



Christmas



3.12.2021

Dear parents/carers,

I wonder if you have planned your Christmas yet? One staff member has told me they have not done any shopping and another has told me they are finished & ready to wrap! I know making plans continues to be tricky at the moment.

I wanted to take a minute to share some of the arrangements we have put in place to help us celebrate the festive season at school this year. We hope to have some special moments together.

Sincere thanks for your continued support,

Zoe Avastu

Headteacher

CLASS CHRISTMAS PRESENTATIONS

We are still planning for classes to share their Christmas presentations with parents. Please see dates/times below again for the proposed festive offerings.

Class 1: Monday 6th December 2.20pm: Jesus' Christmas Party

Class 2: Tuesday 14th December 2.30pm: A Miracle in Town

Class 3: Friday 10th December 2.30pm: The First Silent Night

Class 4: Monday 13th December 2.30pm Merry Quizmas!

Class 5: Wednesday 15th December 2pm: Yee Ha!

To support reducing risk during these performances:

- All the performances/Christmas presentations will all be held in the hall which will be well ventilated. This does mean the hall will probably be colder so please make sure you dress warm!



- Chairs will be spaced as much as possible in the hall. They will be in groups of 2.
- 1-2 parents/carers per child will be the maximum.
- Parents/carers will be asked to hand sanitise when entering/leaving the site.
- Parents/carers will be asked to wear masks onsite/in the performances/presentations.

We know sharing these special moments are important for families - they are for us too! Eastington parents are brilliant audiences so come ready to tap toes, applaud the children and enjoy.

We know some parents will struggle to get time off work and that wider family might like to enjoy the Christmas presentations over the festive period. Mr Dougan will record each of class at a dress rehearsal. I will send information about how you can access these recordings when they are completed in the last week of term.

Please respect other parents and help to keep children safe by not sharing recordings on social media.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

A very organised child has asked about sending Christmas cards in school this week. We will follow a similar system to last year where children can send cards to children in their class group. Each class will have a basket/box for cards so they can be collected over the week. The cards will be held over the weekend and given out before home time. The Christmas card collection will begin on **Monday 6th December and end on Friday 10th December**. The Christmas cards collected will be given out to children on **Monday 13th December**.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND JUMPER DAY

We would love the children to wear a Christmas jumper on **Thursday 16th December**. On this day Caterlink will provide a roast turkey dinner/vegetable wellington for lunch. (Mrs Birch will have sent you a letter regarding this previously as you needed to pre-book this lunch option). We will play some festive tunes for the children to enjoy during lunch time too.

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

Though we will not be able to hold a Christmas Fair this year, the children will make a Christmas craft item in school in the last two weeks. The aim is to have a little fun and for the children to take action in raising funds for our school. I have heard chocolate features heavily this year!

Class 1 are making a clay t-light holder/festive chocolates; Class 2 are making festive chocolates; Class 3 are making festive chocolates; Class 4 are making tree decorations and Class 5 are making hot chocolate kits.

These items will be sent home in the last week of term. All children will take home the item they made. A donation of £1 would be gratefully received.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS – DECEMBER

During the December holiday period, Gloucestershire County Council is providing vouchers to parents who have signed up to our Holiday Free School Meals (FSM) scheme. These vouchers are provided by Gloucestershire County Council as part of its commitment to 'no child goes hungry'.

Parents who have signed up to the scheme will receive a voucher for £30 for each child who is eligible for FSM which will cover both weeks in the December holidays.

Parents who have signed up previously do not need to re-register, they have already been included. New registrations are encouraged from parents of children eligible for FSM as soon as possible.

Applications for Holiday Free School Meal Vouchers for the December holiday period is open from **Tuesday 30 November until midday Monday 13 December**. Voucher emails will be sent out between **13 and 15 December**.

For more information and for sign up if you haven't already please visit our website: the [Holiday Free School Meal vouchers page on](#) our website.

Please contact childrensfund@gloucestershire.gov.uk if you have any queries not answered on the Holiday Free School Meal vouchers page.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



Class One **Purple**
Class Two **Blue**
Class Three **Green**
Class Four **Orange**
Class Five **Red**

Thank you to all the parents who brought in a colourful item to contribute to the **colour** raffle hamper for their class over the last two weeks. What a wonderful array of treats! Thank you all for your generosity. The deadline for bringing in times is Monday 6th of December - just pop them into the Mrs Birch at the school office please.

Next week two books of raffle tickets for the Christmas **colour** raffle will be sent home with children. Each ticket is 50p. This your chance to win one of the five brilliant **colourful** hampers on offer.



The draw will be held on **Wednesday 15th December**. We will contact winners so they are able to collect their hampers from school before we break for the Christmas holiday.

Sincere thanks to Mrs Walton, Mrs Hayward and the PA Team for organising the raffle.



ADVENT TRAIL

Mrs Hussey and our wonderful PA team have organised a brilliant Advent Trail around the village.

Like a traditional advent calendar a window in the village will be opened each night throughout December. The creators will illuminate their windows from 5-9pm and the windows will stay on display each night so by Christmas Eve there will be 24 decorated windows around Eastington to explore. You can begin the trail on the 1st of December if you choose or wait until a few more advent windows are 'opened'. You could wait for the end of advent and enjoy the whole trail!

Maps will be available to buy from the Old Badger Inn for £5 per family. Donations can also be made to Eastington School PA via this link <https://www.justgiving.com/eastington-spa> Come and enjoy the festive trail with your family!

LAST DAY OF TERM

The last day of Autumn Term 2 is **Friday 17th December** (and children return on **Wednesday 5th January 2021**). On the last day, we will have an end of term assembly together via Teams – if we're feeling brave we might attempt to sing our two special school Christmas songs together again!