



# Christ Church School

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December 2018

Newsletter 4

Christmas events

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you to the many, many family members who came to our Happy Songs concert last month – we all had a brilliant time performing so many joyful songs and hope it made you feel happy, too! Our Happiness Project comes to an end next week with our celebration event on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December. Please join us in the Junior Playground from 3pm for our release of balloons sending messages of Happiness to others far and wide!

An enormous thank you to all the children, parents and families who supported our Christmas Fair last Sunday, and especially to Lisa Kidner and Deanne Brajkovic, who organised the event. It was a great success and the money raised will go towards our next Arts Project!

There are details of our many Christmas events below and I look forward to seeing many parents at these events over the next few weeks. With very best wishes for Christmas, Katy Forsdyke, Head teacher

## Staff news

There will be a couple of changes to our team of Teaching Assistants next term. Mr Fraser is moving to Paris – we all thank him for all his hard work at the school over the last year and send our very best wishes for his move!

Miss Bettle will spend the Spring term with her father in Turkey, but then we are very pleased she will return to her role at Christ Church in the Summer term!

## Attendance – wow!

The whole school attendance figure so far this year to 23.11.18 is **98.47%**.

This is fabulous so far – let's see if we can keep this up into next term. Thank you for arranging holidays in the school holidays and appointments after school.

## Christmas events

There are lots of ways to get involved in our Christmas events this month!



**Nativity Play** – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will perform their annual Nativity Play in Church at 10am on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December. All families very welcome – please wait by the main church front door.

**Present Sale** – thank you to the parents, led by Charlotte Ayres, who are helping to organise and run the Present Sale this year on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Children should bring in on the day:

-seven small presents (good-quality second hand is fine; they don't need to be identical)

-£5 in £1 coins in a purse

- a named shopping bag (a named plastic carrier bag is best)

Children will get the opportunity to buy secret presents for their family members and we will also be wrapping the presents in school this year. If you would like to help on the day please do let the school office know.

**Junior carol singing** – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will be carol singing outside Waterstones on Hampstead High Street at approx. 2pm on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. It is lovely if parents can come to support us while we raise money for our Christmas charities.

**School Carol Service** – our Carol Service takes place in Church at 6pm on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>. The school choir will be singing at the service and there will be refreshments arranged by the Friends after the service - all families are very welcome!

**Christmas Jumper Day** – everyone is invited to wear a Christmas Jumper (bought or decorated at home) on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December and bring a suggested £2 donation for our charities.

**Christmas Service** – all families are warmly invited to join us in Church for our Christmas Service on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 11.15. Please wait to enter through the main church front door. **All children should then be picked up at midday to go home for the holidays.**

We have changed our Christmas parties slightly this year so that they take place after the school's cooked Christmas lunch. Hopefully, parents will be pleased to know that there will be *no class shared lunch* this year – one fewer thing to bring in!

## Class assemblies

**Autumn term class assemblies – all at 10am**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December – Year 3 class assembly** (school hall)

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Year 2, 3 and 5 Street dance performance** (in church – please wait by the vestry back door)

## Dates

### December

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Last after school clubs this week

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>, 11am – Children in church, school choir singing

Monday 10<sup>th</sup>, 10am – Street dance performance - Y2,3,5

Monday 10<sup>th</sup>, pm – Panto performance for the whole school to watch – *kindly funded by the Friends Association!*

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>, 10am – Infant Nativity Play in Church

Friday 14<sup>th</sup>, am – Present Sale

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>, 2pm approx – KS2 Carol Singing in Hampstead

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>, 6pm – School Carol Service in Church

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Jumper Day!

Friday 21<sup>st</sup>, 11.15am – Christmas Service in Church – all families invited

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup>, midday – all children home for Christmas holiday**

### January

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – Children back to school for Spring term**

## Parent workshops this year

The workshops start at 9am

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March – Y3 workshop – writing

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Y5 workshop – RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)

## Christmas charities

The children on our School Council have selected three fantastic charities for us to raise money for at our Christmas events. These are:



**Great Ormond Street Hospital** (where some children and families in the school have recently received treatment)

### World Vision

(a Christian charity which supports children around the world to receive their basic rights)



**Toilet Twinning** (where every £60 raised builds a hygienic toilet facility somewhere in the world, which can be twinned with each of our toilets in school)

These are all great causes and we hope to raise lots of money with collections after our infant Nativity Play and at our junior Carol Singing in Hampstead and with our Christmas Jumper Day, too. Thank you very much for your generous support of our Christmas charity events.

## Information and reminders

### Please take care

Please take care on the steps and around the school as the weather gets wetter and colder and the leaves continue to fall.

### Applications for Reception class 2019

The deadline for applications for next year's Reception class is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019. For any sibling applications, please remember that parents need to fill in both the Camden online application form **and** the school's own supplementary form (available from the school office or on the school website). Please come in to ask in the office if you have any queries.

### School policy updates

Governors and school staff have recently reviewed and updated the following school policies:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Positive Behaviour and Anti-Bullying Policy

Copies of school policies are available on the school website or paper copies can be requested from the school office.



### This month's school website updates

We have added a new Happiness Project page to the website this month:

<https://christchurchschool.co.uk/happiness-project-2018/>

This page includes information and photographs related to each of the ten themes.

We have also added all the termly class leaflets to the website so parents can refer back to the class curriculum information:

<https://christchurchschool.co.uk/parents/class-leaflets/>

### Term dates 2019-20

The Governors have now agreed the term dates for 2019-20 – they are attached with this newsletter for your information. Please look carefully at them if you are planning ahead for holidays and please don't get them confused with this year's dates!

## Rights Respecting Schools – Article of the month

To remind parents and pupils that we are a UNICEF Rights Respecting School we continue to include a different article from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in each month's newsletter.

Article 5: Governments should respect the rights and responsibilities of families to direct and guide their children so that, as they grow, they learn to use their rights properly.



## Well done to our Hockey Teams!

Congratulations to our two Y5 and 6 Hockey teams who impressively won both the A and B leagues in the Camden competition last month – a super achievement!



## Operation Christmas Child

We sent off 109 shoe boxes of gifts to Operation Christmas Child in November. Thank you so much for your support of this initiative – it is wonderful to think that shoe boxes packed by our children here will make a child in very different circumstances somewhere else in the world very happy.



## Remembrance Service

Thank you to parents who came to our special Remembrance Service last month. It was great to welcome the Mayor of Camden to the service and she commented afterwards on the fabulous singing and behaviour of the children.





## Christ Church Primary School

# 2019/20 Term Dates

Please look carefully at these dates for the year, especially when you are booking holidays!

### Autumn term 2019

INSET day: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

First day of Autumn term: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Half term: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Last day of Autumn term: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

### Spring term 2020

First day of Spring term: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January

Half term: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

Last day of Spring term: Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April

### Summer term 2020

First day of Summer term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April

Bank Holiday: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May

Half term: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

Last day of Summer term: Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

INSET days: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July

N.B.

There are two further INSET days to be decided. Dates for these will be sent out to parents once they have been set in Summer 2019.

Children are not in school for INSET days - these are used for staff training.