

Newsletter 24th November 2022

December is nearly upon us and we have lots of activities arranged over the coming weeks. This newsletter is purely about those plans so that you have it all in one place.

As well as being busy it is also very exciting, although there are various activities throughout the month, we will try to keep the excitement to a minimum until the last week of term!

Autumn Term:

November	
Sat/Sun 26 th & 27 th	Christmas Tree Festival and Craft Fair – All Saints Church
Wed 30 th	Welcome Weekday 2.30pm
December	
Fri 2 nd	Light switch on
Mon 5 th	Education Inclusion Family Advisor Brunch
Thurs 8 th	OPTA AGM – 8.55am
Fri 9 th	Santa Dash
Mon 12 th	Virtual Christingle Service from Ely Cathedral
Wed 14 th	Snowman Drive (Evening event) First event to get your Christmas outfits out! 5-6.30pm
Mon 19 th	Wrens and Robins Nativity - Morning and afternoon
Mon 19 th	KS2 Carols at Church 6pm
Tues 20 th	Christmas Lunch and visit from Father Christmas
Tues 20th	Christmas Hamper Draw
Wed 21 st	Last Day of Autumn Term

Lights Switch on – The Horseshoe Inn Friday 2nd December 5pm

The pub will be turning on their Christmas Tree lights on Friday 2nd December and have asked if our children will sing to help lead the celebrations.

We will be there to meet and gather the children together from 4.50pm. The children will need to be accompanied by an adult and they will be your responsibility during the event.

If you know that your child(ren) will be able to be there, can you click through to this form, so we know roughly how many children to expect so we can print the right amount of song sheets and to know it won't just be me and the other staff singing!

[Click here to let us know your child is able come.](#)

The pub will obviously be open at this time and afterwards, and they will have their charity buckets out too. Hopefully you and your child(ren) will be able to be there and kick off the village Christmas Celebrations.

Christmas Tree Festival

All the classes have made decorations for our Christmas Tree which will be on display at the festival at the Church this weekend. The church and village hall are open from 12pm – 4pm both Saturday and Sunday.

I do hope you can support the Church and check out our tree. The decorations will be returned to us next week and will be placed on our tree in school and then each decoration will be sent home, so hopefully they can be on your trees too.



Santa Dash

As part of our increased involvement in Sports this year, we have chosen to participate in a Santa Dash.

The Santa Dash is an initiative organised by National School Games. Throughout the country children will be dressing up in Santa outfits and participating in a run.

We would like the children to come into school that morning in their PE kits, but looking as Santa-like as possible (eg wearing a Santa hat and/or a red t-shirt). After the celebration assembly in the morning, the children that attend our school running club will lead the whole school outside and we will all have a 'dash' around the playground and field.

The children will need to bring in their school uniform to change into after the run.



Christmas Snowman Drive

This is taking place on Wednesday 14th from 5-6.30pm. Tickets are £2 per child. Please pay via OPTA bank account (Offord PTA 20-05-73 20176346 using reference Snowman and child's name) or cash via your class teacher. Tickets need to be paid for by end of day on Monday 12th so we know numbers coming.

The children don't need to bring anything with them, just lots of Christmas cheer. Snacks and drinks will be provided during the evening. Drop off and collection will be via the hall doors on the playground.



Christmas Jumpers

We love to wear our Christmas jumpers in the run up to Christmas and think we should be able to do if for a few days to get the wear out of them!

So, if the children would like to, they can wear their Christmas jumpers/tops instead of their school jumpers for the last 3 days of school. This will ensure we are looking very festive for the Christmas activities happening in that final week, including the Christmas Carol concert and our 'Christmas Day' (when we have Christmas dinner and a visit from Father Christmas).

Hawks and Kingfishers – Carol Concert at All Saints Church

The KS2 children will be leading the Carol Concert at the church which is taking place on Monday 19th December from 6pm – 7pm. They will be singing, performing poems and bringing lots of Christmas cheer to the festivities. We hope you can join us at All Saints Church that evening.



Christingle Service

We will be joining Ely Cathedral for their virtual Christingle Service on the afternoon of Monday 12th. This will be taking place in school time and there is no preparations needed from home.

The Wrens class will be making the Christingles to light up the hall during the service.

Christmas Hamper Raffle

We have asked for any donations to be sent in for us to make a Christmas Hamper.

Tickets will go on sale week beginning 5th December at £2 a ticket, with Father Christmas choosing the winning tickets on Tuesday 20th December.

Wrens and Robins Present 'A Present for the Baby'

The Wrens and Robins will be performing their nativity play on Monday 19th December. There will be two performances – at 9.30am and 2pm. The link to request your tickets is:

<https://forms.office.com/r/Gzzn3Qhyhj>

I know costumes are being sorted and the EYFS/KS1 staff have been talking to parents as needed.

Thank you for supporting your child with learning their lines. The children are enjoying the rehearsals in school and I am sure it will be an amazing performance. We hope you can come.

Offord Christmas Day – Tuesday 20th

We have begun calling this 'Christmas Day' as on the Tuesday we will be having our Christmas Dinner and we have heard that Father Christmas has managed to find a space in his busy schedule to pop in that afternoon to visit the children.

Dinner needs to be booked via ParentPay as usual. Please book your child's dinner by Monday 12th December so the Kitchen staff have an idea of numbers.

This is always a lovely day with everyone dressed in their Christmas jumpers and Christmas crowns that they make during the morning.