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18th December 2020

Well – what a term! This has been one of the strangest and hardest autumn terms I have ever worked through. However, we have managed to find things to be thankful for and joyful about. We celebrate our highlights despite working within restrictions and trying to keep everyone safe.

I have particularly enjoyed our work on nature, the science and discovery as well as the beautiful artwork from natural materials. Some of the calendar designs are on a photo gallery on our website and look fantastic.

We all agree that we have been very pleased with Commando Joe's in school. Mr Graham has done a great job and we look forward to continuing with a new set of 'missions' next term. After such a strange year, with lockdown and the continuing pandemic, we needed something we could do outdoors to re-build children's confidence, team work and resilience. This has worked very well.

We have also managed to have a joyful Christmas celebration in school. We had a very enjoyable and fun virtual Christmas collective worship led by Sarah Hills and Sam Quilty from Holy Island. We also managed to squeeze in plenty of Christmas crafts, 'Elf' Day and a party.

However, we are all ready for a break and a good rest, and we hope you have a merry, peaceful Christmas holiday.

Rebecca



Important reminder re contact tracing

If your child develops symptoms in the first 2 days of the holiday (over the weekend of 19th & 20th December) please let the school know through the admin email account **if your child tests positive**. We will be checking admin@lowick.northumberland.sch.uk and admin@holylsland.northumberland.sch.uk each morning for this reason up to, and including, Christmas Eve. Other school email accounts will not be checked during the holiday as staff are in need of a proper break.

If your child develops symptoms from Monday 21st onwards, then the school **should not** be contacted and you should following contract tracing instructions provided by the NHS track and trace system.

Covid Guidelines

We are very grateful to have got through the autumn term without a positive case across the pupils or staff.

As we break up from school to enjoy the Christmas holidays we will continue to need your help, support and cooperation in our work to keep our schools open and safe next term.

It is really important that over Christmas, whatever the rules and guidance are from the government, that we all think very carefully about what we are doing, where we are going and who we are spending time with. England's chief medical officer, Professor Chris Whitty, has told us to "keep it small, keep it short, keep it local, and think of the most vulnerable people" when gathering over Christmas. The best advice is to consider that just because we can do something does not mean that we should.

Please stay safe over the holidays and we look forward to welcoming you back for a happy and healthy spring term in January



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

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Spellings

Year 1: Adding the ending 'er' to verbs where no change is needed to the root word

Eg hunter, jumper, buzzer

Year 2: Adding 'er' to a root word ending in 'y' with a consonant before it. The 'y' is changed to 'i' before 'er'

Eg sillier, funnier, happier

Year 3: Doubling a consonant when a vowel is before the consonant

'er' 'en'

Eg forgotten, beginner

Year 4: Contractions - Questions

Eg who is - who's

Where will - where'll

Thank you to Homebase

Thank you very much to Homebase for their donation of a real tree which the children in class 1 have decorated.

The classroom is looking very festive, as is the whole school!



A Bundle of Joy

Our nativity – A Bundle of Joy - is now available and can be viewed using the link on our website <https://www.lowickholylislandschools.org.uk/website/our-2020-nativity-a-bundle-of-joy/527878> (or see our website page under the photo / video gallery tab). Thank you so much to everyone who helped make this happen this year. The children have been brilliant and have done a great job despite filming outside for most of it.



Monday 4th January is a teacher training day. Pupils are expected back on Tuesday 5th January.

Our topic in the new half term is 'Fantastic Creatures'.



Our Christmas Jumper Day last week raised £32.00 for Save the Children. Thank you very much to everyone who was able to contribute.

