

Thursday 17
December 2020

Highlights this term



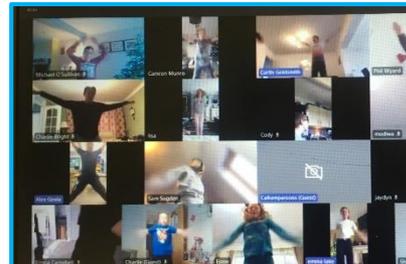
- ✔ We have had some memorable school community moments this term such as our Teams assemblies, silence for Remembrance, Happiness film created for Children in Need and kite day to name but a few.
- ✔ **Remote learning:** Staff and families have worked together to overcome some of the challenges of technology to engage pupils at home with our online remote learning sessions and we are thankful to everyone for perseverance with this.
- ✔ **Staff stars:** We thank Miss Sanchez-Ral for her work with primary classes and particularly Branch group this term. We wish her well for her future.
- ✔ We are delighted to welcome a new LSA in January, Miss Cresswell



New swing



Kite day and
Children in
Need



Remote learning PE
sessions



Respectful
Remembrance



Christmas
hats

Highlights this term
What we plant today, we grow tomorrow



End of term message



We have reached the end of our final week of what has been an extraordinary term.

There is no doubt that Christmas in schools this year is not quite the same. Kingswode Hoe is usually full of rehearsals, singing and activity as everyone gets involved in the whole school production. The seasonal traditions of the play and carol service have been missed. It has just not been possible to create the in-school buzz all of these important traditions present in the current circumstances which is a disappointment to us all.

However, we have been supported by the Friends of Kingswode Hoe to stream the pantomime online by the Mercury Theatre and support this local arts venue, taken time to enjoy a festive lunch together in our groups and joined each other on screen for our virtual carol service with Reverend Matt Simpkins from St Leonard's Church. Some pupils also contributed a signed song to the Hearing Impaired carol service hosted by Royal Association for Deaf people and Chelmsford Cathedral. Thank you to Miss Lewis and Mrs Dale for teaching the pupils the song.

Pupils have continued to show pride in their work and achievements and adapt to ever-changing routines. We are very proud of how they have coped and adapted as the term has progressed. Some of our new pupils have really grown this term and settled well considering everything that has been going on.

We do hope that on the horizon there is a time when the Covid pandemic becomes a memory too. Still in the midst of the daily challenges this poses, and with our pupils, staff and school seriously affected by the virus this term, we look forward to being able to look back on it and move on.

It looks likely to continue to affect all schools as we progress into the spring but we are hopeful for brighter days, effective testing for schools, vaccines and the chance to put this side of 2020 behind us by next Christmas...

Thank you for festive wishes and all your support



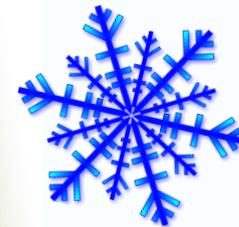
Our Christmas card this year, designed by pupils with thanks to Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs McMillan

We take this opportunity to wish all our pupils and families a peaceful break

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Notices

- ❄️ Please see **important letter and poster from SEAX** that includes a designated number for contact up until 23/12 between 9am-5pm each day to be able to get in touch with senior staff in case of symptoms or confirmed cases within the required test and trace timescale after the end of term so that we can notify any close contacts in the event of further positive test results.
- ❄️ We want pupils to return safe and well in the new year. Whilst we wish everyone a very happy Christmas with families and loved ones where possible, please **take every precaution and follow guidance** in order to limit the impact of socialising during this time back in school.
- ❄️ From their **return on Tuesday 5 January**, pupils will spend the first week back in their groups to help reduce risk of a potential surge in cases and further partial closure which we will do all we can to avoid.
- ❄️ **Wrap up warm!** Cold weather and well ventilated classrooms can mean pupils get chilly- please ensure they have a named coat and pair of gloves to wear.



Parent and Carer Communication
Autumn term 2020-21
Kingswode Hoe School
What we plant today, we grow tomorrow

