

November 2014

Dear Parents/Carers

Please find details and a calendar of events on the run up to Christmas. Please keep the calendar handy for your reference.

School Photographer

The school photographer is due in school this week on the morning of **Thursday 20 November**. Every child will have their photo taken on that day in order that our school records are up to date. However, if you do not wish to purchase the photographs upon receiving the proof, you are under no obligation to do so. *Please ensure your child is wearing school uniform.*

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If you have any other requirements other than a single photograph of your child, for example, with siblings *within* school or pre-school, please complete and return the slips from the letter sent out last week.

The photographer will start at 9.00 am with those families who wish for pre-school siblings to be included.

SAMARITAN'S SHOEBOX APPEAL



Once again, we are collecting Christmas shoeboxes for the Samaritan's Purse appeal and these are being picked up from school on **Friday 21 November**. If you are supporting the appeal, can I thank you on behalf of the charity for your kindness. Please make sure the shoeboxes are in for first thing this Friday morning.

Non-Uniform/Unwanted Gift Day

Friday 21 November is also our Non-Uniform Day – children may wear their own clothes and bring an unwanted gift into school to go towards our raffle prizes. Please note that make-up, nail varnish and heeled shoes are still not allowed.

DINNER MONEY

Could all parents please adhere to the following:

Please note that all dinner monies must be paid on a **Monday** for the week ahead. As we are unable to change large notes, please ensure procedure is followed – <u>ALL</u> dinner money should be placed in an envelope with the child's name on and **handed in to the class teacher**. If you wish to pay by cheque, please make it payable to "Durham County Council".

BATTERY RECYCLING

Please don't forget the school runs a Battery Recycling Scheme. The box is situated on the front desk and accepts batteries from electrical and electronic equipment including mobile phones, laptops and power tool batteries as well as normal household batteries.

Car batteries, industrial batteries and loose connecting wires cannot be accepted through this scheme. Damaged or leaking batteries should also not be placed in the box.

PANTOMIME

We have a theatre production company coming into school to perform the pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk" on Monday 1 December. If you wish for your child to view the pantomime, please send £5 in a named envelope and their teacher will allocate them a ticket. If you have more than one child, it would be £5 for the first child and then £3 for any siblings. These payments should be sent into school before **Thursday 27 November** to book a place.





CHRISTMAS LUNCH

This year, Christmas lunch will be served on **Wednesday 3 December** for staff, governors and pupils. If your child is on packed lunches, they can book their Christmas lunch for £1.95. Please note that numbers $\underline{\text{must}}$ be in by 26 November. Please send orders in a clearly marked envelope.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

This year, our Christmas Fayre will be held on **Friday 5 December** at **1.30 pm**, where we will be having a number of stalls including refreshments. If you have any such items you would like to donate, such as raffle prizes, tombola prizes, bric-a-brac, toys, handbags, scarves or jewellery, could you please bring them into school by the morning of Thursday 4



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December. Please find attached two strips of raffle tickets for the Fayre. Please print your name on the back of **each** raffle ticket and return to school with 50p per strip in a clearly marked envelope.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

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Our Christingle Service will be held on **Monday 8 December at 2.30pm** at St Philip's and St James' Church and all are welcome to attend. Parents may accompany their children on the walk down to church and if you wish to do so, please arrive in school by 2.00 pm. Nursery/Reception parents – please inform Mrs Turner and sign the sheet in the porch.

The children will be dismissed from church after the service, *so please collect your child from the church*. If your child is in KS2 they may walk home themselves.

As every year, your child will be bringing home their own Christingle candle collection box for any donations you wish to make to the Children's Society. These should be brought into school before Friday 5 December.

EYFS/KS1 NATIVITY PLAY

Our Early Years/KS1 Nativity play will take place on **Friday 12 December** at 9.30 am. Please come along and entrance is £1 to be paid at the door.



KS2 Performance of "Joseph"



This year, KS2 will be carrying out a performance of "Joseph" on Wednesday 17 December at 2.00 pm. Entrance will be £1 at the door.

FAMILY ASSEMBLIES AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

There will be no School Clubs on the last week of term and they will resume when notified after the Christmas break. There are no more Family Assemblies for the remainder of this term.

CELEBRATIONS ASSEMBLY

Our Celebrations Assembly is on **Thursday 18 December** at **2.00 pm** and all are welcome to attend.



CHRISTMAS PARTIES/LAST DAY OF TERM

The children's Christmas parties will be on **Friday 19 December**, which is the last day of term. Children may come to school in their party clothes, however, please note that sensible shoes must still be worn and make up is not allowed during school hours. Please note this is not a toy day so please do not send toys into school.

The children will have a Christmas buffet lunch and children on packed lunches may order one for £1.95. Orders must be received by Friday 28 November in a marked envelope.

And Finally

We break up for Christmas on Friday 19 December and if you wish, you may pick up your child from 1.15 pm. We return to school on Tuesday 6 January 2015.

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year!!

Lisa Jackson Headteacher



TOW LAW MILLENNIUM PRIMARY SCHOOL 2014 Christmas Activities

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Date	Time	Event
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Thursday 20 November	9.00 am	Whole School Photographs – please ensure school uniform worn.
Friday 21 November	All day	Non-uniform Day and bring an unwanted gift
	am	Collection of Samaritan's Purse Shoeboxes
Monday 1 December	9.30 am	"Jack and the Beanstalk" pantomime in school
Wednesday 3 December	12 noon	Christmas Dinner Day (for children, staff and governors only)
Thursday 4 December	11.30 – 12.30 pm	Carol Singing at Tesco, Consett
Friday 5 December	10.45 pm	Carol Singing at Baring Court
	1.30 pm	Christmas Fayre in the School Hall
Monday 8 December	2.30 pm	Christingle Service in St Philip's & St James' Church. All parents/carers welcome. Children dismissed from church.
Wednesday 10 December	9.30 am	Dress Rehearsal – KS1 Nativity Play (for KS2 to view – children only)
Friday 12 December	9.30 am	EYFS/KS1 Nativity Performance. Entrance £1 at door.
	2.00 pm	Dress Rehearsal – KS2 Performance (for EYFS/KS1 to view – children only)
Monday 15 December	pm	Grand Opening of Early Years Playground Equipment (exact details to be arranged)
Wednesday 17 December	2.00 pm	KS2's Performance of "Joseph". Entrance £1 at door.
Thursday 18 December	2.00 pm	Celebrations Assembly in School Hall
Friday 19 December	am	Christmas Parties followed by Xmas buffet lunch (no toys to be brought in)
	School closes for X	mas break. Parents can pick children up from 1.15 pm.
Tuesday 6 January 2015	8.55 am	School re-opens.