



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a festive week we have had! On Monday we enjoyed our first ever whole school Christingle service, Reverend Ann came to school to lead the assembly for us with the biggest Christingle we have seen! All the children's Christingles were a lovely sight to behold and luckily didn't set off our new smoke detectors!

Yesterday was Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day, our kitchen staff did a fantastic job of preparing a delicious roast turkey lunch with all the trimmings, thank you both! I asked some children which was better our Christmas lunch or their home one and they said school's! (Don't worry, I won't tell you who they were!)

Today we had the PTA Xmas Fayre, thank you to all of you who donated items and attended the fayre to raise vital fund for the school. The PTA have worked hard on this for a few weeks, a HUGE thank you to them for giving up their free time to support the school. Please see our Facebook page and the school website for photos of our festivities this week.

Next week it is the Christmas plays, please check you have ordered your tickets, if you have, they will be in your child's book bag today. There are still some tickets left for each performance please email the school office if you would like extra tickets for your family members. We are limiting numbers due to fire safety as well as the seasonal bugs that are going around. We are not charging a set amount for tickets but there will be collection buckets at the door for any donations you would like to make.

For the KS2 performance on Tuesday evening please send your child in to school at 4.30pm so they can get their costumes on, ready for a 5pm start. Please see messages from your class teacher via Dojo for details on where to bring them. On Thursday all classes will be having their Christmas parties in the afternoon, your child can wear their party clothes to school all day, but please ensure that they are wearing warm coats and suitable shoes for playing outside in the winter weather.

If your child is eligible for free school meals Plymouth Argyle are offering a 4 day Fit and Fed holiday club at Austin Farm from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December until Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> (9.00am – 3.00pm). It is completely free and lunch will be provided, please follow the link you have been sent previously and complete the form, if you need any help with this please contact the school office or Mrs Gilbert our PSA.

As I mentioned earlier this week, we have had no reported cases of Strep A or Scarlet Fever at school yet, however, there are some nasty bugs going round, please help us to minimise the spread of these by keeping your child at home if they have a temperature and are feeling unwell, remember to call or text the office by 9.30am every day of their illness. We are continuing to encourage good hygiene and regular handwashing in school.

I am usually so proud of our children's polite and respectful behaviour, but yesterday after school, a member of the public reported to me that a group of our children were seen throwing leaves over the road bridge onto the A38 below. As you will appreciate, this is extremely dangerous and could have caused a serious accident. Please can you remind your children about behaving appropriately on the way to and from school, the class teachers have delivered this message today to KS2 children.

I hope you have a lovely weekend,  
Mrs Baptiste

A big well done to our learners of the week:

Due to the Christmas Fayre, the learners of the week will be announced next Friday.

Foundation: This week we have been writing about the presents Santa will put in his sleigh. We have also been taking one less from a group of 5 using first, then and now actions.

Year 1/2: This week Years 1 & 2 have been busy practising for our Christmas Show, Baarmy Bethlehem. All children have worked really hard at learning the songs and some children have been learning lines too. We hope that everybody who comes to see our performance enjoys the show!

Year 3/4: This week, the children have been working hard practising for their Christmas production. The show is coming along nicely and the children are excited to show you their work. If you haven't booked tickets, please do.

Dates to remember:

12/12/2022 – Foundation and KS1 Christmas play 2:30pm in the school hall.

13/12/2022 – KS2 Christmas play 2.00pm & 5.00pm in the school hall.

14/12/2022 - Foundation and KS1 Christmas play 2:30pm in the school hall.

5/12/2022 – Class Christmas parties from 1.30pm, details to follow from class teachers via Dojo.

---

Our Attendance winners are:

*Year 3*

Great effort!!!!

Year 5: This week, we have continued our fractions unit in Maths: finding equivalents, converting mixed numbers to improper fractions, as well as ordering and comparing fractions less than 1.

We spent an afternoon creating some fantastic Viking masks which we will complete next week.

We have been looking at the different voices used within our 'How to live like a stone-age hunter' literacy book.

Year 6: The Christmas Spirit has arrived in Year 6 and we have enjoyed practising our Christmas production. We have been inventing Christmas stories in English using prompt cards and, slightly less festive, we have finished our fraction unit and moved on to measurement in Maths (this was greeted with cheers!) We can't wait to perform our production to everyone next week.