

Henley-in-Arden Church of England Primary School

"...And He took the children in His arms and blessed them"

Newsletter December 2016

This is the final newsletter of 2016 and my last one as well! I have loved working at Henley Primary and know that I shall miss everyone, but especially the children, in January. I wish you all the best for the future.

There are so many things happening over the next two weeks so here is a reminder to help you to keep track:

Christmas Cards

The school Christmas post box will be available from Monday 5th of December in the reception area by the hall in school. The routine the children have been told to follow is to post their cards before registration or later in the day. Cards will be distributed almost daily. We have stressed that no child has to send cards and that there is no expectation that cards have to be sent to every child in the class. We are not allowed to give out class lists so your child will need to find a way of making their own list. Children have been asked to save their cards until they get home and to open them at a time when they can enjoy them and keep them safe.

Christmas Performance Tickets

You should receive two tickets per child per performance this week. Please return any unused tickets as soon as possible. If you need extra tickets, please contact the office. Please note that for safety reasons, entry to the performances is by ticket only, except for Under 2's. However, if you are choosing to bring a toddler or baby to the performance, please sit at the end of a row so you can take your child out of the hall if they make a noise. The school children have practised long and hard to put on their very best performance for you so we would appreciate your cooperation in being a 'good' audience for them.

We allow photography etc. but always ask that no flash is used during the performance and that you only film your own child. We have a number of children who are not allowed to be filmed so it is not acceptable to put any pictures or video clips on the internet as you will not have had every parent's permission.

There will be refreshments served by the PTA at the performances.

You may take your child and any other siblings home following the KS1 and KS2 afternoon performances.

For the KS1 and KS2 evening performances, we ask you to bring your child to school from 5.45p.m. for a 6.15p.m. start.

Christingle

Parents in Years 5 and 6 should have received a letter about the Christingle service this year. The children have been asked to bring two good sized oranges into school ready to make the Christingles. We will provide the other items needed. The school will attend the afternoon service to be held in St John's church at 1.30p.m. on Tuesday 13th December and parents are invited to the evening of the same day at St John's Church at 6.00p.m. Children



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should arrive for the service at the church at around 5.40p.m., wearing school uniform. There will be a collection at the evening services for the Children's Society.

Christmas Parties

The KS1 party will be held in the afternoon of Monday 12th of December and the KS2 party is on the afternoon of Wednesday 14th of December. Children should come to school in uniform but may bring party clothes to change into after lunch. Instead of asking you to send in food generally for the children, we would like you to send in a plate with the food on it that your child would like to eat at the party. We have found this method to be less costly for parents and far less wasteful at school.

Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner is on Thursday 15th of December and you should have returned the order slip if you wish your child to have a hot meal on that day. If your child is not having Christmas dinner please send them with their own Christmas packed lunch as we are unable to provide an alternative choice on that day.

We will be wearing our Christmas jumpers to school on Thursday 15th of December. Donations of £1 would be appreciated and will go to Birmingham Children's Hospital. If your child doesn't have a Christmas jumper, you may be able to adapt a favourite with a bit of tinsel!

Panto

After dinner on the 15th, the children can relax and enjoy a performance of Cinderella in the comfort of our own school.

Christmas Carol singing

Finally, to complete our Christmas celebrations, we have a lovely tradition on the last day of term of having a very short open air Carol Service on the playground at the back of the school. This starts at 1.30.p.m. and usually lasts about 20 minutes. All are welcome to join us no matter how cold it is! Our carols will be led by the Alcester Silver Band. You are then welcome to collect your child from the classroom to take them home for an early start to the Christmas weekend. School will officially close at 3.15 as normal. It is helpful if those who use school transport could inform their provider and us of their plans on that day.

Reminders

Absence from school: Please remember to phone school and leave us a message when your child is ill and unable to attend.

Cold weather: The weather is much colder and all children need to have a coat in school.

Responsibilities: From January Mrs Allen will have overall responsibility for KS2 and Mrs Field for KS1 and nursery.



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On behalf of the staff and governors I would like to wish you all a very joyful Christmas and a happy new year.

Diary of events:

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| December | | |
| 6th | 1.30p.m. | KS1 Christmas Performance |
| 7th | 1.30p.m. | Yr 3 and 4 Christmas Performance |
| | 6.15p.m. | KS1 Christmas Performance |
| 8th | 6.15p.m. | Yr 3 and 4 Christmas Performance |
| 12th | p.m. | KS1 Christmas party |
| 13th | 6.00p.m. in St John's Church | Yr 5 and 6 Christingle Service |
| 14th | p.m. | KS2 Christmas party |
| 16th | 1.30p.m. | Carol Service |
| | | Break up for Christmas |
| January | | |
| 3rd | All day | Inset day |
| 4th | 9.00a.m. | Children return to school. |
| | | |

Term dates for 2016/2017

Autumn term

Term starts on 1.9.16 - Inset days 1.9.16 and 2.9.16. Children start back on Monday 5th of September.

Inset day Friday 21.10.16

Half term Monday 24th of October - Friday 28th of October

Inset day Monday 31st of October. Children return to school on Tuesday 1st of November

Break up Friday 16th of December

Spring term

Term starts on Tuesday 3rd of January (inset Day)

Half term Monday 20th of February – Friday 24th of February

Break up for Easter Friday 7th of April

Summer term

Term starts 24th of April

Half term Monday 29th of May – Friday 2nd of June

Break up for the summer Friday 21st of July

