



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
 Email: bbinfo@nllt.co.uk ~ Website: www.benedictbiscopacademy.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs S Armstrong
'All things are possible'


9th November 2023

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. This has also been attached separately for you to print at home if you wish.

<p>Thursday 7th December</p> <p>Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch</p> <p>Children can come to school in their Christmas Jumpers. Information on how to book a Christmas lunch is included in the letter.</p>	<p>Friday 8th December</p> <p>Year 1 - 6 attend Sunderland Empire to see the Pantomime</p> <p>Children will return to school late this day. See more information in the letter.</p>	<p>Tuesday 12th December</p> <p>Nativity Performances</p> <p>9.30am - EYFS (families of Reception children) 1.30pm - KS1 (families of Year 2 children)</p>	<p>Wednesday 13th December</p> <p>Nativity Performances</p> <p>9.30am - EYFS (families of Nursery children) 1.30pm - KS1 (families of Year 1 children)</p>	<p>Thursday 14th December</p> <p>Eucharist 10am</p> <p>Reverend Dave and Yr6 children will lead the Worship and will be joined by the rest of the Key Stage 2 children. Everyone is welcome.</p>
<p>Thursday 14th December</p> <p>Christmas Extravaganza 3.45pm - 5.00pm</p> <p>Join us after pick up in the main school hall for stalls with games and treats ran by our PTFA. Along with drawing of the Christmas raffle and maybe even a special guest.</p>	<p>Monday 18th December</p> <p>St Matthew's Christmas Service (Years 3-6)</p> <p>The service begins at 6pm and is likely to last around 30 minutes (a separate letter will be sent closer to the time with more info.)</p>	<p>Wednesday 20th December</p> <p>Christmas Parties</p> <p>These will be held during the school day. All children can come to school in party clothes. More information within the letter.</p>	<p>Thursday 21st December</p> <p>Last day of term</p> <p>MERRY CHRISTMAS</p> 	



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.

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 Christmas Extravaganza event (more information below).

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

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day - Thursday 7th December

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 £2.41. If your child wishes to stay for lunch, please use the following link and complete the [Christmas Lunch Booking Form](#) by Friday 1st December, so we can ensure our kitchen staff are aware of numbers well in advance. This should then be paid online by Thursday 7th 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 £2.20 **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 7th December and select the £3 option as well as topping up £2.20 for their lunch. They would then need to be collected at 3.30pm from their usual EYFS door. Please book by Friday 1st 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).

Pantomime – Friday 8th December

Thanks to the amazing fundraising from the PTFA throughout the year with the support of our families, years 1-6 are visiting The Empire Theatre, Sunderland to watch a performance of 'Beauty and the Beast' The PTFA will also be providing all children with a pick and mix to enjoy during the performance.

We will be leaving school straight after lunch and hope to return by approximately 4.30pm. A text will be sent to parents upon leaving The Empire to keep you informed of an estimated time of arrival back at school.

Upon returning, children will be taken back into school and then 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 drop children off on the dual carriage way and walk up the street- LESS CONGESTION = SAFER CHILDREN!

Parents are reminded that children cannot walk home alone in the dark and therefore will need to be collected from school by an adult.

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!

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 12th December - doors open 1pm for 1:30pm start

Year 1: Wednesday 13th December - doors open 1pm for 1:30pm start

EYFS: Reception: Tuesday 12th December - doors open 9am for 9:30am start

Nursery: Wednesday 13th December - doors open 9am for 9:30am start

Due to increasing numbers we will host 2 performances for each nativity, please ensure that you only attend on the relevant date to your child's year group. Each child will be allocated 2 seats and you will be asked for your child's name on entry. If you have any queries, please contact the office.

Eucharist – Thursday 14th December 10am

We invite you to join us in a Service of Holy Communion 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.

Christmas Extravaganza – Thursday 14th December 3.45pm – 5.00pm

Join us for our Christmas Extravaganza in the school hall. Refreshments will be sold and 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.

St Matthew's Service Years 3 to 6 – Monday 18th December

Children in years 3,4,5 and 6 will be taking part in the service at St. Matthew's Church, Silksworth 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).

Christmas Parties

Christmas parties will take place **Wednesday 20th 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. 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, party food and a gift. Payment can be made on School Money, you will receive a message when it is available.

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, along with lots more activities within school. We can't wait!



Mrs. G. Clark
Deputy Headteacher