

Friday 7th January 2022
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THE STARLET

"Be brave, be kind, be the best you can be."



Message from Mrs How

Happy New Year! I hope that you all managed to celebrate Christmas in some way, although I know that for many of you plans were changed and delayed due to various family members testing positive or isolating.

We have now begun a new term and a whole new year. Who knows what 2022 will bring us? There is always sense in January of uncertainty about the year ahead but after recent experiences, perhaps we need a little more optimism than usual. New Year resolutions seem to have been scaled down; mine is to simply continue to get through each week without any significant drama.

What I do know is that teachers have been working hard to plan lots of exciting learning experiences for the children this coming term. Things are not yet back to normal (if anyone can remember what normal was) but we continue to try to give the children opportunities that perhaps have been missed recently.

It has been lovely hearing from the children about their holiday news and the vast majority returned safe and well on Wednesday. We look forward to seeing everyone back very soon.

As you will know from the media, there are some changes to the guidance around LFTs and PCR tests which come into force on Tuesday. I sent an updated flowchart which explain this earlier in the week but I will be in touch on Monday with some more details around the key messages and how they relate to school.

In assembly this week, we continued with the Christmas story and the celebration of Epiphany. The Bible reading was from Matthew 2 v 1-12 and we spotted that not only were the words "kings" or "wise men" not mentioned, it also did not say how many there were. (The actual verse was "some men who studied the stars came from the east to Jerusalem"). There were definitely three gifts but we know from our own families that three gifts does not necessarily mean three gift givers. The Bible also tells us that these visitors arrived significantly later than the shepherds which is quite different to the nativity story we all "know". This is a wonderful example of how stories can be interpreted in different ways and change slightly over time and a reminder that sometimes we have to revert to the original source to check. In this case though, the key message around the importance of Jesus' birth remains unchanged and the enjoyment of the familiar story is a central part to our Christmas celebrations.



My house, Christmas Eve.

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"Some days there won't be a song in your heart. Sing anyway"

Emory Austin