

Christmas Dates and things to note!

Dear Parents

We are fast approaching Christmas and so I am emailing you with dates and important information to prepare you for the festive season. In light of the continued risk of covid-19 to members of our community, I have made a decision that we will not be holding large events in the hall or church. I do not want to risk large numbers of people becoming unwell or needing to isolate just before Christmas. We will be doing some outdoor Christmas events which I hope you enjoy. There will be a retiring collection after each performance and the money will be spent on new reading books for each class.

1. **Friday 19th November – last day to book your child’s Christmas lunch on School Grid** You need to pay £2.52 for this via ParentPay unless your child has free school meals. (Choose the roast pork option – it doesn’t say turkey, but we honestly will be serving that!)
2. **Friday 26th November – donate money for hamper day!** Children wear own clothes (suitable for PE if they have PE that day) and bring as much money as you can afford to go to make a Christmas hamper. A separate letter was emailed on Tuesday this week with all the details.
3. **Wednesday 1st December** – last day for donating a Christmas hamper if you are doing one yourselves. Please drop off at the Intimate Theatre next door to St Monica’s Catholic Church.
4. **Christmas cards** – children can bring Christmas cards into school if they wish – but you may wish to save on paper/card & make a donation to charity instead – a personal choice.
5. **Sunday 5th Dec – Christmas coffee and cakes after Mass** at 9am and 10.30am at St Monica’s Church. All donations will go to The Friends
6. **Wednesday 8th Dec – Christmas dinner day** – Remember no packed lunch needed if you have booked a Christmas dinner that day. Wear school uniform as normal.
7. **Friday 10th December – Christmas Disco after school!** Thanks to all the staff at school who are all working together to make sure the children have a brilliant Christmas disco in their classrooms! Children can come into school wearing their disco clothes – or bring their disco clothes in a bag to change into if they have PE that day (Reception children will not have PE that day). They will be given sweets & a drink at the disco – thanks to The Friends for organising! Home time collection will be from the classroom doors as normal but at 4.30pm when the disco ends. We strongly advise that you do not drive into Cannon road to collect your child as there is such limited parking space on the road and the car park will not be available to use as it is used as an exit for children.
8. **Monday 13th Dec – 2.45pm Years 5 & 6 Christmas performance in the Junior Playground**
9. **Tuesday 14th Dec – 2.45pm Years 3 & 4 Christmas performance in the Junior Playground**
10. **Thursday 16th Dec – 2.45pm Years 1 & 2 Christmas performance in the Junior Playground**
Families of children are welcome to attend these performances. Please note that they are all weather dependent. Reception will post something onto Tapestry for parents to enjoy.
11. **Friday 17th Dec – Christmas party day** – Children to wear party clothes – no PE lessons this day.
12. **Monday 20th Dec – Panto Day!** Thanks to The Friends, each class will be able to watch a panto of “Sleeping Beauty” in our school hall. Children are welcome to come dressed for Christmas this day – tinsel, party hats, Christmas jumpers – or anything else more creative if you like!
13. **Monday 20th Dec – Carols around the tree** – School Choir to lead singing outside school after school at 4pm at the front entrance – all families welcome (also weather dependent).
14. **Tuesday 21st Dec – School closes for the Christmas holiday at 1pm**
15. **Wednesday 5th January – school closed for INSET day** – school will reopen to all children on Thursday 6th January.

We hope that St Monica’s School can bring Christmas cheer to all our children and families!

Kind regards,

Kate Baptiste