



# Mowbray School

North Yorkshire County Council

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Dear Parent/Carer

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018

As we approach the end of a long and busy term, I am very aware of everyone being both tired and at the same time excited as we look forward to Christmas festivities both in school and in our own lives. We are in the middle of our Christmas celebrations, both the Primary and Secondary plays have, once again been of such a high standard. My particular thanks to all of the staff for their hard work, the talents of all our pupils involved in the plays and especial credit to both Lucy Wallace and Richard Cole for their hard work and determination to put on a good show.

For the rest of our final week we have several Christmas parties planned, with both the Primary and Secondary parties scheduled for this Thursday and before that on Wednesday Christmas dinner, which is always excellent. The term ends on Friday with our Carol Service at St. Gregory's Church in Bedale which is open for all to attend and starts at 10am, with school ending later that day at 1pm.

It has been a long and hard term, with the school again being very successful in so many things we do and I very much admire the spirit of the staff in how they support each other every day. We have had several staff absent for prolonged periods of time and it is never easy to keep the school running smoothly when this happens. This term has sadly seen several staff being injured by children, I am grateful to all those staff for their fortitude, tolerance and positive attitude towards all our pupils. Over the past four weeks it seems we have had two virus's affecting pupils and staff, a cold/fever virus and a sickness virus and I appreciate very much that parents continue to support school by keeping children at home when they are unwell, I hope the Christmas break will halt the spread of this around school.

It is often at Christmas time, when you appreciate the good fortune and good health you have, this is sometimes highlighted by seeing the suffering of others fighting severe illnesses. My thoughts go out to those members our school community who are unwell and wish them continued strength in their recovery.

Christmas is the time to celebrate the goodness in our lives and to show thanks to others, we are fortunate to be supported so well by our Governors and in particular to the skill, dedication and hard work of our Chair of Governors, Mr Robert Dunning, to whom I am forever grateful. There are always staff who stand out in a school as being exceptional, Mrs Pickles continually is this and I am always appreciative of the support she provides not just to me, but to us all. Our staff, who are all my colleagues, continue to amaze me in all they do and how they collectively provide such a wonderful opportunities and standards for our pupils, enjoy yourselves this Christmas.

I will end this letter with a special mention to our pupils, who bring such life to the school and demonstrate each day how well they learn, how well they progress and how much they contribute to the school, their families and their friends, to each and every one of you well done and I wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Tearle, Headteacher