along with a gift (left by Rudolf and the elves at a safe distance!) special thanks to the PAF Association for helping Santa with this! Today we have had class Christmas parties, with dancing, crackers and party food! Thank you to everyone who has helped make Christmas at Holywell

extra special this year.

We would like to wish you ALL a very Merry Christmas and a Happy (hopefully better!) New Year. Stay safe – look after each other!

> Merry **\*** Chrisomas

We say a very fond farewell to two of our longest serving staff today. Mrs Athey has been a lunchtime supervisor in school for 34 years and leaves us today to enjoy a well-earned retirement.

Mrs Symington has been a lunchtime supervisor for 30 years with us and is leaving us to spend more time with her husband, although not retiring just yet! Both ladies are part of the fixtures and fittings here at school and are going to be hugely missed by the children and staff alike.

We wish them both the very best of luck for the future! Take care ladies and keep in touch! **Important information:** School resumes for the children on 5<sup>th</sup> January!

## **School Performances**

Well done to everyone – this year's performances although they were very different to the normal, were no less special. The children and teachers did a wonderful job so well done to all! You certainly couldn't help but feel Christmassy after watching them! They are available on Google classroom to view but please remember not to share on social media etc.



FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

We raised a brilliant £182.38 for Save the Children! Well done to everyone and thank you for your kindness and generousity!

## MESSAGE FROM FATHER PHIL HUGHES:

Hello everyone, it has been a long time since I visited you in School, I miss seeing you all. I send this message to you and wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Our World has suffered a lot over this past year and many people and businesses have been affected by the Coronavirus. However, with Vaccines we should hopefully recover in 2021.

Keep safe everyone, and remember at Christmas we celebrate the gift of the Christ Child-Jesus.

Jesus came into our world to bring Hope, Joy, Peace and Love. Have lots of fun, and keep safe!

I look forward to seeing you all again next year when I can visit school. I pray for you and ask God to bless each and every one of you and all your families too. Father Phil

