

Head of School: Mrs J Eddy

Friday 11th December 2020

Dear parents/carers,

We have had another exciting week at Connor Downs Academy. The children have been busy making their Christmas decorations and had lots of fun today wearing their Christmas jumpers. This will be the last weekly newsletter of this term.

Next week will be our Autumn Term newsletter showcasing all the hard work

that has taken place in each class during the term. This term, we will be using 'Bookcreator' to share a virtual termly newsletter with you. The link for this will be sent out at the end of next week. Today, year R performed their Nativity. This was videoed by Mr Masters and some pictures have been shared with parents/carers via Tapestry.



## Parent/Carer Survey

Thank you to all those parents/carers who have completed our parent/carer survey. We have been delighted by the responses.

- 1. 99% agree their child is happy at Connor Downs Academy
- 2. 98% agree their child feels safe at school
- 3. 95% agree the school makes sure its pupils are well behaved
- 4. 97% agree the school and staff respond well to concerns
- 5. 91% agree the school has high expectations for their child
- 6. 97% agree their child does well at Connor Downs Academy
- 7. 93% agree the school lets them know how their child is doing in school
- 8. 98% agree the school supports their child's wider development
- 9. 94% would recommend Connor Downs Academy to another parent/carer
- 10. 94% believes that Connor Downs Academy responded positively to the COVID-19 pandemic

'Fantastic school, friendly parents and staff. My son's teacher is brilliant, keeps him focused and makes learning fun'.

'Connor Downs is an amazing school, they help with any concerns you may have and all staff are very approachable. My son loves being part of the Connor Downs school'.

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'Connor Downs Academy was the best choice for my daughter. She is very happy at school and staff are amazing. Thank you for your support and hard work'.

'The staff at Connor Downs Academy are a credit to the teaching profession. Having had 4 children come through the school, I know that each member of staff at Connor Downs is caring, supportive and knows how to support children in reaching their potential. I also feel the staff at Connor Downs are very proactive when dealing with difficult situations; I would highly recommend this school'.

'I think one of the strengths of the school is that they respond to parents suggestions and really consider them. The pastoral support system is outstanding. Having a TRAUMA trained practitioner in school is amazing'.

'My children and I really love this school. There is a real family feel and I know my children are getting the best education. If I need to talk to a member of staff or the head of school, they ensure this promptly happens. The education that is delivered and the provisions that are provided are outstanding! I really couldn't wish for a better school for my family and I have/will always recommend this school to others. Thank you Connor Downs Academy for going above and beyond for my children'.

'Covid-19 has brought many challenges and we are satisfied with the actions taken by the school. We are pleased with our child's learning and would like to thank the school community during a very difficult time'.

## **Christmas Dinner**

A reminder that Christmas dinner will be served next Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. If you have not ordered a Christmas dinner for your child, you will need to provide them with a packed lunch. All orders have been added to ParentPay for payment. Please ensure payment is made for Christmas dinner prior to 16<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

## Reporting Positive COVID-19 Test (out of hours)

If you receive a positive COVID-19 test, in the first instance please contact the school office by phone. If the office is closed, please complete the form at the link below to report a positive test.

http://www.aspireacademytrust.org/coronavirus

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## **Staffing Update**

We are delighted to announce that Miss Blewett will be replacing Mrs Malyan as Year R's teaching assistant. Miss Blewett is a qualified EYFS practitioner and has worked successfully in year R recently. She has already formed positive relationships with the children and understands the routines and structures of the Academy. I am sure that you will join with me in welcoming Miss Blewett to our Connor Downs family in January.

## Catch Up Premium

Following Covid-19 the Government announced catch up funding to support children and young people to catch up lost time after school closure. Please see the attached catch up funding document for parents/carers which details how we are allocating this funding at Connor Downs Academy.

## **Last Day of Term**

Our last day of the Autumn Term is Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. We are inviting children to come to school wearing their own clothes, which can include Christmas jumpers. Due to the staggered starts and finishes we will be finishing at our usual times of between 3:10pm and 3:25pm.

## Spring Term - Return to school

Monday  $4^{th}$  January 2021 is an inset staff training day - Children return to school on Tuesday  $5^{th}$  January 2020

<u>Attendance</u>		
Our school target for		
attendance is 96%		
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Year R	99.3 %

Our whole school attendance so far since the beginning of term is 95.3 %

## **Shine celebrations**

Please see below our Shining Stars for this week.

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## Connor Powns Academy Shining Stars Friday 11th December 2020



#### Year R - Ezra

For consistently showcasing his wonderful imagination during playful learning and inspiring Mr Masters every day with his inventive ideas.

## Year 1 - Perran

For wonderful work across all subject areas, especially in maths, ordering numbers from 0-20. Well done Perran, please keep up this amazing work.

#### Year 2 - Isla

For excellent reasoning and problem solving during our multiplication and division maths unit.

## Year 3 - Max

For showing amazing skills with a Rubic cube for his homework grid task. Max always gives 100% effort in maths and English and is a super role model, always challenging himself.

#### Year 4 - Rilev

Riley has had a really good autumn term and all his hard work has paid off with some brilliant progress shown in his end of term assessments. Riley continues to impress with his focus and determination in all he does. Keep it up Riley!

#### Year 5 – Jack

For excellent PIRA and PUMA end of term assessment results and his ability to reason and explain his maths answers in depth.

#### Year 6 – Olivia

Olivia has been so kind this week in helping others with their Christmas decorations. Olivia has had a superb first term in year 6 producing some brilliant writing and challenging maths, always with a smile. Thank you for always doing your best!

Kind Regards,

Mrs Eddy

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