

Wyche C.E. Primary School

office@wyche.worcs.sch.uk

18th December 2020

Happy Friday everyone!

We made it. With your support, staff dedication and your children's unquenchable enthusiasm we have completed a safe and extremely rewarding term here at The Wyche. Vehicles have come to fruition and knowledge and skills are being consolidated and we've had a week of safe but seasonal learning and activities to get jingle bells ringing.

We miss having you in for assemblies, but you can see some of the fruits of the children's learning on our new website (still at the old address). There is Yellow's topical (and tropical) Rainforest Video, Red and Yellow's beautifully wintery Nativity, Blue's stellar stargazing animations, and Orange's eye-catching Virtual Art gallery. These are hosted on class pages here: <https://www.wyche.worcs.sch.uk/class-pages>.

The new website went live yesterday and big, big thanks to Tim Cook for a lot of time and effort skilfully constructing the site and providing crucial insights and proofreading. Thanks to all of you who completed the initial survey and gave us a direction.

You will notice there are no pictures of children. We considered that image of children sitting in rows would not paint a true picture of our aspirations here, so in the spring, and hopefully as restrictions lift, we will ask children to tell us what images we need and design a shooting schedule for the photographer so they can be fully involved.

We will continue to update documents and add content, following your requests in the website survey, throughout January and beyond, as the site develops over time (including a new 'Meet the Staff' video, when the time is right. Watch this space...)

Please could we remind all parents that if *any* of you have coronavirus symptoms you must book an immediate test. If your child regrettably tests positive, and the symptoms began before midnight on Sunday 20th, you will need to let us know about that positive result via the covid@wyche.worcs.sch.uk email up until Christmas Eve. A flowchart and last week's Covid letter are available on the website at <https://www.wyche.worcs.sch.uk/covid-19>.

Monday 21st Dec – Fri 1st Jan Christmas Holidays

<u>Mon 4th Jan</u>	INSET day
<u>Tues 5th Jan</u>	Start of term. PE lessons for Blue and Yellow Classes Woodwind lessons resume
<u>Wed 6th Jan</u>	PE lessons for Red and Orange Classes
<u>Thurs 7th Jan</u>	PE lessons for Green and Red Classes Piano, string and drum lessons resume today.
<u>Fri 8th Jan</u>	PE lessons for Yellow and Green Classes.

Black Pepper

Online ordering for next Black Pepper lunches for next half term opens on 19th December. Please remember to allow 4 days between the date of your order and the first required meal.

Milk

To cut down on waste in school could we ask parents in Red and Yellow Class who currently have school milk to have a chat with their child about whether they are drinking their school milk each day and adjust your order with Coolmilk accordingly. Orders can be cancelled via cancel@coolmilk.com

Activities

While they can't invite you in for storytimes and Christmas activities this year, Worcestershire Libraries are offering a host of online activities and events to keep people connected and entertained through the festive season. Whether it's keeping the children occupied on a cold, winter's day, staying connected with others or sending an alternative Christmas gift, Worcestershire Libraries can help.

Christmas Stories and songs - A special Christmas Bounce and Rhyme is now available to view online. Sing-along with library staff to classic Christmas Carols and traditional nursery rhymes; suitable for pre-school children to enjoy with their parents and carers.

From Tuesday 15th December, online Christmas stories read by library staff will be released daily, culminating on Christmas Eve with the classic tale 'Twas the night before Christmas'. In addition, an online Christmas Library Lego Challenge video will be available to watch from Wednesday 16th December to inspire children to build and create over the Christmas holidays.

All Storytimes, Bounce and Rhyme sessions and Library Lego Challenges are available to watch on demand via the Worcestershire Libraries YouTube channel.

Keep up good reading habits over the Christmas holidays with the **Winter Mini Challenge!** In a year of celebrating heroes, children are being encouraged to become Worcestershire's reading heroes by completing the Winter Mini Challenge. It's easy to take part - children can sign up at wintermini.org.uk and simply need to read at least three books before the challenge finishes on 15th January 2021. Children gain digital rewards and incentives for reading and reviewing the books they choose.

Remember, library membership is completely free and digital library content can be accessed instantly online. All 21 Worcestershire libraries are now open browsing and borrowing so children can visit with their families to borrow a bundle of books to read over the festive period. For those needing digital access, all Worcestershire Libraries have free Wi-Fi and free computer sessions and desk spaces can be pre-booked online by visiting www.worcestershire.gov.uk/Libraries.

Christmas Connect Bubbles To help keep people connected, Worcestershire Libraries are running a number of Library Connect Bubbles over the festive period:

- **Christmas Craft Bubble** Monday 21st December, 2pm - 3pm
Be inspired to get crafty this Christmas. Join us on Zoom for a special Christmas Craft Bubble, making Christmas Pudding felt baubles. You can hang these on your tree or give to someone as a unique and homemade gift. You will need to provide your own materials to make the bauble - details of what you need can be found on the Eventbrite booking page.

- **Photography Bubble** Friday 8th January, 11am – 12pm Join us for the next Photography Bubble. This time we're setting you a little project - choose your theme (either Topic 1 or Topic 2), take your photos, and bring them along to the group to share with others. Topic 1 - Capture the feel and change of lockdown ...or...Topic 2 - take a photo of the same subject but from three different positions. For an extra bit of fun, we will also be playing a guess the object game at the end with some previously taken photos. It's no problem at all if you don't have time to take part in the project, just come along and join in the chat and share your passion for photography with others.
- **New Year, New Beginning and a Healthier You Bubble** Monday 11th January, 11am - 11.45am On 1 January across the world, millions of people make New Year resolutions and then struggle to keep them going further than February! Sound familiar? Did you know it takes 3 weeks to break a habit, 6 weeks to develop a new habit and 36 weeks to hardwire this new habit? Resolutions are a healthy way to reboot your life but you need to set realistic goals. This talk offers you some practical tips on how you can start your New year the right way or, if you have already started, how to continue.

To stay informed of future library events visit the Worcestershire Libraries Eventbrite page

It's been an incredible term. Challenging in a way few of us have ever experienced before, yet rewarding and inspiring in ways we could not have dreamed of. The staff who teach and care for your children are absolutely remarkable and please give them a socially distanced thumbs up or virtual hug when you see them. They are amazing. Thanks to all of you who have made my first term run smoothly, with your thanks, feedback and inquiries about how it's going. I was told I was joining a family and I was not told wrong; your partnership and good fellowship make all the difference.

Rest, recuperate, reflect, celebrate and find the peace in your hearts you deserve. Hug those wonderful Wyche kids and spoil them rotten. I wish each and every one of you a safe and merry Christmas and a healthy, happy new year.

Stephen Murphy, Headteacher