



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy

"Every child is cherished as a unique individual" – Ofsted 2012

Marcross Drive, Moorside, Sunderland, SR3 2RE ~ Telephone: (0191) 594 7033 ~ Fax: (0191) 528 7378
Email: bbinfo@nllt.co.uk ~ Website: www.benedictbiscopacademy.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S Armstrong
'All things are possible'

18th November 2022

Key Dates & Christmas Events in School

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I would like to share our plans for Christmas celebrations in school. Please read this letter carefully as there is a lot of information.

Please see below a handy timetable overview as it is such a busy time of year. Further details are outlined in the rest of the letter.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5th	6th Pantomime Years 1-6 (PM) Gala Theatre Durham. Children will be late returning More information below	7th	8th Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch –Whole School More information below	9th Nativity tickets will be sent home
12th St Matthew's Service (6pm) Years 3-6 More information below	13th EYFS Nativity Performance 1- Reception Families More information below Year 1 & 2 Nativity Performance – Year 2 Families More information below	14th EYFS Nativity Performance 2 – Nursery Families More information below Year 1 & 2 Nativity Performance – Year 1 Families More information below	15th Eucharist (led by year 6) All welcome Carols & Cocoa 5pm All welcome More information below	16th
19th Christmas Parties EYFS (AM) Years 1-6 (PM) More information below	20th Break up for Christmas			



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy is part of Northern Lights Learning Trust, an exempt charity. It is a company registered in England and Wales under the company number 07909140.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy is committed to the protection and safety of its pupils and staff.

	~ <i>Merry Christmas</i> ~			
--	-------------------------------	--	--	--

PTFA Raffle

Our PTFA are holding a raffle once again this year. Tickets will be sent home soon to all families to purchase if they wish. The money and any unbought tickets should be returned to school to be sold on. The draw will then take place during our Carols and Cocoa event (more information below).

If anyone is able to donate any prizes to the raffle, it would be most appreciated and can be dropped off to the office.

Pantomime

Thanks to the amazing fundraising from the PTFA throughout the year, years 1-6 are visiting Gala Theatre Durham to watch a performance of 'Sleeping Beauty.' The PTFA are also providing all children with a pick and mix to enjoy during the performance.

The visit will take place on Tuesday 6th December. We will be leaving school at approximately 12.30pm and hope to return at 4.30pm. A text will be sent to parents upon leaving The Gala to keep you informed of an estimated time of arrival back at school.

Upon return, children will be taken back into school and the dismissed from their usual gate. This is to ensure the safety of all children. **We politely ask that you avoid parking on Marcross Drive**, as the coaches will be using this as a drop off point.

Parents are reminded that children cannot walk home alone in the dark and therefore will need to be collected from school at their normal gate.

We also request that book bags and reading books are not brought into school on this day. Packed lunches will be picked up by the children before dismissal at the gate - we are looking forward to a fun-filled afternoon- oh, yes, we are!

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day - Thursday 8th December 2022

Children who usually have a packed lunch are invited to have a school meal and join with the festivities within their class. The cost of the meal will be £2.20. If your child wishes to stay for lunch, please use the following link and complete the [Christmas Lunch Booking Form](#) by Friday 2nd December, so we can ensure our kitchen staff are aware of numbers well in advance. This should then be paid online by Thursday 8th December via School Money.

Parents of nursery school children: Nursery children who don't usually stay for lunch are welcome to stay for a Christmas lunch and the afternoon session for the charge of a meal at £2.10 and the lunchtime care charge of £3.00. There will be no additional charge to stay for the afternoon. Please book this online via School Money 'Educare' for 8th December and select the £3 option as well as topping up £2.10 for their lunch. They would then need to be collected at 3.30pm from the EYFS door. Please book by Friday 3rd December so we can confirm numbers to the kitchen.

Parents of children who already stay for a school lunch do not need to do anything.

To make things extra festive children will be able to wear their **Christmas Jumpers** to school this day (all other usual uniform should be worn).

St Matthew's Service Years 3 -6

We are delighted to announce that we are able to hold our annual St Matthews Carol Service as part of our Christmas celebrations this year. Children in years 3,4,5 and 6 will be taking part in the service at St. Matthew's Church, Silksworth on Monday 12th December. This begins at 6pm and the service is likely to last around 30 minutes (a separate letter will be sent once parts have been allocated, providing further details)

Nativity Performances EYFS and Year 1 & 2

Children have been working very hard on their Christmas Nativity performances and we are looking forward to welcoming parents into school to watch these. As outlined in the table above, performances will take place as follows:

Year 1 & 2: Year 2: Tuesday 13th December - doors open 1pm for 1:30pm start

Year 1: Wednesday 14th December - doors open 1pm for 1:30pm start

EYFS: Reception: Tuesday 13th December - doors open 9am for 9:30am start

Nursery: Wednesday 14th December - doors open 9am for 9:30am start

Each child will be allocated 2 tickets, these will be sent home in your child's book bag on Friday 9th December, please ensure that you bring these with you on the day of the performance. **Unfortunately, we will not be able to admit anyone without a ticket.** Due to increasing numbers we will host 2 performances for each nativity, please ensure that you only attend on the relevant date. If you have any queries please contact the office.

Eucharist

We invite you to join us in a Service of Holy Communion on **Thursday 15th December at 10am** in the school hall. Reverend Dave and Year 6 children will lead the Worship and will be joined by the rest of the Key Stage 2 children. Everyone is welcome and those in attendance will be invited to receive Holy Communion or a blessing—if they choose to.

Carols and Cocoa (including PTFA Christmas Stalls)

Join us for Carols and Cocoa in the school hall, **Thursday 15th December at 5pm**. Refreshments will be sold, the hall doors will be open and the fire pit will (hopefully) be lit. The PFTA will have a number of stalls and games as part of their fundraising efforts selling cakes, crafts and other festive goodies. The Christmas raffle will also be drawn. There will be carols too – so bring your best singing voice.

Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will take place **Monday 19th December**.

Nursery and Reception parties will be in the morning session which will allow all nursery children to attend.

KS1 and KS2 parties will take place during the afternoon.

Children may come into school in their party clothes or can bring party clothes to school to change into before the party begins. OPAL activities will not be accessed this day.

A contribution of £2.00 is welcomed to cover the cost of the party which includes a disco, prizes and a gift. Payment can be made on School Money.

Santa may also pay us a visit at some point during the last week – if, of course, he isn't too busy with his Christmas Eve plans!

A jam-packed December!

Thank you for your continued support.



Mrs. G. Clark
Deputy Headteacher