



# Rowlands Gill Primary School

## 4.12.2020 Newsletter

### Winter Changes to Bubble Times and Footwear!

The children have been very excited this week because December has arrived and for them that means advent calendars and almost Christmas! They are also hopeful that it may snow next week...

However, for those of you who have a small wait between bubble times, the arrival of winter may not be so welcome. Equally, we have many families who have continued their commitment to walk or cycle to school which is becoming more difficult with the changing weather. With these issues in mind, I wanted to let you know about the following changes which **take effect from Monday 6th December.**

Bubble times will become slightly compressed so that adults and children spend less time standing around in the cold.



1/2M and 2W will be open from 8.40—8.50 as normal. **Early Years will overlap slightly and open from 8.45—8.55.**

**All KS2 classes will be able to arrive anytime between 8.45—9.00.** There will be no need for Y3 and Y4 to wait in the car park. There will be additional lines for the children to use on the MUGA. Parents must clear the area as soon as the children enter the MUGA so that other parents can pass without concern for social distancing.

At the end of the day bubble times will also compress slightly for Year 3 and 4 children.

6B, 5/6A and 5R will leave as normal. Parents please leave the MUGA promptly. **3L and 4B will head straight out after them, just after 3.15pm (ish) and must be collected by 3.25pm.** As soon as the majority of the first set of parents have left the MUGA, 3L and 4B parents can enter. 3L parents can wait on the centre markings, 4B can wait on the markings at the field side of the MUGA.

**Footwear** For those children walking to school and for when the inevitable ice or snow arrives, your child may need to wear warmer boots or wellies which would not be suitable to wear all day in school. If this is the case, please send their school shoes in to school in a named carrier bag so that they can change into them for during the school day. Although we are trying our best to minimise the amount of things being brought into school, in this case there really is no other option.

### After School Sports Clubs

This half term Miss Latto has led sports clubs for Years 4 to 6, while maintaining our bubble structure. These have been really popular and a very good way of supporting the children's mental and physical well-being.

After Christmas the clubs will be offered to 3L, 2W and 1/2M instead. You will receive a sign up letter in the next two weeks with more details of the clubs and when they are on.

After February half term the clubs will be offered to Years 4, 5 & 6 again.



### Supporting our

### Community at Christmas

Rowlands Gill and Highfield Mutual Aid Group are reaching out to those in need of help in our community this Christmas and are requesting donations of food or money to help them achieve this.

At the end of our newsletter I have included details of how you can help this thoughtful and kind project, if you are able to.



## December Diary Dates

- **7th - 11th** Christingle Project in KS2
- **Mon 14th** - Panto in school (each bubble will watch it at their own time across the day)
- **Tues 15th** - 5R, 4B, 7B Christmas Parties
- **Tues 15th** - FORGPS Christmas Raffle drawn
- **Wed 16th** - EYFS, 1/2M, 2W Christmas Parties
- **Thurs 17th** - 4B and 5R Carol Singing to local residents
- **Thurs 17th** - 5/6A, 6B, 3L Christmas Parties
- **Fri 18th** - Please bring a large labelled carrier bag to take home all the quarantined items from trays!
- **Fri 18th** - School closes tonight for the holidays
- **Mon 4th Jan** - Training Day (school closed to children)
- **Tues 5th Jan** - Pupils return to school.

## Friday 11th December

Remember that it is Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch. Donations to Save the Children can be made via our Just Giving page which is on the school website or by [clicking here](#).



## Christmas Performance

As mentioned on the previous newsletter, the children are recording a Christmas performance with a traditional feel. This will be made available on our website in the last week of term and I know it will be a welcome festive treat for you all.



## Christmas Cards

Several parents have asked for lists of the children in the class to make sending Christmas cards easier. Usually the response has been, "No, because of GDPR". However, this year we have found a safe way to support parents with this request.

Your child will bring home a list of children's first names only which they can use for their cards if they wish. Where we have children with the same name in a class, they will be given a number as well. e.g. Bob 1. Bob 2. Please include the number with their name where this is the case.

Remember to include the class name.

Last posting date is Tuesday 15th!



## Friends of Rowlands Gill Primary (FORGPS)

Thank you to everyone for your donations which meant we have been able to make these lovely hampers as prizes in our raffle this year. They are made entirely from donations and look fabulous!

Also, a big thank you to everyone who has returned raffle tickets to school. We don't have a grand total just yet, as we are still waiting for tickets to be quarantined, but at the last count we had raised an amazing £460 which means we can already purchase another laptop which is a great achievement. Thank you to everyone who sold tickets to their family and friends to support us when we are unable to hold our usual fundraising activities.



If you are busy shopping online for Christmas don't forget to use our easyfundraising link. Over 4,300 shops and sites will donate to FoRGPS at no extra cost to you - so you can raise donations without it costing you a penny! Please sign up and help us raise more at: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rowlandsgillprimary/?q=Rowlands%20gill&cat=cause-autosuggest>

E-mail: [rgps@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:rgps@gateshead.gov.uk)

Phone: 01207 549 359





# Our Community at Christmas

*Can you donate for those in Need?*



Since the start of Covid, local volunteers, charities and organisations have been coming together through the **Rowlands Gill and Highfield Mutual Aid Group.**

We know that this Christmas will be hard for many people and so we are organising to make Christmas that little bit brighter for our community.

**Would you like to join us and Feeding Families in providing vulnerable families across our area with everything needed for a full Christmas Dinner?**

**1. Donate Food** - Use this Doodle Poll <https://bit.ly/hamperdonations> to let us know what you can donate (to donate more than one of the same item you will have to do the poll multiple times). We need 75 of each item. If you can still click on it then we still need it. We'll be collecting these at St Barnabus's Church (opposite Tesco) on Friday 18th and Saturday 19th December between 10am and 2pm.

**2. Donate money** - We'll be buying our meat and other chilled items in bulk for food hygiene reasons. If you'd like to make a financial contribution to this you can make a donation to the Pickle Palace. Just make your reference 'Christmas Hamper' Any amount is welcome, for reference, a carton of cream is about £1.10 and the turkey crowns we're buying cost £16. Payments can be made to: The Pickle Palace CIC. Sort code: 30-90-91 Account Number: 70152260

**Thank you**

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