



NEWSLETTER

DATE 16th December 2020

UP COMING DATES

Monday 4th January - Return to school

1st February - 7th February - Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 9th February - Safer Internet Day

Friday 12th February - Break up for February half term

Monday 22nd February - Return to school

Friday 23rd July – is now NOT an INSET day. Children to attend school as normal

Monday 26th July - is still an INSET day

Focus Texts

Across our primary academies, each half term, Y1-Y6 will have a focus text to read alongside a range of other fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts. We would like to encourage you to ask your child about the text during Spring 1 and help to promote a love for reading.

Y1 - The Tiger Who Came to Tea
Y2 - The Day the Crayons Quit
Y3 - The Iron Man
Y4 - How to Train Your Dragon
Y5 - The Storm Keeper's Island
Y6 - Letters From the Lighthouse

Nursery and EYFS: look out for your top 5 books on your separate newsletters!



Spreading Christmas Cheer!

Wakefield Council have created a Christmas Holly-Days at Home pack. It's full of festive activities for families for everyone to enjoy! Follow the link to get started:

<https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/Documents/access-to-information/covid-resources-page/holly-days-at-home.pdf>



From Christmas dinner day to bubble parties, a virtual pantomime to creating gifts for the elderly, showcasing class performances across the academy to Christmas storytelling...Lofthouse Gate has been full of Christmas magic this December!

We delivered our Christmas cheer boxes to Ashby Lodge Residential Home. Please click on the below link and download the video to see what our wonderful children made for the residents and staff ☺

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DISJz0O9bHKz-KcqsFA-xRuA0Y7Dsfei/view?usp=sharing>

Here is a little message from the staff here at OPA Lofthouse Gate. Merry Christmas from the Lofthouse Family to your families. Stay safe, spread the Christmas cheer and we look forward to welcoming you back in 2021! Please follow the link to then download the video ☺

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16ZH2D4BcEerSz5eslOs3yoElsxe-331M/view?usp=sharing>

We would like to share the exciting news that Miss Park will begin her maternity leave on the 21st January. We wish her all the very best for when the baby arrives.

We would like to welcome Miss Roberts, who will be covering Miss Park's maternity leave in 2P. She is a great addition to our team and you will see her in the academy from the new year.



Mental Health and Wellbeing

As we're coming to the end of 2020, and it has been a uniquely challenging and difficult year for everybody.

The Christmas holidays this year may be welcome for some, but anxiety-inducing for others. Mentally Health Schools have gathered together resources from lots of different organisations to help children, staff and parents reflect on 2020, and feel positive about 2021. To access the 'Looking Back and Planning Ahead' toolkit, please follow the link:

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/resources/looking-back-and-planning-ahead-toolkit/>

Please follow the purple tabs below on our new website if you require external services or support:

<https://www.lofthousegate.outwood.com/ment>

Mental Wellbeing Strategy

Outwood Mental Wellbeing Website

Questions and Queries

A separate letter has been emailed out regarding contacting the school during the Christmas period. Thank you for your continued support.