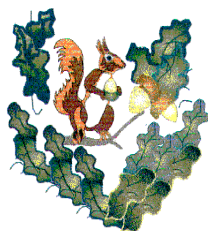


## Fleet Wood Lane School



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30th November 2023

### Christmas News in School

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### Fantastic News



On behalf of the staff and pupils I would like to thank Friends of School for their determination and dedication in assisting us to raise funds to support the purchase of new laptops. A target was set last year to raise five thousand pounds. I am delighted to inform you that this has been achieved and the laptops have been purchased. Without the support of Friends of School (and the generosity of every parent who has supported their fund raising) we would have been unable to afford to upgrade our equipment. We are so grateful to you all for your continued support for the school and look forward to the arrival of the new equipment.

As November draws to a close, our preparations for Christmas start in earnest.

#### Friends of School Santa's Grotto – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December

Friends of School are busy making preparations for this year's Santa's Grotto event, to be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December from 3pm.

The special visitor has been booked in and is looking forward to being with us. Refreshments will be available on the day and we are hoping to present a range of fun activities to enjoy, including a chocolate tombola.

I know that Friends of School would be pleased to hear from anyone able to offer a helping hand in the preparations - and on the day. Please do get in touch with them, if you can lend a helping hand via their Facebook page or leave a message at the office and we can put you in touch.



**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Non-uniform Day**



To enable us to present a chocolate tombola at the Christmas Grotto event, we have designated this Friday (1<sup>st</sup> December) a non-uniform day. We are inviting the children to wear their own clothes (rather than school uniform) in exchange for a chocolate donation to be used as a prize. Thank you in advance to everyone able to help.

**Christmas Film Night – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023**



*This Friday is Film Night. After some negotiation with Friends of School – the film to be screened will be 'Nativity'.*



*There had been suggestions that 'Home Alone' would be screened, but unfortunately this is a PG rated film so is not suitable for our KS1 audience. Apologies for the confusion.*

*No Hot Chocolate this Friday - Mrs Ingram will return next week.*



## **Christingle Service for Owls and Foxes – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December**



The annual Year 5 and 6 Christingle Service will be taking place at St. Mary Magdelene Church on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm. All Year 5 and 6 parents are welcome to attend the service. Ahead of the service, Year 5 and 6 will be busy learning about the meaning of the Christingle in a workshop led by church visitors. As part of this they will make their own Christingle to be used in the service.

## **EYFS and KS1 Nativities -Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 5.30pm**

Parents of our youngest pupils in Dormice class are invited to their Nativity performance on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30pm

Pupils in Otters and Hedgehogs will be delighting their parents with their dramatic talents on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December. They have two performances -a matinee at 1.45pm and an evening slot at 5pm.



## **Carol Service Tuesday – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2pm**



Robins and Bats will lead our whole school Christmas Carol Service at St. Mary Magdelene Church on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December from 2pm. Whilst Robins and Bats will lead us through the Christmas story, the whole school will be joining in with the Christmas Carols. It's guaranteed to get you in the Christmas mood.

## **Christmas Dinner day – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December**

For those who have ordered a hot lunch – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December will be turkey lunch day. If you are having packed lunch, be sure to make it Christmas themed (*if you can!*). This day is also our Christmas Jumper Day – please feel free to wear your Christmas Jumper to school on this day.

## **Christmas Party Day – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**



The last day of term is Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December. Everyone is invited to come to school wearing their best party outfits. Staff will be organising party arrangements in their classes so please watch out for more information being issued via your class Teams accounts.

Our Christmas Post Box will be available in school for children to send their Christmas cards to classes around the school from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Please ensure that each card is clearly labelled with the name and class of the person you are sending it to.



## Other News

### Squirrels Wrap Around Care

The new policy for Squirrels Wrap around care come into play on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. If you require the services of our Breakfast Club or After School Club, please do ensure that you have completed and returned your Parent Agreement Form. Advance bookings should be made (and paid for) using ParentPay.

Daily registers are printed for after school club and breakfast club. These need to be signed by parents at drop off for breakfast club and collection for after school club. This is part of our safeguarding arrangements to ensure that responsibility for care of the children is confirmed.

### Attendance

Whole School attendance (year to date) is 95.01% with Year 1 (Hedgehogs) leading the way with 95.91%. This is fantastic. Whilst we continue to sit just below the Government's target of 96% our attendance is slightly above that seen nationally at this time. Unfortunately, the school average is being heavily affected by high levels of persistent absence – pupils with absence less than 90%. 18.9% of pupils in school have less than 90% attendance which means they have been absent from school for at least 5 ½ days since September.

Full school attendance is essential if children are to reach their potential. Due to the importance of this, and the legal obligation that is placed upon parents that all children of compulsory school age must receive an appropriate full-time education (Education Act 1996), schools are required to challenge non-attendance and support increased levels of attendance.

In line with the school's attendance policy, please remember that in term holidays will not be authorised and such absence may result in application to the Local Authority for the issue of a Fixed Penalty notice. This could result in a fine of £60 per child per parent/carer.



**Wednesday 20th December 2023**

As always, if you have any queries or comments regarding the contents of this letter, or any other aspect of the school's operations, please do contact us directly.

Your sincerely,

Mrs M Parker  
Head Teacher