



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all in our DBJA community!!!

The staff and Governors of DBJA would like to wish our children, parents and carers a healthy and peaceful Christmas break.

It has been an unusual start to the academic year at DBJA. Teaching through the pandemic, lockdowns and restrictions has meant that we have had to adapt to new ways of working. Despite this, all the children have settled back into school life beautifully. We are immensely proud of the children; their resilience and adaptability has been an inspiration to us all.

So far this year we have hosted a variety of virtual community engagement events such as Open Mornings, Parents Evenings, Class Assemblies and Christmas videos. Next term, school leaders will try to find ever more inventive ways to engage with parents, carers and the community whilst following our Covid-secure protocols. More news to follow in the first few weeks back.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Quality Mark Gold standard

On 8th December we had a virtual review of our SMSC provision at the school. We were awarded the Silver award for our SMSC provision in May 2018 and this review was to see if we could be awarded the Gold standard. I am pleased to tell you that the assessor felt we had enough evidence to be awarded Gold. Thank you to everyone involved and in particular to the parents who agreed to be part of our review day: Akin's mum in Sugar Maple, Amy's mum in Hawthorn and Faya's mum in Beech.

Holiday homework

As we did in the October half term, we have issued the children with some holiday homework to support our Catch Up plan. However, we do also recognise that it is important for your children to enjoy some well-deserved downtime too so we have kept expectations reasonable. Please ensure that the holiday homework is returned by 8th January 2021 at the latest. For those who are currently self-isolating homework has been posted to you.

<https://dorothybarleyjunioracademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Catch-Up-Strategy-DBJA-October-2020.pdf>

Covid 19 reporting

Parents are reminded to report any Covid-19 related issues via email during the holiday period. Use the email: covidreporting@dbja.co.uk

When you report any issues don't forget to **give your full name**, the **name and class of your child** and **details about what you are reporting** e.g. if your child or someone else in the household has symptoms, has taken a test or has received a positive test result. In order to complete a full risk assessment with the Department for Education we do need to know the exact dates, for example, when symptoms started, when the test was taken and when the results came back. Help us keep our school safe by keeping us up-to-date with any and all Covid-19 related issues.

Happy Christmas everyone!!!

To bring a smile to your faces as we reach our well-earned break read the Christmas themed jokes below and share them with your children!

Q: What kind of photos do elves take?

A: Elfies!

Q: What do angry mice send to each other at Christmas?

A: Cross-mouse cards!

Have a lovely holiday everyone, make sure you keep yourselves and your families safe. We look forward to seeing you all back and fully refreshed in January 2021! Children return to school on 6th January at their normal bubble times.

Miss Leicester and all the staff at DBJA

