



17th December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Merry Christmas!!

As expected, the last couple of weeks have been full of festive fun and glitter in preparation for Christmas. Despite all of the Covid news and the restrictions this has brought with it, Mill Water staff and pupils have remained positive, happy and excited for all of the activities and celebrations that have been happening in school. Here's just some of the fun things that we've been doing...

Santa Visit

On Wednesday Santa and his elves came to visit, bringing with them a personalised present for each pupil. He set up his Grotto in the new Library space and even took the time to read stories to each class. A huge thank you to Otter Valley Rotary Club who contributed towards the presents and provided Santa and his elves, and to Sam and Vicky who prepared the Grotto and were Santa's little helpers for the day to ensure everything ran smoothly!



Class 3 Visit to Budleigh Library

Class 3 went to Budleigh Library to collect letters that Santa had left for them by the Christmas Tree. They had a lovely trip out and were very excited to find the letters!



Class Visits to Cotley Farm and the Donkey Sanctuary

Lots of classes have been to Cotley Farm over the last few weeks to see the reindeer, and Class 11 enjoyed a festive trip to the Donkey Sanctuary in their Christmas Jumpers ☺



Little Red Riding Hood Panto

The whole school enjoyed the Little Red Riding Hood pantomime (oh yes we did!) performed by Chaplin's, kindly funded by the PTFA.



Christmas Raffle and Fundraising

Our school Christmas raffle raised an amazing £637. So, together with the £407 from the Tesco Christmas bucket collection day, that is an incredible £1,044 that will go directly to extra resources and activities for pupils next year!

Of the 29 winning tickets drawn, top prizes went to Kingslea in Class 2 (1st), Leo in Class 9 (2nd), Ella in Class 9 (3rd), Naira in Class 9 (4th), our 125 bus driver (5th), and Callum W in Class 12 (6th) Congratulations to all our lucky winners and thank you to all our 'Friends of Mill Water' for your continued support. You can watch our festive video of Dee drawing all 29 raffle tickets on the school website: https://www.millwater.devon.sch.uk/web/christmas_affle

Our Response to the increase in numbers of Covid cases

As indicated in our previous newsletter, the Department for Education have asked us to ensure that all visitors to school, including parents, can provide evidence of a negative lateral flow device (LFD) test before they enter the school building.

We will also be reverting to holding annual review meetings and other meetings with parents remotely. We will review this situation as soon as we are advised to.

School will re-open to all pupils on Wednesday 5th January 2022, and of course any government updates/significant changes will be shared with you as soon as we have them.

May I wish you all a safe and healthy Christmas.