Bransgore Church of England Primary School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of a crazy term, I wanted to wish you all a very happy Christmas. It was so lovely to have the nativity plays and Big Sing events this year. It was a very welcome return. Mrs Lawrence saw this lovely letter from a teacher on social media the other day and forwarded it to me. I thought that I would share it with you as I feel it sums up all that we believe about Christmas in our school. Please spoil your children this Christmas but be sure to do it with love and time with you as a family. That is what really counts and what sticks. This is where relationships, self-esteem and a sense of peace, safety, security and love are built. It can't be built or developed later. These early Christmases are our biggest opportunity to connect with our children. Here is the letter. I hope that it strikes a chord with you as it did with us. Give the gift of time and attention this Christmas the "stuff" can wait, it's only stuff and will be broken or forgotten by this time next year. Your love endures.

"I know at this time of year there is pressure to create a perfect magical Christmas. I know that you want to give them the magic of Father Christmas and ensure he brings the best gifts and sometimes that means a bit of stress for you, but I'm writing to tell you a secret. I'm writing to tell you that every January when your child comes back to school they tell me all about the Christmas holidays. They tell me about the days when everyone stayed indoors and watched a film. They tell me about the walk in the freezing cold and having a MacDonald's. They tell me about staying at Grandma's and then being excited when you come back from work. They tell me about how you let them snuggle in your bed. They tell me how you played cards and took them swimming one day and forgot their towel. They tell me about a visit to a friend's house and how they stayed up to midnight. They tell me how they loved staying in their PJ's some days and a trip out another day. They mention their gifts, but for them Christmas is you and your love and time and routines and feeling safe. You are their favourite thing! Merry Christmas!"



Best wishes and enjoy,

Paul Brown Headteacher

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