



Parent/Carer guidelines for the Christmas calendar

Please see below for the information you need to make sure children and staff can have fun but remain safe during the run up to Christmas.

Christmas assemblies

We will deliver our advent assembly and Christmas service on Google Classroom or have it pre-recorded and children will take part in both from the safety of their own classes.

General fun activities

- All class teachers have been given a suggested 12 Days of Christmas activity grid which will commence on Monday 6th December.
- Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 17th December. We will send a link for a Google Form on the school app soon.
- The Parent Council have purchased an online panto, which classes can watch in the safety of their own classroom.
- We are hoping that everyone will be on Santa's 'nice' list and as a key worker he may find time in his busy schedule to circle the school outside in his special sleigh, wave to all the children and deliver a little something to each child (money kindly given to Santa from the Parent Council) 😊
- Primary seven are organising a 'Covid safe' Christmas Fayre in the courtyard sometime during the week 14th December (we will judge the best day depending on weather). P7 children will be in touch with more details of this event.
- Christmas jumpers and/or casual Christmas clothes/accessories may be worn from Friday 11th December.

Parties

- **Class parties will be held in own class week beginning 14th December.** P1 and P2 additional info below
- Monday 14th- P3
- Tuesday 15th- P4
- Wednesday 16th- P2 & P5
- Thursday 17th- P6
- Friday 18th- P1 & P7
- Pupils should bring their own drink. School will provide a packet of crisps and a biscuit. Crisps, biscuits and prizes will be delivered to class on Friday 11th December and will be set out to make sure nothing touches.
- At the P1 and P2 parties, children will receive the 'other' gift our special visitor will leave for them when he visited the week before.
- Party clothes may be worn to school on the day of the party.

Gifts and cards

- There have to be no Christmas cards at all. Teachers will put their Christmas message to the class on Google Classroom and children can share their messages in reply.
- Staff who wish to give their class a gift, are being advised to put these in a small bag and if parents/carers wish to quarantine this for 72 hours when it gets home then that is possible. Class gifts are, of course, the teachers' decision and some teachers choose a different way of saying Merry Christmas to their children. For example in the past, some teachers have adopted an endangered animal or made a charitable donation, which the class have, ownership of e.g. sponsoring a guide dog.
- It is never necessary or expected that children will buy their teacher a gift and we are all aware that this year has been a very challenging time for many of our parents/carers who may have lost jobs or been furloughed. However, we do understand that many children like to do this and we ask parents/carers that if your child is giving a teacher a gift then it be brought to school in a carrier bag to allow staff to quarantine it.

Decorations

We will still be having Christmas decorations, but we will be limiting this to a tree in or near the dining hall to make sure all the children get a chance to look at it every day. In class, we are keeping to wall decorations and one tree on a surface to make sure the main surfaces used are kept clear for cleaning.

Infant Nativity and P4-6 concert

- P7 will not be taking part in the concert as they are busy doing their enterprise Christmas Fayre and they will have their leavers' assembly in June- we are also hoping to make a photo presentation of the fayre for parents/carers
- Both the nativity and the concert will be recorded. Recordings will be available to order and we are hoping there will be the option of a DVD or a USB stick. We will put out a Google form to let you choose and you will be able to pay via Parent Pay.
- Even although it is not permitted to sing in classes, there will still be music, dancing, percussion, Makaton and a little bit of acting. Children will stay in their own bubbles but we may have some socially distant solo singing from older children and this will be recorded outside for safety.
- We have never tried this before and to keep the cost down for parents/carers we are making the recordings ourselves. What we are trying to say is that it will not be up to BBC standard but we just want you to see the children and we will try our very best. ☺

Merry Christmas

