

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I would like to extend a very warm welcome to everyone, including all our new parents and children. We hope you all had a lovely festive break. We will endeavour to make your child's time with us a happy experience, whilst **'learning through play.'**

We are hoping for 2021 to restore some normality!

Our focus for this half term will be Arctic animals, revisiting caring for birds and animals, such as making bird feeders (caring for the world around us). Please could you support us with this by feeding your wildlife at home? Thank you!

We will also celebrate Chinese New Year, Shrove Tuesday and Valentine's Day.

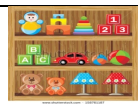
Christmas celebrations:

Thank you again to all who gave donations to support our Christmas raffle and 'fun week' for the children. We raised **£87.50** from the sale of raffle tickets.

The winners of our raffle were: **L. Ely, N. Middleton, C. Conway, R. Brett, R. Rodham, L. Green and S. Cusack.**

The Jolly Jumper week saw some fabulous outfits worn by our little ones. Lunch times were fun as we made them into **Christmas party time**. We could not have got through last year without all the hard work of Staff, and on-going support from our Committee, and parents.

Our team would also like to extend a huge thank you for the lovely cards and gifts we received.



We would like to express a 'huge thank you' to **The Little John Public House** for donating the funds raised from their Christmas Market (5th December) to help us pay for repairs to our climbing frame....raising **£780**. What a lovely gesture! The support we have received from the local community has been heart-warming.

Thank you also, for all for the kind donations of toys we have received and from the balance bikes that we requested and much more. We are so....very grateful.

Sick children: We must continue to remain vigilant regarding any illness. The latest guidelines issued by the Health Protection Agency states: If your child has been **sick** or had **diarrhoea** that they **must** be kept away from the setting for a period of **48 hours**. If your child shows signs of illness we will contact you accordingly. If your child requires Calpol....are they well enough to attend? This aims to reduce the spread to others who attend. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Could we ask that you always inform us for reasons of absence so we can list this in our daily register. This is required by Ofsted and is regarded as a safeguarding priority.

IMPORTANT: We aim to go outdoors daily so please provide hats, gloves, scarves and winter coats to suit all weathers.

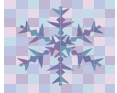
Please could you ensure that all your child's items are **clearly labelled** to reduce time searching for (coats, bags, hats, lunch boxes, drinking containers etc).

Please always provide spare clothing in case of mishaps. Thank you.

Emergency contacts: Could we ask parents to ensure you have provided us with an emergency contact that is able to reach us **within 30 minutes of receiving a call from playgroup. This is in cases of emergency, illness or adverse weather conditions. Thank you.**

30 hours funding: if you receive **30 hour funding entitlement then please ensure that your registration is still valid with the online update system so that it does not expire.**

N.B: If your entitlement expires then we will have to invoice you for the place.



If we do see the arrival of **snow** then we will follow the lead of the C of E school to close according to the conditions. Please look on the Ravenshead C of E School website.

Term dates: The last day of term prior to the half term break will be: **Friday the 12th of February, returning on, **Monday, the 22nd of February**. Please note if the school has any inset days then we will still be **open as usual.****

Finally: Feel free to approach us with any concerns or questions you may have and we will do our utmost to help. Thank you. Christine and team.