



Pauntley Church of England Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Friday 4th December



Our termly Value: Compassion

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Romans 12:15

Only two weeks to go and the school has been hit with an explosion of tinsel and trees. The children have had great fun decorating the tree in the lobby, kindly donated by Farmer Jim. Tinsel and baubles have also made their way into various other nooks and crannies and the whole school has a real festive feel.

Obviously, as we approach the last two weeks of term we want everybody to remain safe and be able to fully enjoy their Christmas break. Please remember to maintain social distancing on the playground; wear masks and follow government guidelines.

What have the children been up to?

Malvern Class did a 'Play in a Day' on Wednesday and what a fantastic production it was. The children performed the Victorian Museum play and May Hill Class were very lucky to watch it. During the play the children told very important facts about the Victorian times and what it was like to be a Victorian child.

Did you know that the Victorians invented the first safe electric light bulb, the first public flushing toilet and the phonograph which recorded the first human voice? Nor did we, but thanks to Malvern Class, we all know now!



May Hill Class

The Reception children have been making Gruffalo Crumble.

The whole school enjoyed Christmas carols as they decorated the tree.



Christmas Fun

Christmas Hamper Raffle – The Friends have organised a Christmas hamper raffle, please look out for the letter which will be out soon.

Christmas Secret Gift Shop – Will be open on Friday 11th December for those children who have placed orders. Thanks to the Friends of Pauntley for organising and giving up their free time to help out at the shop.

Christmas Buffet – On Wednesday 16th December the children will enjoy a Covid friendly Christmas buffet. We have outside caterers providing the food. The Friends of Pauntley (PTFA) have very kindly paid for this buffet and **we are very grateful for all the hard work they do throughout the year, fundraising for our school.**

Wear your Christmas Jumper Day – Your child can come to school wearing a Christmas jumper instead of their usual school sweatshirt / cardigan (optional) on **Wednesday 16th December.**

Christmas Post Box – Children will be allowed to write Christmas cards to their friends this year and the post box will 'open' for post between Friday 4th - Monday 14th December. Due to Covid, we will need three days quarantine for the cards. **The last day for posting will be on the Monday 14th and we will NOT be able to take any late post.** For those not wishing to send cards, we will also have a large Christmas card for your child to sign with a recommended donation (tinned beans, rice etc.) for the Lords Larder.

Christmas Play Day – Will be on Friday 18th December. The children will have fun playing with the games and toys we already have at school.

Experience Nativity – Tuesday 15th December – **Dressing up optional**

Owen Westall and Rev Kat Mepham have offered a fabulous opportunity for our children this Christmas.

We would love it if year groups could experience what it would have been like to be one of the characters of the Christmas story. We want to give them an opportunity to hear from Mary and Joseph about what it was like, and see where Jesus was born (or what it might have been like).

We aim to turn the library into a stable, where they can come and meet Mary and Joseph. If possible, we thought it would be great (and add to the experience) if the children come dressed up as either shepherds or wise men. They will then be met by an Angel/Star to start their journey to the stable to meet the baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Rv. Kat). We will also have a craft activity after.

Notices

Uniform – Don't forget to look in the Pre-Loved uniform box which can now be found in the school lobby. We have lots of Pre-loved uniform available, only 50p per item.

Forest School – Wednesday 9th December – Malvern Class

Face masks – We are very happy to see those parents / carers who are wearing face masks on the playground. When talking to other parents, please remember to keep to the recommended distance. Many thanks.

Mrs Tyler – Please remember to take a heart from the school noticeboard and to write a personal farewell message to Mrs Tyler. All completed hearts will be used to make the leavers card. Please spread the word because we are sure that many past pupils and parents will want to get involved in making this card really special. Please return completed hearts in book bags; into the zip bag on the noticeboard or to Mrs Connelly or Miss Bruce by **Friday 11th December**. Any monetary donations can be given into the office please. It would be very wonderful if as many as possible could be involved. *Thank you.*

Adverse weather

In advance of any adverse weather conditions this winter can we remind you of the procedures in the event of snow. In the event of school closure we will send out a text message by 7.30am. Details will also be on the county council website www.glosclosedschools.com, Twitter @Glos_schools and local radio stations. **Please make doubly sure all contact telephone numbers and email addresses are up to date with the school office.**

Dates for the diary:

Forward warning – Week beginning 14th December – There will be **NO** after school clubs on the last week of term. Early risers will continue as usual.

Please provide your child with a plastic carrier bag w/c 14th December for them to bring home Christmas goodies and pictures and work they have completed during the term.

Do you qualify for Healthy Start?

If you are pregnant, or have a child under 4, you could get Healthy Start Vouchers to help buy some basic foods. This important “means-tested scheme” provides vouchers to spend with local retailers. Pregnant women and children over 1, and under 4, can get £3.10 voucher per week. Children under 1 can get two £3.10 vouchers (£6.20) per week.

You qualify for Healthy Start if you’re at least 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under four years old **and** you or your family get:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance *
- Child Tax Credit with a family income of £16,190 or less per year
- Pension Credit; or
- Universal Credit with no earned income or total earned income of £408 or less per month for the family. (*To find this refer to your Universal Credit award notice in the section “your take home pay for this month”.*)

You also qualify if you are under 18 and pregnant, even if you don’t get any of the above benefits.

To see if you qualify visit: <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/healthy-start-vouchers/>

Harvest

We have extended the links for Harvest videos until 31st December.

You can access this by clicking on the link below:

[Malvern](#)

[Mayhill](#)

The password is the same as the previously communicated by email.



A social media app that gives users the opportunity to share 60 second short videos with friends, family or the entire world, it was the most downloaded app of 2019.

Can your child access it?

Have you set privacy locks and restrictions?

Do you limit and supervise screen time?

Some parents who have expressed concerns around the inappropriate language of some of the videos posted, the sexual content and more importantly contact from strangers, predators seeking to connect with children is a growing concern.

Please help us keep your children safe - we know children in our school are using it – the age restriction 13!!

Achievements

A huge well done to pupil's receiving awards this week:

May Hill Class: Tallula & Theo

Malvern Class: Kangna, James & Lisa



Mr Larner's Joke of the Week

What do elves use to make sandwiches?

Shortbread!