

25th November 2021

Dear parents/carers

All things Christmas in School



As you are aware we have started making plans on how we can celebrate Christmas in school this year; further details can be found below. As I am sure you will appreciate some of it will be different again this year but we are still very much hoping to make it a special time for the children, parents and staff!

Christmas Fayre (Friends Event): Saturday, 4th December 2021

This annual fundraising event is taking place in Houghton Conquest Village Hall from 12noon until 4pm. Remember tickets to visit Santa's Grotto need to be pre-booked - see poster previously sent home for more information. Raffle tickets are still available from either the Friends or from the school office.

Year 3 & 4 singing at the opening of the Christmas Tree Festival: Friday, 10th December at 6pm

This annual event takes place at All Saints Church, Houghton Conquest and our year 3 and 4 children will, once again, be singing a couple of songs to open the Festival.

It is hope that all our year 3 and 4 children will be able to meet Mr Hetherington and Mr Birchall at the church at 5.50pm (*parents will need to stay during the event*). If your child is unable to come please could you email us to let us know asap (office@hcschool.org.uk). Remember to wrap up warm with a coat and hat and perhaps your festive colour/style jumper as we will be round the Christmas tree which is outside.



Whilst at the church take the opportunity to go inside and see the many decorated Christmas Trees including ones decorated by the school and pre-school children. The church will be serving hot chocolate, mulled wine and savoury nibbles – all welcome.

School Christmas Lunch: Wednesday, 15th December

We are having our Christmas Lunch on Wednesday, 15th December. You will find your child's green order form in their book bag – please ensure this is returned to school by **Friday, 3rd December**. Please can we ask that everyone returns the form, even if your child is going to have a packed lunch; this ensures we do not inadvertently miss anyone out.

To help get us all in the festive mood children can come to school in a festive colour/style jumper on this day.

All pre-school children in session who would usually have a hot school dinner on this day will have a hot Christmas dinner automatically on this day; please ensure you return your form to pre-school by the 3rd December.

Our Christmas Nativity: Tuesday, 14th December at 2.30pm

This year all the children (including pre-school) will be taking part in our Christmas Nativity and the children are busy rehearsing.

In order to comply with Public Health guidance and our risk assessment the following will apply:-

- The event will take place outside on the school playground
- We will be limiting tickets to 2 adults per family (these will be sent home in due course).
- We ask that you undertake a lateral flow COVID test before attending the event.
Please do not attend if you are isolating or have any COVID symptoms.

We do hope that you will be able to join us; remember to wrap up warm and bring a chair if you like.

(If the weather is forecast to be bad on Tuesday, 14th December we will hold the event on Thursday, 16th December – parents will be notified by text on the morning of the 14th December to confirm or otherwise when the event will be taking place).

Pantomime (Friends event): Friday, 17th December (am)

This is an annual event organised by the Friends for all children in the school and pre-school and will once again be held in the Village Hall. The children will arrive in school as normal and we will walk over to the village hall once registration has taken place.

Dick
Whittington

It's behind you!
Oh not it's not!

The Friends are requesting a small donation (£2.50) per child to go towards the cost of the event. This donation can be made either in cash and handing it into the school in a clearly named envelope or by using the QR code on the attached poster.

All in session pre-school children will be taken to the event. If your child is not in session you are more than welcome to join us at the Village Hall, however you will need to stay with your child throughout the event.

The Friends are kindly supplying some snacks for the children to enjoy whilst watching the panto. *(The school holds information on all children's allergies but if anything has changed for your child please ensure you provide us with an update).*

The giving of Christmas Cards: 7th December – 14th December

In order that we can receive and deliver the children's Christmas cards in a COVID secure way, the "Christmas Post Box" will be placed outside school each morning from **Tuesday, 7th December until Tuesday, 14th December**. They will then be sorted by a small group of staff and/or year 4 children and delivered to the classrooms to bring home. Unfortunately we are unable to accept any cards before or after this date.

To ensure we can deliver all the cards please make sure that all cards have the recipient's **class name or year group on the front** and include, where possible, their full name.

Pre-School

Look out for further information from the pre-school team regarding events involving them.

Yours sincerely



Miss J Heaslip
Headteacher