



Mill Water School

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Friday 3rd December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

Steve Brown Director of Public health Devon has written this week...

"Secondary school pupils in England are being strongly advised to wear face coverings in communal areas. Due to high COVID-19 case rates in the south west, secondary schools across the region have been following this guidance since half term. The guidance applies to staff and visitors at all schools and childcare settings. These measures are temporary and have been introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the Omicron variant while the government gathers more information.

Face coverings can also help reduce virus spread from contagious people with no symptoms. All educational and childcare settings should continue to encourage staff and students to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests. Evidence suggests that transmission mainly happens indoors where people are close together so we will continue to ventilate the classes and spend time outside where appropriate."

We have had an incredibly low number of cases at Mill Water, so thank you to all parents and carers for your vigilance and communication with us. We will continue to talk to you about what is best for your child and the school community. We understand that every case is different, however the DFE and Local Authority are unwavering in their drive to keep children in school as much as possible.

Despite what seems fairly bleak news, we have been enjoying some enrichment opportunities in school.

Christmas Panto



The whole school was treated to a magical production of Red Riding Hood, performed by touring panto company, Chaplins. Pupils were mesmerised by the interactive show, which was kindly funded by our PTFA.



Children in Need Fundraising Total



Thank you to everyone who made our Children in Need fundraiser such a success. We raised an amazing total of **£1,989.31!!!**

Tesco Christmas Bucket Collection

Exmouth Tesco kindly hosted a Christmas bucket collection for us this week. Customers were extremely supportive and donated a massive **£404**, which will go towards extra resources and activities for pupils. A big thank you to parents Maria, Claire, Bobbie and Jade who helped on the day, plus pupils from Class 9.



School Christmas Raffle



Local businesses have once again donated wonderful prizes for our school Christmas raffle. Don't forget to send in money for your tickets, or they can be bought on Schoolcomms/ParentPay. £1 for a strip of 5 tickets. First prize is a hamper of Christmas goodies worth £50! The draw will be on Wednesday 15th December. Money raised will pay for extra school activities. Keep an eye out for details of the prizes to be won on our Mill Water Facebook page.

@MillWaterSchoolDevon.

New Library Completion

The final items for our new school library arrived this week and our Mill Water librarians got to work selecting seasonal books and putting up festive decorations. School fundraising such as our annual Christmas raffle helped pay for the renovations, plus a £7,000 grant from the Foyle Foundation. The revamp has created a lovely place for pupils to explore their love of books, with bright and sturdy shelves, seating, snugs and flooring.



Christmas Tree Donations



Pupils got into the festive spirit while helping to decorate our two Christmas trees this week.

The beautiful trees were kindly donated by Kings Garden Centre and Carpet King in Exmouth.



Yours sincerely
Sarah Pickering, Headteacher

Dates for your diary

What	When	Where	Notes
Christmas Jumper Day & Disco	Friday 10 th December	In school	In aid of Save the Children
School Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 15 th December	In school	
Christmas Raffle Draw	Wednesday 15 th December	In school	
Last day of Autumn Term	Friday 17 th December		Finish at 2.15pm
First day Spring term for staff	Tuesday 4 th January 2022		
First day Spring term for pupils	Wednesday 5 th January 2022		