

THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL

This week, staff and children have been working hard on preparations for our 'Virtual Christmas' events at the end of term. In line with updated guidance for schools in Tier 3, which was released yesterday by the Department for Education, we are planning to create virtual nativities for Nursery, Reception and KS1 parents; a virtual Carol Service for our KS2 parents; and also a virtual Music Concert for parents of children in our school ensembles. All of the performances will be shared with you by email in the last week of term. The email will contain a link to an 'unlisted' YouTube video. As the videos will be 'unlisted', this will mean that the general public will not be able to access them; the only way to either find, or watch the videos, will be to click on the link in the email. In order to safeguard all of our children, whilst at the same time providing all within our community with the excitement and enjoyment of Christmas performances, it is vital that nothing from the videos is posted on any social media site.

A team of staff have also been working together on a 'special event' for the children in the last week of term and to support them in this, we are looking for donations of solar outdoor fairy lights and Christmas wrapping paper! If you have either of these which you could donate to the school, please can they be handed to the office, a member of staff on the gate, or to your child's class teacher. Thanks in advance for your support with this!

NEXT WEEK

On Monday morning we will be marking the beginning of Advent in school. Our Christmas tree is hopefully arriving this evening! As mentioned in previous newsletters, rather than sending individual cards this year, we will be encouraging children to write their Christmas message on a bauble and place it on their 'Christmas Wishes' tree on their classroom door.

We have been asked by the Local Authority to encourage parents and carers to wear masks when in and around our school site, so from Monday, please can we ask those who are able to do so to support us in this.

VALUES FOR LIFE

This week we have celebrated the feast of Christ the King in school. This feast day marks the end of the Anglican church year and we will begin the new year on Advent Sunday.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

This week, staff have received training on some small changes which we are going to be making to the teaching of English and Maths in January; these changes will include a much greater focus on 1:1 reading throughout school. We have also purchased a new reading scheme for our KS2 children, which we hope to be able to launch in the Spring Term.

★ BAILDON STARS ★

Congratulations to this week's KS2 stars!

3S: Charlotte & Isabelle

4AW: Freya & Amelia

5G: Millie & Imogen

6B: Tilly & Charlie

3HS: Stanley & Lottie

4M: Caitlyn & Toby

5B: Thomas & Archie

6V: James & Chloe

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Mon: Ham/Margherita Pizza, or a Jacket **Tue:** Bacon & Tomato Pasta/Quorn Meatballs, or a Jacket
Wed: BBQ Chicken, BBQ Quorn Fillets, or a Jacket
Thurs: Fish & Chips, Tomato Pasta, or a Jacket
Fri: Chicken Katsu Curry, Pumpkin Katsu Curry, or a Jacket

NOTICEBOARD

PTFA News

Last week, the PTFA circulated information about our exciting new 'Secret Santa' event which is being held in school on the last day of term. Don't forget that as well as paying for your gifts on school money, you also need to return the reply slip to school.

Alternative Christmas Cards - PTFA Appeal

Due to Covid-19, we will unfortunately be unable to support children in handing out Christmas cards this year, however, we understand that many children will still want an opportunity to wish their fellow pupils and teachers a Merry Christmas.

Therefore, the PTFA will be providing each class with a well wishes Christmas Tree and each pupil and teacher will be given a bauble to decorate and sign their name on in school time, which will then be added to the class tree. In return for a bauble, we would be delighted to receive a small donation of your choice to the PTFA, this may be around the price you would choose to spend on Christmas cards for your children to write. Donations can be made on 'School Money' - the default amount is £1, but this can be changed. Please note that this donation is not compulsory and all children will be offered a bauble.

Christmas Jumper Day

We will be supporting the charity 'Save the Children' by holding a Christmas Jumper Day in school on the last day of term (Friday December 18th). Please do not feel that you need to purchase a jumper for your child if they do not already have one; they can simply come to school in non-uniform / Christmas party clothes. We will arrange for donations to be made through school money.

Virtual Open Evening for Prospective Parents

Due to the challenges of Covid19, we are unfortunately unable to hold a traditional open evening for prospective parents and carers. I am therefore very grateful to Mr Holliday for his work in creating a virtual presentation for us, all about our school, which can be found at the bottom of the home page of the school website.

Staffing Update

We are delighted that Miss Lafferty will be returning to school just before Christmas following her maternity leave. Miss Lafferty will be working alongside Miss Marlborough, Miss Wright and Mrs Demurtas in Nursery.

Christmas Dinner

We will be holding our annual Christmas Dinner for children in Reception - Year 6 on Thursday December 17th. All children are invited to join us for dinner if they would like to, including those who normally have packed lunches. Christmas Dinners have been ordered for all children who would normally have a school dinner. If your child has packed lunches normally and would like to order a Christmas Dinner, please can all orders be completed on school money by lunchtime on Thursday December 3rd.

KS2 PE Kit

Please can we remind you that all children need to have their outdoor PE kit in school each week. Outdoor PE Kit includes a warm tracksuit, a change of socks and outdoor trainers.

Covid Update

Please can we remind you that should your child be tested for Covid and the result then be positive, you should contact the school office immediately. During the school day, please can this be done by telephone where possible and out of hours (including weekends), please can you email office@baildonce.co.uk with the subject line 'Covid Test'. We would also like to remind parents or carers that the current government guidance states that if anyone within your household has potential Covid symptoms, including a raised temperature, then the whole household should self-isolate until a test has been carried out.