05.12.23

St. Mary's

Church of England Primary School Kirkby Lonsdale





End of term: Tues 19th December (1:05pm)

Start of term: Wed 3rd January

















Dear Parents,

For many of us, we have seen snow this weekend which heralds the Christmas season. With Christmas in mind, I find myself reflecting on the year gone by and the joyous Michaelmas Term we've undertaken together. This Christmas, I am compelled to extend my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support in making our school community truly special. Your presence and involvement in school events, especially the forthcoming PTA Christmas Fair, have been instrumental in fostering a sense of togetherness reminiscent of the Christmas story—a tale of unity, joy, and shared celebrations.

I am delighted to highlight the exceptional behaviour and the strong bonds formed during our recent residential visit to Liverpool with our Year 6 pupils. This experience has not only enriched their lives but also exemplified the spirit of camaraderie and friendship that lies at the heart of the Christmas



narrative—a story of connection and shared experiences.

This term has been filled with significant opportunities for our students, from enriching visits and engaging sports activities to the diverse clubs and inspiring guest speakers who have graced our classrooms. Each of these moments has contributed to the growth and development of our children, echoing the message of hope and potential so inherent in the Christmas story.

This week, our Year 6 students are embarking on a new journey as they learn to ride a bike or improve their skills -a skill that extends beyond the realms of academia and aligns with the spirit of acquiring essential life skills. This endeavour with Bikeability reinforces our commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals who are equipped to face life's adventures with confidence, much like the resilience displayed by the characters in the Christmas narrative. I look forward to awarding the children their badges as I do each year.



As we approach the festive season, the air is filled with excitement for the upcoming Christmas events detailed in the Christmas calendar sent last week. These moments of celebration echo the joy and anticipation that mark the culmination of the Christmas story—an anticipation of something special and the joy of coming together. Please support our Carol Service, Nativity and other events throughout the next two weeks.







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As we eagerly look forward to the well-deserved Christmas Break, I extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. May this holiday season bring you moments of joy, reflection, and connection, much like the timeless Christmas story that continues to inspire us all.

With heartfelt thanks for your continued support, Mr Jones.

School Dinners

I think everyone is now into the routine of paying for school meals by ensuring their account is topped up rather than paying in retrospect. This week I asked local headteachers what the cost of their school meals were to compare. I realised how affordable our meals were and good value as some local schools have to charge up to £3.20 for their meals.

As the winter approaches, we would like to share our menu for Lent term, starting in January. (See below) If you have any difficulties with booking meals and you would like to start ordering – please get in touch and we can help you with your account.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Please note – You should have ordered Christmas Dinners by now if your child would like a Christmas Dinner, last day today!







Honesty

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Responsibility



Perseverance

Respect









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Christmas Jumpers – Swap or Donate

We typically wear Christmas jumpers on party days and the last two days of the term (18th/19th Dec). We are setting up a collection of Christmas jumpers in the main entrance over the next few days. If you have any Christmas jumpers you would like to donate or swap, please send them into school ready for next week. Please come in or ask your child to see if there is a jumper they would like.



Pupil Parliament

While our Year 6 children were on the Liverpool visit, our Year 5 children stood in for Year 6 at Pupil Parliament last week. It was as great opportunity to meet other school councillors, staff from the education team from the Houses of Parliament and meet and question Tim Farron MP. Well done to our children who embraced the opportunity.



Carol Service – After School Club, 12th December



Our Carol Service is a very special annual event in our school calendar. It involves all of our children from Year 1-6 and starts at 5:30pm with our children arriving at church at 5:15pm. With this in mind, our after school staff will take some children down from school to church if needed. Please can you either pick up your children in time to take them to church or inform staff if you require your child to be taken

down to the service.

For all parents, if you are able to pick up children early on this night, this would also help with staffing. Ideally, a 4:30pm pick up would really help us to manage the evening.





Responsibility









Coach Gunn



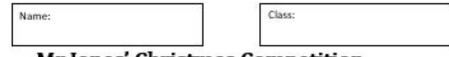
For those families who receive Free School Meals, there are free places – just call Coach Gunn for details!





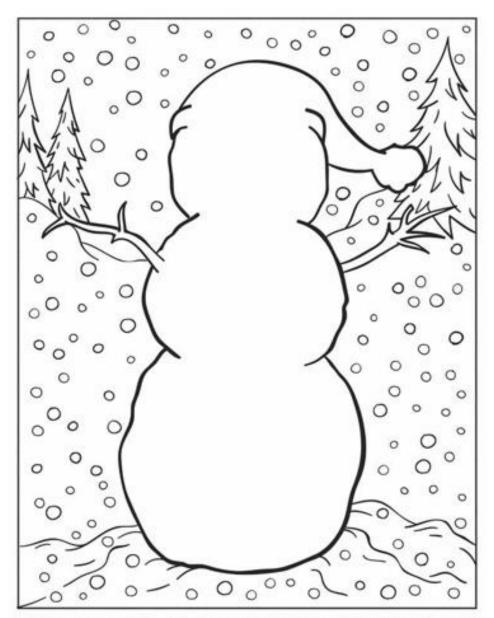


Every year I set two competitions for our Infants and Juniors. These will have been sent out on paper to our children this week.



Mr Jones' Christmas Competition

Return the form to Mr Jones' Christmas Competition box outside his office. Entries with the correct answers will be pulled out of the hat on <u>15th</u> <u>December</u>.



This snowman is missing something! Finish the picture any way you like.



Name:

Class:

Mr Jones' Christmas Competition

Name the people in Christmas outfits. Return the form to Mr Jones' Christmas Competition box outside his office. Entries with the correct answers will be pulled out of the hat on <u>15th</u> <u>December</u>.







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Kendal Snowsports HAF Event 2023

Join us this Christmas on Kendal Dry Ski Slope for 90 minutes ski time and a barbeque lunch

You can do it!

Beginner Lessons Fully Funded for children (7-16) on Free School Meals and some other categories—please enquire Limited Self-funded places £20

Dates: December 20th , 21st and 28th, morning



and afternoon sessions Book all days or just one







For more activities search "Cumbria Holiday Activities and food"



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