

Usually at this time we would be writing about all the events and activities we have shared and the many traditions of a Christmas at Roselands. But we all know it isn't 'usual'.

Nevertheless, there have been many successes to share. I know I write on behalf of all our staff when I thank our families and children for the support and commitment to our codes of conduct and revised procedures and activities, as we have reflected the effect of the pandemic on our daily lives. I'm sure you will join me in the appreciation of our whole staff team as they too have met the codes of conduct, working tirelessly in challenging circumstances, as they have juggled the needs of their own family circumstances with those of their responsibilities in school.

As we completed our pupil progress meetings this week, where each teacher shares the learning and next steps for their children with the leadership team, we acknowledged the success of the 'back on track' curriculum that has been followed throughout the term for English and Maths. This has been led with expertise by Mrs Jones for English and Mrs Hill for Maths. We have maintained as broad a curriculum as circumstances permitted and identified the actions planned to take us into the Spring Term. We have highlighted the paths to follow to take the learning on for the children and looked at plans within the classes, as well as the delivery of on line learning on the class pages of the website, packs of books given to families and our class emails.

Our news is appearing on our new website [www.roselands.herts.sch.uk](http://www.roselands.herts.sch.uk) which is hosting Christmas songs from years 1 – 4 and the story of Christmas from our Ash & Beech classes. You will find these on their class pages, as well as in the news area. Year 5 poem and the year 6 panto will be recorded as soon as we can in January. Our year six pupils had worked hard on this new venture and Mrs Wyman's artistic skills had combined with the technology set up by Mr Bath to create a new look to our recording which we hope you will be able to see as soon as it can be completed.

We finished the term with a series of successful items to share:

The Woodland Trust published our recent achievements, led by Mrs Praverman, moving from bronze level, through silver to gold:

'Roselands Primary School wins gold for Hertfordshire' quotes the Woodland Trust

*Roselands Primary School in Highwood Road Hoddesdon has been awarded a gold award by the Woodland Trust for getting involved in green activities including tree planting, visiting a local woodland, decorating and naming a tree on the school site to mention just a few activities.*

*The Green Tree Schools initiative, which has seen more than 12,000 schools sign up since it was launched in 2008, offers the opportunity to bring the great outdoors, wildlife and green issues into the classroom.*

*Schools win awards for participating in green activities, which include tree planting, reducing carbon emissions and recycling. Roselands Primary School has planned the planting of new trees in their school grounds, visited local woods, shared woodland words and images and joined in various other Woodland Trust activities. Having achieved a bronze award not long after it was launched the school have now moved through the silver level and this week achieved gold.*

.Congratulations to the many of our pupils who took part in the Mayor's 'guess the local landmark' competition in support of his charities this year – The Isabel Hospice and The Clayton Centre. All entrants received a Christmas card from the mayor. The overall winner of the competition came from our year four- Pupil Erika Clark, who received an invitation to tea in the Mayor's Parlour.

The book 'Rainbows During Lockdown' is now published

<https://www.blossomspringpublishing.com/shop/rainbows-during-lockdown/>

containing a story written by our year six pupil Scarlett Mills, and three stories from past pupils: Amber Mills, Elizabeth and Agnes Prane. I'm delighted with my signed copy from Scarlett and can recommend the book of short stories from primary aged children which we sent details of at the beginning of December, when Scarlett appeared on a radio interview to promote its publication.

All our instrumental teachers have taught as many lessons as they could this term. Their registers reflect the week number they have got to. This will be followed as we move through the academic year. If they don't get to 33 completed lessons by July we will sort carrying forward credits or make refunds. Unfortunately the ensembles and orchestra cannot meet under the current safety guidelines, but we hope to resume them, and other clubs and groups, as soon as we can.

We are pleased to have been successful with a grant from CAMHS to support a Feeling Good Week across all the classes, that is being planned, led by Mrs Fehmi, in February.

I do hope you do not have to be tested for Covid19, or fall ill, or have any symptoms. However please can I ask you to email into [head@roselands.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@roselands.herts.sch.uk) if a child who has been at school in the last week of term tests positive. We shall also be asking you to do the same, as we shall with our staff, in the days before we re-open for the new term. Currently this is to be Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021. We will keep you updated with any news via parentmail and write again at the end of December.

Currently there is no further information or guidance for schools as we have moved into tier 4. I realise it is devastating news for many of us, as we cannot enjoy the day or days we had planned and so looked forward to.

The staff join me in sending best wishes to all for Christmas, however it may have to be. We also hope all can stay healthy and continue to support each other in the safest way we can.

Jane Carson     December 2020