

NEWSLETTER

Friday 27th November

Christmas Plans

Thank you to everybody for completing the photo/video permission forms.

This year we have a number of restrictions on what we are able to do, based on the actions we are taking to reduce the risk of spreading Covid infection. Where we have had to take out an activity, we have tried to replace it with something similar.

Our youngest children will be performing ***I-Spy Christmas***. They will be supported by the singing from the rest of the school. This will be videoed and the video put on our website. We often have a number of other visitors to watch the performances – playgroup, councillors, Monday Club etc. We will be sending a link to the video to these people so they can share the festivity as usual.



On Friday 4th December, we will be holding a non-uniform day. This is in exchange for hamper prizes for the PTA. There is a sign-up sheet for prizes in the bike shed. This to prevent crowding around the sheet – please socially distance when signing (and bring your own pen!) Boxes for donations will be left outside classrooms that day.

On 7th December, the children will be making **decorations** to give their classroom a festive feel, slightly earlier than usual.

We will not be running our Christmas Post box this year. This is because of the complications involved in quarantining the cards. Please do not send your child in with Christmas cards. Instead, classes will be **making their own cards** to send to all other classes. These will be shared on the 8th December.

Friday 11th December is Save the Children's **Christmas Jumper Day**. We will encourage children to wear a festive jumper in return for an (online) donation.

Monday 14th December is the date we plan to share our **performance video**. In addition to sharing the link, Fox Class will be writing letters to the Barns Green Monday Club, making sure that we retain those important links.

Wednesday 16th December is our **Christmas lunch**. This year, instead of crackers, children will spend the morning designing and making their own Christmas hat.

On 17th December we are hoping for a **special visitor** for our younger children. I am currently sharing my safety plan with his Elf and Safety Team¹ so this can go ahead.

Finally, on 18th December, it's the last day of term. As usual for an end of term, **school ends for children at 1:30**.

And there will be extra festive activities along the way...

Gifts for staff

Teachers are very grateful for the presents that children bring to them. However, this year we are asking that children do not bring in presents for the teachers. Again, this is down to quarantining complications.²

Christmas Lunch

All KS1 (UIFSM) children will have a Christmas meal ordered for them. If preferred they are welcome to bring in a festive packed lunch instead. Please see the attached menu. If you would like your KS2 child to have a Christmas meal please place your order by **Sunday 6th December** using the following link:

<https://www.mealselector.co.uk/>

We will not be accepting cash orders this year. If you do not order by the deadline, please send your child to school with a festive packed lunch.

¹ Sorry!

² As I don't want to be known as "Mr Grinch-Simmons", I will be treating the staff to doughnuts in the last week!

INSET – change of date

Please note that the INSET day planned for 8th January has been moved to 12th February.

Covid

Everything we have planned depends on our ability to remain open. Thank you to all for your support with face masks – it does help to make our staff feel secure.

Please remember that we ask for 1 adult from a family to bring children in, and we ask that parents stay behind the hedges as this is a good, social distance.

We do have staff who are in the extremely clinically vulnerable group – infection for them would be very serious.