



Head Teacher: Mrs SA Welsh  
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

## Newsletter - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### Christmas holidays:

Term ends for the holidays today and school re-opens to pupils on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

### Merry Christmas:

We've made it through the Autumn term! We thank all the staff who have worked so hard to get the very best for the children and to keep everyone safe. We also want to say a big thank you to you, for all of your support, patience and understanding in ever-changing circumstances with updated guidance and advice. The children have been exceptional and have worked extremely hard. This week they have had an enjoyable festive week with Christmas jumper day, year group parties, naughty elves, visits from Santa, pantomimes and many Christmas crafts.

The staff wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### Our own Snowman film:

Please visit our school website or Facebook page to see our whole school Snowman film. The children and staff have been working hard to achieve the Discovery Art Award. The stimulus for this work has come from The Snowman film. They have participated in a wide range of Arts, including singing and model making to name but a few - fingers crossed we will get this award! Our film is a compilation of all the lovely work the children have produced. Thank you for all of the excellent homework contributions, we have included some of them in our film.

### Safeguarding:

If you have any concerns about a child, please contact the Children's Initial Advice team on 01325 406222. If you are worried about a child and not sure what to do, contact the NSPCC for advice as soon as possible. The professional counsellors are available for help, advice, and support on 0808 800 500 or via email at [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk). If a child is in immediate danger, call the Police on 999 straight away.

### The Big Ask:

The Children's Commissioner for England has undertaken the largest ever survey of children - The Big Ask - to understand children's lives. The findings of this survey gave a lot of hope for this next generation, not least because of their incredible resilience. Children, especially girls, talked about their experiences of sexualised bullying and peer-on-peer abuse and were calling firmly for more support. Most children want that support to come from their parents or carers - they have told us this. That is what is at the heart of the guidance below. This guidance is based on the voices of young people giving adults their tips on how to tackle this subject. [https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/cco\\_talking\\_to\\_your\\_child\\_about\\_online\\_sexual\\_harassment\\_a\\_guide\\_for\\_parents\\_2021.pdf](https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/cco_talking_to_your_child_about_online_sexual_harassment_a_guide_for_parents_2021.pdf)

### Year Group Newsletters:

A reminder that the Autumn Term year group newsletters are available to view on the 'Year Groups' page on the school website. <http://whinfield.net/year-groups/>. Click on your child's year group and scroll down to 'Letters Home'.



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### How to set up your child's new devices this Christmas:

Christmas usually brings lots of new devices and technology to connect - with the inevitable mountain of user manuals and T&Cs to read. It can be hard to take it all in, especially when a child just wants to start playing on Christmas morning. So how can you set up your new devices to help your child be safe and secure on them? Here is a list of popular devices with some helpful tips. [Click here to view.](#)

### Vacancies:

We currently have vacancies to join our Whinfield team! If you are interested in joining our facilities team or becoming a playleader please visit the link below.

<https://www.darlington.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/current-vacancies/>.

### Parent Governor:

As you are aware, we have a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join the Governing Board of Whinfield Primary School. We have extended nominations from parents/carers who are interested in serving on the Governing Body. The closing date for nominations is now **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December**.

[Please click here to view the Governing Body - Nomination of a Parent Governor letter.](#)

[Please click here to complete the electronic nomination form.](#)

### Continuing COVID Safety:

Please can parents/carers wear a face covering when they come into the school office. If you wish to speak to a member of staff, please stay outside the green fence and wear a face covering.