



Mr A Ramanandi
Head Teacher

8th December 2017

Dear Parents & Carers

As it's such a busy time of year, please find a list of events for the last 2 weeks in school.

Christmas Performances

All tickets have been distributed to the children. If any tickets are returned we will contact those next on the list for grandparents tickets.

The dates for the performances of Straw and Order (KS2) and Prickly Hay (Rec and KS1) are

Monday 11th December - Grandparents

Tuesday 12th December - Parents and Carers

Wednesday 13th December - Parents and Carers

Thursday 14th December - Parents and Carers

Opening Times of the school hall for our Christmas performances are:

Wheelchair/mobility difficulties arrival time - from 1:10 pm

Non-wheelchair arrival time - from 1:15 pm

As the school hall is also used as our dining area, please don't arrive too early, as we cannot open the doors until we have the seating ready in the hall but please arrive before 1:25 pm to ensure you are seated before the performance begins as late arrivals disturb the performance.

We are very limited with car parking and are unable to use the spaces for the Gym next door; therefore we would advise that you leave enough time to find an appropriate space in neighbouring areas, giving consideration to our local residents. Please be particularly careful not to park in front of any drives or garages as it can be embarrassing if we have to stop a performance to ask for a car causing an obstruction to be moved.

People's Kitchen

This Christmas, the school is collecting for the People's Kitchen a charity based in Newcastle for homeless people. In the last week of term, some of our Mini Vinnies will take the donated food to the People's Kitchen so please have items you wish to donate in school by **Friday 15th December**. So far we have only received a few items so any long-life food items, such as tins of any food, long-life milk, dried pasta, biscuits, tea bags, sugar etc will be greatly appreciated. As so many of you will be popping in to see the performances that might be an ideal opportunity to drop a tin off. We have distributed 480 tickets so if each audience member brought just one tin, we would have a carful of produce to take to the People's Kitchen to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

School Choir visit to Hadrian House

On **Tuesday 12th December**, some of our school choir will visit the residents of Hadrian House, Blaydon to entertain them with a melody of Christmas Carols.

Christmas Raffle

The Friends of St Joseph's thank everyone who have donated prizes for the raffle. The Christmas Raffle will drawn on **Thursday 14th December**.

Briarwood Residential Home

During the morning of **Thursday 14th December**, our Year 6 children will be visiting the residents of Briarwood Home to entertain them with a medley of Christmas Carols.

Children's Parties

The dates for the Christmas parties are as follows:

Monday 18th December

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Wednesday 20th December

Reception Class and Years 1 and 2

Please send your children to school dressed for their party. The teachers will inform parents nearer the time of what food is required. School meals will be as normal on the days of the parties; therefore a week's money is required as normal.

Peter Pan

The children are visiting the Theatre Royal to see Peter Pan on **Tuesday 19th December**. Any children who are not going to the pantomime will need to be collected from school between 12:00 - 12:15 pm.

The children are expected to return to school after the show by 5:15 pm. If there is a change of time, parents and carers will be notified by text.

Parents and carers are asked not to approach the coaches to try to take their children as they dismount their coach as this will interfere with children's safety. The children will be escorted to the KS1 yard to be returned to their parents and carers.

School Choir at Gosforth

During the morning of **Wednesday 20th December**, some of our school choir will visit Home Group Ltd in Gosforth to sing some Christmas Carols.

Grainger Market

On **Thursday 21st December**, children from Year 5 will visit the Grainger Market to sell products they have made as part of Virgin Money 'Make £5 Grow' enterprise project.

Gibside

The children in Reception, Years 1 & 2 are to visit Gibside on the afternoon of **Thursday 21st December** to take part in a Christmas Trail. Please ensure the children are dressed in warm coats, hats, gloves and wellies for the visit.



Christmas Mass

There will be a Christmas mass held at St Joseph's Church on the last day of term, **Friday 22nd December at 10:00 am**. You are all welcome to join us at this special time of year to celebrate mass.

Children may not be collected from church as school does not finish until 3:15 pm.

Start of New term

There will be a staff training day on Monday 8th January so children will return to school on **Tuesday 9th January 2018**.

Yours sincerely

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