

School Newsletter

2 December 2022



Dear Parents & Carers,

With only two weeks left of term, the events going on in school are keeping us all very busy. We know there is a lot to remember, so please keep a note of the diary dates below and read the information carefully about things going on in school.

Thank you to everyone who came to our Travelling Book Fair last week. It was a great success and due to the number of books sold, we raised over £400 to spend on books for our school. What an amazing total!

Next week, we are opening our doors to parents who wish to come and view their children's books from this term. We hope you will enjoy seeing the work that the children have completed since the half term holidays. If you can't make the sessions next week, we will be having further events throughout the year as well as opportunities to look at books at Parents' Evening. On the Open Book evenings, please enter school via the quad doors. Your children can take you round to their classrooms to show you their books.

We are also looking forward to welcoming parents into school to watch the Christmas performances. As explained below, as your ticket, we would appreciate a donation of a bag of sugar, which will go to the Buckingham Christmas School Sugar Appeal.

On the last day of term, we are having a free non-uniform day to celebrate the end of term. Children can wear Christmas jumpers if they wish. We always have an optional competition for the best home-designed Christmas jumper with a prize for one person in each year group.

Kindest regards,

Mrs Robinson, Mr Keer and Mrs Seagrave

Dates for Your Diary

Wed 7 Dec	Year 3 and 4 Christmas lunch day	
	Open Book event 3:15pm – 4pm to view your child's books	
Thurs 8 Dec	Year 5 and 6 Christmas lunch day	
	Open Book event 3:15pm – 4pm to view your child's books	
Sat 10 Dec	Friends of Firside Christmas Fayre 10am-1pm	
Mon 12 Dec	FOF Christmas jumper sale – any donations gratefully received	
Tues 13 Dec	9:30 AM Year 5 Christmas performance	1:45 PM Year 3 Christmas performance
Wed 14 Dec	9:30 AM Year 6 Christmas performance	1:45 PM Year 4 Christmas performance
Fri 16 Dec	Last day of term – free non- uniform day with optional Christmas jumpers	
	School closes for ALL pupils at 1:30pm. There will be no After School Club on this day.	
Wed 4 Jan	First day of term	

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WENSUM TRUST

FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES



FOF Christmas Market Saturday 10 December

We look forward to welcoming everyone to the Friends of Firside Christmas Market between 10am and 1pm. There will be crafts, food, games and more! Please come to support FOF raise money for our school.

Christmas performance

The children are busy rehearsing their Christmas performances to share with you. The performance times will be:

Tues 13 Dec	9:30 AM Year 5 Christmas performance	1:45 PM Year 3 Christmas performance
Wed 14 Dec	9:30 AM Year 6 Christmas performance	1:45 PM Year 4 Christmas performance

On the day, please enter school via the School Office. At the end of the afternoon performances, children will be able to leave if their parents are attending. The afternoon performances will be finished in time for parents to go to collect younger children from their infant schools. At the moment, we are unsure of exact running times but usually the performances are 30 - 40 minutes long. **There are two seats per family for each performance.**

Buckingham Christmas School Sugar Collection

Every year we support the homeless, needy and vulnerable in Norfolk and Suffolk by collecting sugar for shelters. A huge amount of sugar is needed in shelters and food kitchens in the cold days of winter and particularly over Christmas. Last year, nearly 6 tonnes of sugar was collected and we would like to help again this year.

When you come to your child's Christmas performance this year, we would really appreciate it if you could bring a bag of sugar (any size) as your entry ticket! If every family contributed just one bag of sugar, we could help by donating 250-300 bags!



Christmas Lunch days 13 and 14 December

Please remember that on Christmas lunch days, the only available lunches to order are the Christmas lunch or a school packed lunch (only available for those entitled to Free School Meals). Everyone else should have a home packed lunch.

On Wednesday 7 December, the only lunches available are for Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas lunches and then Free School Meal school packed lunches for anyone entitled to them.

On Thursday 8 December, the only lunches available are for Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas lunches and then Free School Meal school packed lunches for anyone entitled to them.

We are part of...



Nut-free and fish-free lunches

A reminder to all families that we aim to be a nut free school. This is due to severe allergies of some children in our school. Please help us to keep them safe by refraining from including nut products in your child's lunchbox. This includes whole nuts, nuts in cereal bars, peanut butter and Nutella. We have noticed a few chocolate bars coming in to school which contain nuts (for example, Kinder Bueno bars). Please ensure that these are not in lunchboxes.



There should also be **no fish** in packed lunches, this is due to severe allergies of children in our school. This includes, but is not limited to: tuna, salmon, fish paste, fish pate, fish sticks and prawns. We do not serve fish as a hot dinner or jacket potato filling option.



We ask that all parents follow this guidance, as food allergies can be very serious.

Norfolk Assistance Scheme (NAS)

The Norfolk Assistance Scheme (NAS) helps people who are in financial hardship and cannot pay their living costs. There are many reasons why this might happen to you:

- Redundancy
- Work hours have been cut
- On a low income or benefits
- Waiting for Universal Credit payments
- A home emergency such a fire or flood
- Have a special educational need or disability
- Have mental health issues or in ill health
- Have left an abusive relationship
- Have dependent children
- In a resettlement scheme

If you are eligible they can:

- Provide emergency financial help
- Supply essential household goods and furniture
- Give support, guidance and advice.

[Click here for more information about how to apply.](#)

Christmas Post box

Our Christmas postal service is now up and running. Children can post Christmas cards for their friends and staff using the post box in the corridor near the office. Year 6 volunteers will then sort and deliver the post at lunchtimes. Please make sure that the recipient's name **and** class is clearly written on the envelopes.

We are part of...

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