

# Homework –

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021



Miss Kidd



Dear Parent/Carer

I have had a lovely few minutes walking through the hall and in the classrooms in KS1 watching children rehearse the Nativity. It is always a thrill to see the whole of a key stage take part in such a joint venture and it is always a moving occasion. The pity of 2021 is that like 2020, we cannot have parents in the hall to see it – though equally, it must be lovely to have a digital copy of it, as parents will have, as it can be watched again in years to come. The effect of Covid is also felt in that absences (Covid related or otherwise) mean that there are gaps from day to day which just makes the whole experience more...challenging for everyone. Luckily, our teachers love a challenge!

Homework comes out on a Friday, but it is written before that, so I cannot comment on Break-the-Rules Day in real time. What I do know is that last time we had one, parents said that it gave their children the confidence to express themselves – and in the context of a special day, it made it feel ‘safer’ to do so. This was an unintended consequence - but what a great result – which is why we were keen to do one again. Children are able to express themselves and enjoy following their own instincts, which is something I would wish for my own children and that I would wish for everyone. It also has the added benefit of creating discussion about rules that you should never break – such as those that put yourself or other people in danger... which is why I had to tell a child that they **could not** bring a dog into school and that high heels were also not permitted, but that children could write their initials on their foreheads (not a rule I have ever wanted to break) and they could wear tattoos (stick-on ones) which is something I’d kind of like to do but which I haven’t had the oomph to do so far.

The whole Covid situation is right back in the headlines again. I can see that suddenly, it is being treated as a real threat again. The local Director of Public Health has written to suggest that we reduce the number of visitors in school, which we will do, but then the government seem very keen that Christmas performances should not be cancelled. As a Headteacher, I have to pick my way between contradictory pieces of advice, but my instinct is to be cautious – which is what we will do. I do not think it is the right time to ask parents to wear masks when bringing their children to school or when picking them up – this is an outdoor activity and we already have a staggered start (and finish) and we have lots of room for people to distance. Things can change quickly, however, so we will all have to watch this space.

And just a reminder that we break up on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December (which seems very early) and we are back on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January.

**Please use the comment box below to write anything you have to say about the homework or about any other school issues...**

Signed:

**Please make sure that your child’s medical details and emergency contact numbers are with the office and up-to-date.**