

Monday 22nd November 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

We hope you are all well and keeping safe.

It has been a very busy half term; the children are working very well and it was lovely to see them enjoying all their wellbeing activities especially the dance workshops.

Well it is Christmas time again. Many parents and nearly all the children have asked if we are having a full Christmas market this year. I am delighted to say, although we cannot do a full Christmas market, due to Covid still being very prevalent, we are doing a scaled down Christmas market with a difference.

On Tuesday 30^{th} November, Wednesday 1^{st} December and Thursday 2^{nd} December we are having our Christmas market.

Every night, from 3:30pm until 6pm, our doors will be open for Santa's Grotto, which is extra special this year, it will take place in our new outdoor forest school classroom. Tickets with one photograph will be £3 per child.

So what is the difference this year? The children during the school day will be timetabled to play our Christmas market games like last year. The BIG CHANGE is at the end of the school day you can immediately follow the Christmas pathway to the hall where the tombola for children and a special tombola for adults will be open. You will follow the pathway to our take away Asian food stand which will all be in containers for you to take home.

Obviously, because this is a Christmas market with a difference, WE WILL NOT be charging entry.

We have really gone to town this year with our tombolas, hence why we have introduced a parent tombola with some of the latest technological gadgets as well as other useful prizes.

The raffle will be drawn on Friday 3rd December in a special assembly for the children. As a reminder, the top prizes are:

- PLAYSTATION 5
- LUXURY FOOD HAMPER WORTH £150
- £50 ASDA VOUCHER

Tickets will be available every night in the playground and all three nights at the Christmas market.

As you may have noticed, Miss Williamson has been on the playground several times this half term selling her celebration surprises for the children, to just give everybody a lift and raise money for charity. Miss Williamson is very excited about her special Christmas surprise bags. Her elves, Myself, Mr Harrison and Mr Taylor, are very busy making them. Miss Williamson's Christmas bags are something else! They will be on sale for a price of £2 in the playground for 2 nights only this week on Wednesday and Thursday. Miss Williamson wants us all to start getting in the Christmas mood as soon as possible!

Children can get in the Christmas mood by wearing their Christmas jumpers on all three days of the Christmas market. To remind you that is Tuesday 30th November, Wednesday 1st December and Thursday 2nd December.

At the Christmas market, as you follow the pathway out, we will be selling second hand uniforms. This has been encouraged by the Government. They have notified us recently that they would like us to sell as much second-hand uniform as possible. If you have any second-hand uniform you would like to donate, please bring it into school before Friday 26th November 2021 so we can prepare it for the Christmas market stand. Everything will be priced at £2.

Important reminders for your diary:

- Teacher Day Friday 10th December 2021
- Children break up for Christmas Wednesday 22nd December 2021 @ 1:30pm
- Teacher Day Thursday 23rd December 2021
- Academy re-opens Monday 10th January 2022

Unfortunately, we are not able to accommodate a full Nativity with everyone attending this year but there will be some online surprises for you!

Christmas parties for children will be on Friday 17th December 2021 and children can wear their own clothes.

Please do not forget, all children must have consent given in order to have a School Photograph. This form is on the Parental Portal on Arbor. Photographs will be Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th November 2021. Without consent, your child will not have their photograph taken.

Finally, I will be writing to you again after the Christmas market regarding initiatives for next year, including extracurricular activities.

Please support Miss Williamson's surprise and our Christmas market for three nights, including our special Christmas Grotto and our special raffle.

Hopefully, next Christmas we will be back to a full market.

Yours sincerely,

Miss L Barratt

Headteacher