



THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Rock Road  
Storrington  
West Sussex  
RH20 3AA  
Headteacher: Mrs S. Norton  
Tel: 01903 740176

email: [office@thakehamps.co.uk](mailto:office@thakehamps.co.uk)  
web: <http://www.thakehamps.co.uk>

## *'Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements'*

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Christmas Arrangements**

All of a sudden, we see December creeping up on us and our attention has begun to turn towards Christmas and all the incredible ways we normally celebrate this season. This year due to Covid 19, as I am sure you'll understand, we need to do things in a slightly different way, but still retaining the key values and of course fun!

#### **Christmas Cards**

We won't be having our school Christmas post box due to the crossing of bubbles when sending cards. We would therefore request, that children do not bring to school any Christmas cards to hand out. We will be building in opportunities within school for the children to create Christmas cards and sharing these with their own class bubble friends.

#### **Decorations Afternoon**

With the support of FOTs kindly providing the resources to make our decorations, we are planning our traditional Christmas decoration afternoon on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December. In line with our risk assessment, we are very sorry but will not be able to welcome parents in at this time. We look forward to sharing the children's creative talents with you in the newsletter!

#### **Christmas Nativities and Services**

Acorn and Oak class have begun rehearsing separate Nativities this year, for Covid reasons. Year 1 and 2 are also preparing their performance in separate sections, to enable the children to sing, in line with our risk assessment. Once again, we are very sad you won't be able to join us this year, but we will be recording the performances and making these available to you before we break up for the holiday.

KS2 children would normally celebrate Christmas at St Mary's Church, Thakeham with a beautiful carol service. This year Maple and Elder will be presenting their own festive celebration, which we will record and make available to you electronically before the Christmas break. Rev'd Sara-Jane will be visiting key stage assemblies in December to support us with celebrating this very special time of year.

#### **Christmas Lunch & Party**

This year Chartwells traditional Christmas lunch will be served on December 16<sup>th</sup> in their usual key stage sittings. Acorn and Oak children will have this provided free as usual. If your child is in Maple and Elder, their lunch will need to be ordered through Chartwells by 6<sup>th</sup> December.

The festive spirit will continue in the afternoon with a party/video (please no food required!) On this day children will be able to come to school in a Christmas jumper/festive outfit. Please ensure children are safely and warmly dressed for school.





THAKEHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL  
Rock Road  
Storrington  
West Sussex  
RH20 3AA  
Headteacher: Mrs S. Norton  
Tel: 01903 740176

email: [office@thakehamps.co.uk](mailto:office@thakehamps.co.uk)  
web: <http://www.thakehamps.co.uk>

## *'Small School, Big Opportunities, Great Achievements'*

### **Christmas Competition – Trinity Methodist Church, Storrington**

The Church has 12 knitted nativity figures that will be in shop or business windows around Storrington. The idea is to take a photo of each figure and share on the church's Facebook page: TrinityStorrington. The activity starts on Thursday 3rd December. The church will donate three book tokens for the first three children to find all 12 figures. It is intended as a community activity so there will be others taking part but they would not be in the competition. Our newsletter next week will contain further details.

### **Christmas Gifts (and Birthday Sweets)**

We appreciate the many kind gifts parents and children often buy for staff at this time, but would like to propose a new idea for you to consider instead, to show your support and appreciation at this time of year. As English Leads, Mrs Hoare and Mrs Hopkins have been looking at all the fabulous books that have been published over the last few years and we would like to update both our school library and our class bookshelves. We are therefore creating our very own Thakeham Amazon Wishlist. If you were considering giving a Christmas gift this year, perhaps you might buy our school a book!

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1FFV8VCYLRT0Y?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1FFV8VCYLRT0Y?ref=wl_share)

Please arrange for a delivery to your home (as we know Amazon will often deliver outside of school time) and drop the book off at school via the office. We will then quarantine this ready for the children to enjoy later!

Moving forward, we would also like to introduce the idea of donating a book when it is your child's birthday. Your child could choose the book from our wish list and they would then present the book to the school within our Celebration Assemblies each week. A special sticker in the book would celebrate their birthday and thank you for their donation. As we are aiming to be a healthy school, this would prevent the need of bringing sweets and cakes.

We hope the spirit and true meaning of Christmas will still be strong at Thakeham this year, albeit in a slightly different way!

Yours sincerely

Mrs S. Norton & Mrs E. Hopkins  
Headteacher      Assistant Headteacher

