

Halwill Primary School  
Newsletter No.9  
Autumn Term. 23rd November 2021  
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## *Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other*

Dear Parents

Friday was Children in Need day, it was great to see so many children in non-uniform. Thank you to all of the children who donated money towards Children in Need. Many children also wore odd socks as it was Anti-Bullying Week. In assembly we talked about Children in Need and why we raise money, we also talked about the importance of taking care of others and being respectful so that we are always kind, particularly if people have differences. We also talked about the importance of telling a school adult if anyone experiences bullying or unkindness.

As part of the Class 1 topic of 'People who care for us', we have arranged a number of visitors to talk to the children. Last week, they had a visit from the dentist. The children thoroughly enjoyed the talk and have learnt so much.

### COVID

You will have seen my letter regarding Mrs Beer, the Halwill teacher, who has unfortunately tested positive for COVID. As she is part time, she has not been in school since last Tuesday so it is unlikely that she has been in contact with school children or staff since she tested positive at the weekend.

Claire Baker, the cook has now finished her isolation and has returned to work.

So far, we have had limited cases in the Federation, however, local schools are seeing very high increases in cases. If a member of your household has COVID, please can your child do a PCR test and keep them at home until you have the results. Then please do daily LFD tests until your household is clear. Thank you for your support with this.

Staff are continuing to test regularly and wear face coverings.

### Christmas Show Bookings and COVID update

As the situation stands, we are going ahead with the Christmas shows as planned and limiting places to 2 per child. Please request your tickets by clicking here.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfftW\\_Ua8aKhi2V4bOHX2Lhl\\_aOeoLu1yPtTC8jBjXA1dsDw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfftW_Ua8aKhi2V4bOHX2Lhl_aOeoLu1yPtTC8jBjXA1dsDw/viewform?usp=sf_link) Get our App: [edsp.co/app](https://edsp.co/app)

I feel saddened that we can't have more family members attending; I remember how special it was to have grandparents attending my son's primary school shows and I certainly feel the difference with my daughter who, like your children, has had the last two years of primary school through COVID. However, we must be sensible and cautious, given the local rates are high.

**On Wednesday 1st December there will be a Christmas Craft Party for all the children from 3:30—4:30 pm.** This will be organised by the staff and there will be no cost to parents. Tomorrow a link to give consent for your child to stay at the party will be texted to you. **At 4:30 pm there will be the Christmas Tree Light Switch-On.** You are welcome to come and watch this as it is outdoors, but please keep your distance from each other and kindly wear a face covering.

Given the size of the church and that we are a small school, we still anticipate that parents will be able to attend the **church service on Friday 17th December**. We don't feel we need to ticket this but consider the number of adults per family and please wear face coverings.

The Christmas Extravaganza on Saturday 11th December will be an outdoor event to make it as safe as possible for everyone.

#### After School Club

Please note that there will be no after school club on Wednesday 1st December as we are having the Christmas Craft party then. Instead there will be a session on Wednesday 15th December.

#### New Reception 2022 Visits

If your child will be in the September 2022 cohort for Reception, please do contact the office if you would like to visit the school.

The application system to apply for a reception place at primary school in September 2022 opened on 15 November 2021. Apply online at the Citizens Portal. The closing date is 15 January each year. You can apply after this date but applications will be considered late and may be at a disadvantage. If you cannot apply online, please contact the Education helpline on 0345 155 1019 and ask for a paper copy of the form to be sent to you.

#### Thank You

A huge thank you to Heidi Edworthy, who held a craft fair at the weekend in aid of the PTFA. It raised £250, which is most appreciated.

### Parent Governor Vacancies

There are vacancies for two parent governors on the Carey Federation Governing body and we are looking for one parent from Halwill and one from Ashwater. Although governors do not get involved in the day to day running of the school, they are responsible for setting the overall ethos of the Federation, supporting and challenging us to be accountable for the quality of education our children receive and ensuring the school finances are managed with probity.

Parent governors are directly elected by parents. Once elected, they would join the rest of the governor team, who work together as a group. Meetings are usually held once a month. If you would like to put yourself forward, please see the Governor Vacancy information which can be found on our website here: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/meet-the-governors/>

### Reading Meetings for Parents

To help you understand the new Read Write Inc. scheme, how it is used in school and how you can help your child at home please join us for a meeting at school on **Wednesday 19th January 2022 at 3:30.**

For children in Year 3 and above who are not on the Read Write Inc. scheme, there will be a parent meeting on **Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 3:30.**

Mrs Ruh Alford

Executive Headteacher.

Please remember to order  
your School lunches via  
schoolmoney by  
Friday of each week.  
This helps us cater correctly.  
Thank you

**Have you moved house? Changed your mobile number?**

**No longer have a landline?**

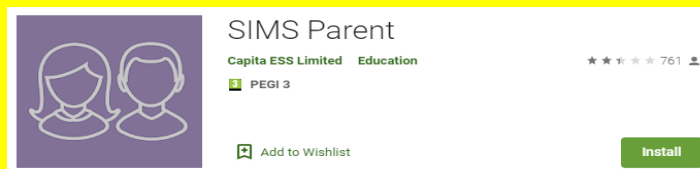


Please ensure you keep us informed of all changes to your contact details. This can easily be done by using the SIMS parent app.



## SIMS Parent

If you have not signed on to SIMS Parent, please do take a look. It is your way of ensuring we hold your most up to date contact information as well as your parental consent for day to day things in school



If you have not received your email invitation or are having issues, please email the office.

### The Carey Qualities

**Relationships** by being **Resilient, Resourceful, Reflective** and **Respectful**

Each Thursday children are awarded certificates in our Celebration Assembly for making a significant effort to develop one of our Carey Qualities. Last week the following children were awarded certificates. Well done to them all.



For building <b>Relationships</b>	For being <b>Resilient</b>	For being <b>Resourceful</b>	For being <b>Reflective</b>	For being <b>Respectful</b>
Milly Charlie Billy	Thomas Joshua			

### *Dates for your diary:*

#### December

- 1st Christmas craft Party 3.30pm—4.30pm  
1st Christmas Light 'Switch On' 4.30pm  
6th Christmas Show Evening 5.00pm  
8th Christmas Show Morning 9.15am  
11th Christmas Fayre 11am - 2pm  
15th Christmas Lunch  
17th Christmas Church Service 9.15am at the Church  
17th End of Term

#### January

- 5th Children return to school  
19th Reading meeting for parents 3.30pm Read, Write Inc  
20th Flu Immunisations

#### February

- 16th Reading meeting for parents 3.30pm