



PLATT BRIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOL | DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

PROMOTES | BELIEF | CREATES | SUCCESS

Executive Headteacher's End of Term Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to thank you all so much for the support you have given the school this term. This has been another extremely challenging year and term for us all.

Personally, I am so thankful for the hard work, determination and resilience that the pupils and staff have shown this year despite all the continued unprecedented challenges we have experienced.

The children have been a true credit to all parents, carers and the Platt Bridge community. I am so proud of the entire community and how we have continued to work together to get through the ups and downs and challenges of Covid 19.

I would like to wish you all a lovely Christmas and Happy New Year. I hope you all have a relaxing time over the festive season. We are looking forward to returning in January to a New Year and new term with refreshed enthusiasm and hope for the future.

We have created a virtual Christmas card as part of our eco commitment to reduce paper. We hope you enjoy it. To view click <https://vimeo.com/657440205>

School closes on Friday 17th December 2021 and reopens at 8:55am (or 7:30am for breakfast club) on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

For support information or to contact a member from our Safeguarding, Special Educational Needs or Inclusion team during the closure period please [click here](#).

Best wishes,

Sue Darbyshire
Chief Executive Officer | National Leader of Education | Executive Headteacher

Please see link below to view our school

<https://vimeo.com/575799050>





CHILDREN IN NEED 19 Nov 2021

To celebrate the end of anti-bullying week lots of Children and Staff had that lovely Pudsey Bear feeling on 19th Nov 21, supporting Children in Need

Thank you to all those who donated to the fund, we raised a grand total of **£295.30**



Platt Bridge Community Library located at Platt Bridge Community School is delighted to have reopened in November, after closing their doors when staff were redeployed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Opening hours

- Monday - Wednesday:
10am - 2pm
- Thursday - Friday:
1pm - 5pm
- Saturday - Sunday:
Closed

Facilities

- Wi-Fi
- 7 public computers
- Free parking
- Separate children's section available outside of school hours
- Dedicated health section in library



Shelia would love to see you all back in our community library. Please come along and say hello, make yourselves a member and borrow some books.



On Friday 3rd December 2021 we participated in a unique non-uniform day in honour of the millions of people who have served in the NHS and emergency services. Pupils were invited to wear the colours of the emergency services (red, blue, green or orange) and donated £1 towards building the UK's first 'Emergency Services Cenotaph'. Thank you for your support with this great event. We raised **£307.67**

Safeguarding information: we wish to draw your attention to a scam currently being reported where text messages are being sent to children by adults posing as their parent (in this case posing as mum). The purpose of the message is to get the child to engage by updating their contacts, then the perpetrator is asking for photos of the child almost immediately. If your child(ren) has a phone, please make them aware of this and to check before responding to any messages.



Year 5 shared a wonderful 3 days away at Culmington Manor outdoor adventure. They faced personal challenges, such as anxieties about height (abseiling and zip wire), water (canoeing and kayaking), the dark and the weather but most of all being away from home and parents. Everyone was a true ambassador for Platt Bridge Community School...polite, courteous, well behaved, and appreciative of the effort that went in to ensuring they had a fun filled, busy and exciting time. We would like to thank the staff for giving up their own time and being away from their families to ensure our children had a chance to take part in this experience.

Please click the link below to see the exciting things that pupils can do at Culmington Manor.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_iUSyVggz8

New Online Booking System

Changes to Breakfast and After School Bookings

From 1st January 2022 Platt Bridge Community School's Superheroes Breakfast and After School Club bookings will be through Parent Pay.



As part of this change, our Superheroes Club booking system will be moving to the booking service in **ParentPay**, our existing online payment service.

Parents will be able to book/amend/cancel a place at Superheroes Club for their child/children and pay the fee all in one place. Should you need any support please contact the school office on 01942 487999.

<https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/>



Pupils took part in “Save the Children” Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 10th December and donated a “shiny coin” to this worthy cause. Thank you for your support. We raised **£149.77**

Cycling to School / Safeguarding Arrangements

We realise that cycling has a positive impact on student well-being and Platt Bridge Community School supports any pupil wishing to use a bicycle as their preferred means of transport to and from school.

The prime responsibility for transporting pupils to and from school and deciding whether their child is competent to ride the bicycle rests with parents/carers. The school provides an area where pupils should lock their bikes during the day, but we cannot accept liability for loss or damage to the bicycle whilst it is on the school premises or for any accident or injury occurring while the pupil is riding the bicycle.

Parents/carers are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover as the school carries no insurance cover for this.

If parents/carers wish for their child to cycle or scooter to or from school, they agree to the following rules before the child cycles to school.

- Under no circumstances must pupils ride their bike or scooter when on school premises.
- Pupils should be considerate of others and not ride in areas where there are pedestrians, especially when lining up to enter school premises.
- **Pupils must wear an approved safety helmet at all times when riding their bicycle or scooter.**
- Bicycles and scooters must be in a good, safe, working order and must be fitted with working brakes.
- When cycling in poor light, front and rear lights must be fitted and working properly.
- All bicycles and scooters are to be stored in the bike racks provided on the yard. They must be secured with an appropriate bicycle lock supplied by pupils.

For safety reasons, pupils without approved safety helmets should not ride their scooter or bike to and from school and will not be allowed to store their bike on school property. Please contact the school pastoral team if you require support with organising a safety helmet.

Up to date Contact Information

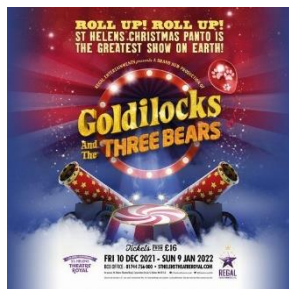


- As there may be occasions when the school needs to contact parents or carers during the school day, it is vital that you inform school immediately if there are any changes to emergency contact details or home telephone/mobile numbers. Please kindly keep school updated of any change via email to enquiries@plattbridge.cfat.org.uk.



Thank you to everyone for buying raffle tickets and taking part in our Tombola. We raised **£291.56** in our Christmas Raffle and **£86.90** in our Tombola!

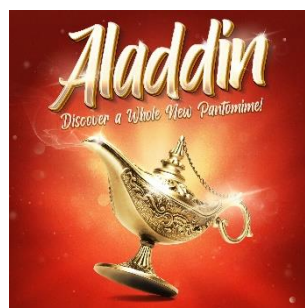
It's Pantomime Season! Oh no, it isn't!



Year 3, and 5 enjoyed a visit to St Helens Theatre Royal to watch Goldilocks and the Three Bears. They then enjoyed their class Christmas Party when they got back to school with a buffet lunch and games. A good day was had by all.



After a few technical issues at Goldilocks and the Three Bears resulting in cancellation of the pantomime, Years 4 and 6 still enjoyed their Christmas Party with a buffet lunch and games when they got back to school, and the following day finally got to watch their pantomime Beauty and the Beast at the Epstein Theatre in Liverpool.



Hurricane Productions visited school to entertain the children in Year 1 and 2 with their latest production of Aladdin. The children thoroughly enjoyed the show.

A new school meals menu for January 2022 to February half term is now available on the school website visit <https://www.plattbridge.wigan.sch.uk/parents/school-lunch-service> for more details.

SCHOOL SNACK & SWIMMING

Please check your ParentPay account and pay any remaining snack, swimming, school meal and breakfast and after school charges before the end of Term.

If you would like to change your child's snack order or make a new order please contact the school office on 01942 487999 or email finance@cfat.org.uk.

Snack and refreshments will continue to be provided throughout the day for ALL children in Nursery and Reception.



Although all children in Reception and KS1 are entitled to a free school meal under the Universal Free School Meal Grant, if you are entitled to benefits, you must still register in order for the school to receive Pupil Premium Funding. We would be grateful if you could do this immediately and if you need any help, we are happy to support you with this process. The school uses this Pupil Premium Funding to fund various activities and resources for your child throughout the year. If you need any assistance regarding this or have any questions, please call in at the Main Reception Desk to speak to us.

Catch up Flu Clinic (Reception-Year 6 children)



For any children who missed their nasal flu vaccine, there will be a community flu clinic at Ince Start Well Centre, Charles Stereet, Ince WN2 2AL on Tuesday 21st December.

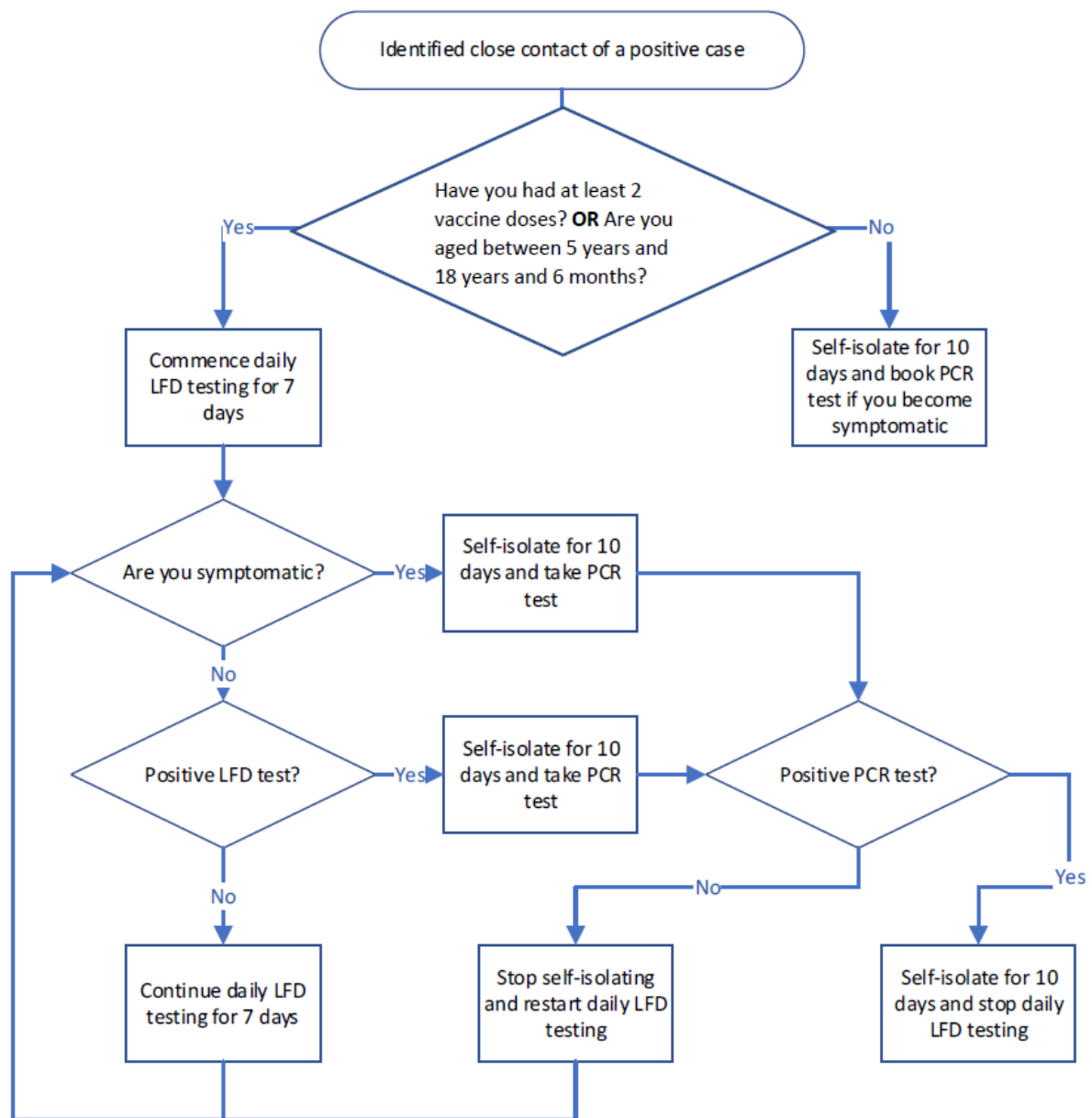
If any children have not been vaccinated they can email Peter.Rudkin@nhs.net or ring the Flu Line on 03333583397 select option 1 Greater Manchester then Option 1 again for Wigan office and book an appointment.



Platt Bridge Community School Foodbank

As you are aware we operate a discrete foodbank for any member of our community who needs help. If you need help with a food parcel, please speak to one of our pastoral staff who will be more than pleased to help you.

[Polite Reminder] of Self-isolation and testing requirements WEF Tue 14th December 2021



Christmas Activities for Children

You needn't be stuck for ideas to keep the children entertained.... Try our Christmas Wordsearch and Spot the Difference....



CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

M	N	R	R	U	D	O	L	P	H
G	I	F	T	S	T	T	C	J	A
C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	I
A	A	C	Z	T	E	N	N	R	S
N	P	C	N	D	L	X	D	G	N
R	W	R	E	A	T	H	Y	X	O
J	R	E	I	N	D	E	E	R	W
O	R	N	A	M	E	N	T	S	M
Z	H	H	R	V	S	A	N	T	A
V	Z	T	U	R	T	E	L	F	N



CANDY
GIFT
RUDOLPH
WREATH



CHRISTMAS
ORNAMENTS
SANTA



ELF
REINDEER
SNOWMAN

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Christmas Mindfulness Colouring

Mindfulness means slowing down and taking a breath to pause and really notice what you are doing and collecting your thoughts together. It will take your full concentration to really be mindful, you have to relax and take your time with a certain task, whether that's just taking a few seconds to control your breath. Being mindful means doing the opposite of multi-tasking or rushing, it's all about focusing on one thing at a time and feeling calm and collected whilst doing it. To become mindful, it's important to remember that it will take a lot of practice to become better each time. This is because mindfulness involves training the mind, which can't be done overnight. The more your practice, the better you get. A great way to practise mindfulness is to complete a number of exercises, which can help when you're stressed, have something difficult to do or when you have to focus your attention. Eventually, after practising mindfulness regularly, it will become natural in your everyday life.





Useful contacts and online resources

Here's a list of signposted providers that can offer counselling, coaching and other support that may help improve your overall wellbeing. For more details <https://www.plattbridge.wigan.sch.uk/parents/support-services-for-pupils-and-families>

Stress & Anxiety

Mind www.mind.org.uk

Childline www.childline.org.uk

The Stress Management Society www.stress.org.uk

The Big White Wall Support
Network www.bigwhitewall.com

NHS www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression

Mental Health Matters www.mentalhealthmatters.com

24 hour helpline 0800 1070160

Work / Life Balance

NHS Live Well – Work Place
Health www.nhs.uk/livewell/workplacehealth

Mental Health Foundation www.mentalhealth.org.uk/a-to-z/w/work-life-balance

Cycle Scheme www.cyclescheme.co.uk

Your Body

NHS One Your Campaign www.nhs.uk/oneyou

British Heart Foundation www.bhf.org.uk

Worried about a child? <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Health-Social-Care/Children-and-young-people/Child-protection/Child-protection.aspx>



Exercise

NHS Live Well – Get Started www.nhs.uk/livewell/getting-started-guides

The Girl Can – Sport England www.thegirlcan.co.uk

Living Streets www.livingstreets.org.uk

Swimming ASA www.swimming.org/asa

Chartered Society of Physiotherapy www.csp.org.uk/your-health/exercise-advice-all-ages-fitness

Home Life

Reiate www.relate.org.uk

Samaritans www.samaritians.org

Notational Domestic Abuse Helpline 0808 2000 247

Barnardo's www.barnardos.org.uk

Childline www.childline.org.uk 08001111

Smoking

NHS Live Well www.nhs.uk/livewell/smoking

NHS Smokefree www.smokefree.nhs.uk