



26th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your continued support throughout this term. Every family in our community has been presented with their own challenges brought by another lockdown, staff included, but the children have continued to come in each day, smiles on their faces and give 100% to their learning. We could not be prouder of the resilience, courage and determination they have shown over the past year.

Children in Need

An amazing total of £736 was raised this year for Children in Need. This is an incredible amount and we are really grateful to everyone who made a donation to this deserving cause.

Christmas Arrangements

Unfortunately, we will be unable to continue with our usual celebrations this year but we are still planning to make sure we celebrate this time of year together and have plans in place.

Children can bring cards in for children in their own class bubble if they would like to. We will then keep these in 'quarantine' for at least 72 hours before handing these out in each class bubble. We will be unable to deliver cards to other bubbles. Please make sure you bring these in by Monday 14th at the latest so there is enough time to quarantine them and distribute them.

We are planning to hold a short, live, Christmas performance for each class via teams. We have invested in some class sets of glockenspiels, which has meant we can continue music teaching which restrictions are in place. Each class has been learning some music to perform to you. There will also be some readings and poems from the children. We will also record these performances and email each class a link to the performance in case you are unable to join us live. Later details will be sent regarding the dates and times. If you do not wish your child to be part of the recording that will be shared, please email us to let us know and we can make arrangements for them to join their class to perform but not be on the video.

We will be facilitating some class celebrations in the last week of them – more details to follow.

Last Day of Term

Our Trust have made the decision to close all schools early on Friday 18th December – this is the same as QPIA have done for the last few years. We will be doing a staggered close between 12.30 and 12.50 – further details will be sent nearer the time of your classes exit time.

Queen's Park Academy

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ParentPay

Our main channel of communication continues to be via emails on ParentPay. Unfortunately, we have had to close some bubbles since our return to school. Sometimes we have been notified of a positive case during the school day and we have had to send the class home during the day – this is beyond anyone's control as it depends on when people are notified of test results. We have used the text message service through ParentPay to notify parents if this has happened during the day as we know that a text is often a quicker way of getting an emergency message to you. The difficulty with ParentPay is that we do not have access to the accounts you set up and so are unable to edit email addresses and phone numbers on them. I think there are some accounts without phone numbers on, or are out of date, and so you wouldn't receive any texts from us. Please can you take a minute to log into your ParentPay account and check you have a mobile number, which is up to date, on your account. We will continue to use email as our main form of communication and use texts in emergencies (we have to pay an additional fee for each text we send).

Head Boy and Head Girl

I am delighted to end this newsletter with some lovely news. Each year, Year 6 pupils have to write to the Year 6 team, expressing their interest in being Head Boy or Head Girl, explaining why they are suitable for the position. The team read all the letters and shortlist the applications. There is then a formal interview by Miss Lamy and Mrs Taylor and based upon their letters and interviews, the roles are awarded. The quality of all letters was phenomenally high and the team had their work cut out for them but they came to a decision and I am pleased to announce that the positions have been awarded to:

Head Boy – Noah Strowger

Head Girl – Erin Ward

Deputy Head Boy – Krishang Sinha

Deputy Head Girl – Jasmine Dunn

Congratulations to all of them – we are very proud to have you representing QPA.

We look forward to sharing with you soon our plans for making the festive period as exciting as we can, whilst maintaining all control measures we currently have in place. As always, please contact us if you have any questions or queries – we can be contacted via email or phone.

Kind regards,

Mrs Simmons
Principal

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