

GEORGE ROMNEY JUNIOR SCHOOL



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20.11.20

Dear parents, carers and families,

I am so pleased and proud of the conversations we have had in school this week in all classrooms about anti-bullying week. The children have really engaged with the topic and they are all in agreement to 'stand united' against bullying both in their class bubbles and across the school as a whole. Thank you to Class Four for making fantastic badges for everyone – we will wear them with pride!

This week, your child will be set a homework task using their new TEAMS account. I am very grateful to staff for all the additional training and planning they have done to be able to use this method of learning for your child. So far, as a school we have been remarkably fortunate in that we have not needed to close any of our bubbles. 'Remote learning' via TEAMS is in no way a replacement for classroom learning but we want to be prepared to support your child and their learning in the best way possible in the future if required...Every child has practised accessing TEAMS in school using their account and they have all completed and returned at least one task. Please remember this is a new way of working for your child and the staff and there may well be a few technical issues! Please do not let this become another source of concern or worry! As usual, we would ask you please talk to us if you have any questions or concerns (during the working week – we all need a weekend!) Thank you for your anticipated help and support with this!

There is a lot of conversation and speculation in the media about Christmas and how it may or may not be 'normal' at the moment. As a staff, we have considered what would be realistic for the children towards the end of term and we hope to be able to share limited celebrations in class groups in the last week of term. Sadly we are unable to celebrate together as a whole school in our traditional manner; there will be no Christmas production from the lower juniors and we are unable to meet together for carols and readings in Dalton St Mary's church as we have done every year...We will be recognising and supporting the Save the Children Christmas jumper day (**Friday 11th December**) and we would also like to support local families and communities with collections for the foodbank. Please see the message below I received this week:

Newbarns Primary School pupil, Joshua Hewson (8 years old) has been inspired by both Marcus Rashford and Boxes of Hope Cumbria, to support his local community. His idea is 'Barrow United' supporting Barrow Foodbank. He is asking Local Schools to donate items



to support the Foodbank in delivering hampers to local families during the Christmas Period. With the support of Barrow AFC Community Trust, who will pick up the items you have collected and prepare the hampers to be delivered to the Foodbank, he wants to support the amazing work already being done by a number of agencies working collectively in our fantastic community.

Here's how it will work:

- School years 3-6 will collect items and bring them to school.
- The deadline for donations will be **Wednesday 25th November.**

Collections will be made by Barrow AFC on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th November.

What to Donate:

Year 3 - Christmas Cake, Selection Boxes

Year 4 - Mince Pies, Christmas Pudding

Year 5 - Tinned Ham, Tinned Salmon and Biscuits

Year 6 - Stuffing, Savoury Crackers

We hope you can support 'Barrow United' in Supporting Barrow Foodbank to provide these hampers for our local communities.

Kind Regards

Craig Rutherford

Manager, Barrow AFC Community Trust

Assistant Head of Youth, Barrow AFC Performance Centre

07816163346

I am sure you will agree that it is important for us to support a collection like this for those members of our community who have recently been faced with unexpected hardship.

Another significant difference this year is that we will not be able to hold our annual Christmas Fair. This has traditionally been a fantastic event for us both in terms of the school community coming together but also with a significant amount of money being raised for school funds. This year, we are being creative and every child will have the opportunity to design and print their own Christmas card. In the past, when this has been done by companies, we usually receive £1 for every pack of card sold. This year, as we are making the cards here in school, we will be reducing the price but increasing our profits! In order to know how many cards to print (nobody likes waste!) would you please complete the order form and return to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. We would like to print the cards and have them ready for you for the first week in December!

Thank you for your continued support during these challenging times.

Take care, stay safe,

DR

David Reddy
(Headteacher)

