



What an exciting day we have had today; Elf Run this morning and the school is off to Halecombe Quarry to watch a blast just after lunch. Our annual Elf Run was in support of Dorothy House Hospice Care. The children were given an elf hat and invited to run around a course in the school grounds. There is still time to support your child and make a donation towards Dorothy House, please do so via the following link <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/lomelfrun> . This afternoon we will all make the short journey to the viewing platform near forest school to see a large blast on the eastern face of the quarry. Mr Grey is planning to give us a talk on the role of the quarry and to explain to the children what happens to the stone once it has been blasted from the rock face. We will share photos of both these events next week.

As you know Miss Foote is leaving us at the end of this term. However, we are really pleased to let you know that earlier this week we interviewed for this post. Having received some high quality applications, our interview morning went very well and we were able to offer the job to an experienced and enthusiastic teacher. We will be able to share more information with you next week.

On Wednesday this week we had our annual open day. Unfortunately we were unable to show prospective parents into each class and meet the children due to current restrictions, but we were able to walk around our lovely grounds and give them a chance to meet some staff. Despite the measures put in place we still had good attendance on the day and I'm giving other parents a tour at other times in the next couple of weeks. If you know of anyone who has a child starting school next year please encourage them to give us a call so that we can show them around.

Last Saturday we braved the awful weather and had the first of our Christmas Tree Sales! Thank you to the families who came and bought a tree from us in the freezing cold and gales. We are selling trees again this Saturday so please come and support the school by buying your tree from us. We are open 10 - 2pm and have lots of beautiful trees for sale. FOLS will also be selling scholastic books at this event.

You would have received a letter from Alun Williams last week outlining the restrictions in place until the Christmas holidays and how this might impact on activities planned in school. We will still have our Carols by Candlelight in the school playground on the 15th December (if the weather is kind to us). All parents are invited to attend this event starting at 4.30pm just as it begins to get dark. The children are making lanterns and have been learning Christmas songs to share with you. We are still a little short of 2 litre clear plastic bottles for the lanterns, so do please drop them into school if you have any that haven't already been recycled.

Unfortunately, our planned Nativity performance to parents on the 15th December can no longer take place. Staff and children are disappointed by this news but are continuing to practice so we can film the event to send to parents instead. More information will follow on this, including a consent form.

Mrs Phillips



Diary Dates for the Autumn Term 2

Each week starting on Monday 1st November

Monday	<u>After school</u> Sunflower Club
Tuesday	<u>AM</u> - PE for children in Robins and Kingfishers with Mr Groves <u>PM</u> - PE for children in Starlings and Goldfinches with Mr Groves <u>After school</u> Archery Club with Mr Groves
Wednesday	<u>PM</u> - PE for children in Swallows
Thursday	<u>PM</u> - Swimming for Goldfinch and Swallow Class <u>After school</u> - Yoga Club

December

Sat 4th	Christmas Tree Sale 10 - 2pm
Wed 15th	Christmas lunch Carols by candlelight at school 4.30pm
Fri 17th	End of Term 2

Covid Update

We thought it would be useful to keep you updated each week on any developments at school regarding Covid.

We currently only have one positive case of Covid within the school (a staff member who tested positive this week) and therefore no extra restrictions need to be put in place at the moment. Staff are now wearing masks in communal indoor areas of the school. We also have CO2 monitors in the classrooms to help us decide when extra ventilation is needed and to find a happy balance between ventilation and temperature.

We have had many requests for work for children who are not in school for various reasons. Please note the following which is applicable to all schools regarding remote learning:

My child is awaiting a PCR result - work will be provided by the school

My child has Covid - work will be provided, but only needs to be completed should your child feel well enough