

Newsletter – Friday 2nd December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has seen the beginning of Advent in school and as well as reflecting on why this is such an important time in the Christian calendar, we have also seen the start of all things Christmas in school this week! On Wednesday, Reverend Banks led Collective Worship and lit the first of the Advent candles for us, then on Thursday the school day began with the return of our Kindness Elves and of course lots of Christmas trees and decorations around school. Thank you to everyone for helping to decorate for Christmas – school is beginning to look very festive!



Upcoming Christmas Events:

Wednesday 7th December – Acorns Class visit to Basenfell to learn about the Christmas Story. Details about this trip have already been circulated to Acorns Class parents, but if you need any information or have missed anything, just get in touch.

Thursday 8th December – School Christmas dinner and Christmas Jumper Day. Children can come to school wearing their normal uniform but with a Christmas jumper, top or dress instead of their usual school one. Any other Christmassy embellishments are fine too!

Monday 12th December – Acorns performance of Whoops a Daisy Angel at 2:30pm. Details for this have already gone out to Acorns parents, but if you need any more information, just ask.

Wednesday 14th December (change of date) – Sands Centre Pantomime trip. You will notice that there has been a change of date here, as we had at first got this booked for Thursday 15th. However, following a problem with the Sands Centre's booking system, we have had no choice but to move our booking for reasons completely beyond our control. We hope that this does not affect anyone in any way as the trip will be happening completely within the school day, but if it does and there is a problem, let us know and we will do our best to help. We will be travelling to and from the Sands Centre by coach and children will require a packed lunch on that day. We will be providing the children with a drink and a treat for the performance so there is no need to send anything else with them that day. They will need to be in full school uniform, as there will be lots of schools present at the performance.

Monday 19th December – Whole school Carol Service at St Michael's Church in Torpenhow. The whole school will be going to Church for our Carol Service and the lighting of our Christingles. KS2 will be giving the readings and will be performing Carols that they have learnt in music lessons. There will also be lots of congregational carols to join in with, so we hope to see as many of you as possible there. The service will start at 2:45pm that afternoon and children will need to be picked up from the Church that day rather than school at 3:30pm. If your child travels by school bus and you are not present to take them home, then the bus will pick up from the Church instead of from school that day, and if your child is attending after school club, school staff will be able to transport them back to school.

Tuesday 20th December – School Christmas party. We will be having our school Christmas party on the last day of term and children are welcome to come to school in party clothes. They will be playing outside at break and lunchtime though, so please ensure they have suitable clothing and shoes for doing this. Once again, we will be providing party snacks and drinks on this day, so there is no need for you to provide anything.

Year 5 Design and Technology morning at Beacon Hill School

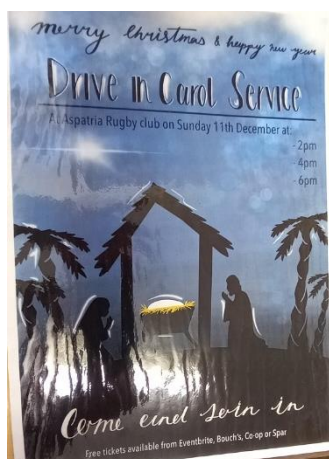
We were excited to get a last-minute invitation this week from Beacon Hill School for our Year 5 children to take part in a Design and Technology day. The children had a fantastic morning designing and making shortbread biscuits and then designing a gift bag to present them in. The results look delicious and Mrs Harrison, who took the children this morning, said that the children had been complimented by Beacon Hill staff for their excellent behaviour, manners and enthusiasm. Well done Year Five – we are very proud of you all!



Cost of Living – Support for Parents / Carers and their Families

Although Christmas is a wonderful time of year with lots to celebrate and enjoy, there are also often lots of pressures too. We are always here to talk to if you are finding things difficult and if we can't help we will always do our best to find someone who can.

This year, Cumbria County Council has committed 'Household Support Grant' funds to support any families experiencing Food and Utility hardship. Families can access the information on the support available through the council's 'Ways to Welfare' website and you can find useful information by following this link: <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/costofliving/default.asp>



Drive in Carol Service at Aspatia Rugby Club

There will once again be a drive-in Carol Service at Aspatia Rugby Club on Sunday 11th December and it will be held at three separate times that day of 2pm, 4pm and 6pm. We have recorded two Carols sung by our children which will be played as part of the service and it promises to be a lovely festive event once again. Free tickets are available from Eventbrite, Bouch's, Co-op or Spar.

Celebrations:

WOW learning certificates have gone to:

Immy for super progress in phonics; James for super work multiplying using equal groups; and Layla M for a super week of maths all round!

Our certificates linked to school values have gone to:

Maverick for showing love and kindness to his friend when they were upset; Charlotte for showing Courage; and Kelsey B for showing Perseverance in her work. Well done everyone!

PTA News:

Following on from our last meeting, we will be having another PTA meeting straight after school on Monday 5th December. This will be our AGM and we would love to see even more of you there. I did, as promised, bring biscuits last time and we can keep an eye on the children too! We are busy planning future events to help raise money for developing our school library, so any extra help is very much appreciated.

Christmas Services at St Michael's Church in Torpenhow:

As well as our own Christmas celebrations and services in school, there are also special Christmas services at St Michael's Church in Torpenhow. We have been asked to let you know about them and everyone is welcome!

- Sunday 18th December – 3.00pm: Carol Service followed by mulled wine and mince pies. (Donations of mince pies greatly received).
- Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December – 10.00am: Christmas Holy Communion

Dates for your diaries so far: **(More details and dates will follow)**

Monday 5th December 3:40pm – PTA meeting

Wednesday 7th December - Acorns class visit to Bassenfell

Thursday 8th December – School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

Monday 12th December 2:30pm – EYFS / KS1 Christmas performance – Whoops-a-Daisy Angel

Wednesday 14th December – Sands Pantomime trip **NOTE CHANGE OF DATE**

Monday 19th December 2:45pm – Carol Service at Church

Tuesday 20th December – Christmas party

Tuesday 20th December – School closes for Christmas at 3:30pm. After School Club will run until 4:30pm this day

Have a lovely weekend everyone and see you on Monday!

Mrs Page