

10th November 2025

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. Some events have further details outlined in the rest of the letter. This has also been attached separately for you to print at home if you wish.

2025


WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER		WED 10TH	THUR 11TH	FRI 12TH
PTFA CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA		PERFORMANCES	PERFORMANCES	PANTO YR1-6
All families are welcome to join us in the school hall from 3.45 - 5.00pm for stalls with games, crafts, raffle and cakes. There may even be a special visitor		EYFS 9.30 start (Reception families) KS1 1.30 start (YR2 families) 2 adults per child can attend	EYFS 9.30 start (Nursery families) KS1 1.30 start (YR1 families) 2 adults per child can attend	at Sunderland Empire to see 'Sleeping Beauty' Expected return apx 4.30pm - in app messages will be sent with ETA No book bags
MON 15TH		TUE 16TH	WED 17TH	THUR 18TH
EYFS WINTER WONDERLAD (in school event)		CHRISTMAS LUNCH & CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY		EUCHARIST 10AM
ST MATTHEWS SERVICE (separate letter to follow for these events)		see letter for more information on how to book if your child does not usually have a school meal		(separate letter to follow) Please send in a named carrier bag
CHRISTMAS PARTIES		CHRISTINGLE (In school event)		
Children to come into school in party clothes. £2.50 donation payable via Arbor towards party food, disco & treat from Santa No Book Bags		No Book Bags		

Performances EYFS and Year 1 & 2

Children have been working very hard on their Christmas performances and we are looking forward to welcoming parents into school to watch these. Please refer to the timetable above to find out when you should attend based on your child's year group as we host two showings for each performance. Please ensure that you only attend on the relevant date to your child's year group. Each child will be allocated two seats and you will be asked for your child's name on entry. If you have any queries, please contact the office.

Pantomime – Friday 12th 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 '*Sleeping Beauty*'. The PTFA will also be providing all children with a pick and mix to enjoy during the performance (allergies will be catered for).

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!

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day – Tuesday 16th 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 £2.65. If your child wishes to stay for lunch, please use the following link and complete the [Christmas Lunch Order Form](#) by Friday 28th November, so we can ensure our kitchen staff are aware of numbers well in advance. Please top up your child's dinner account on Arbor by £2.65 for the meal. This will only be marked on Arbor on the day of the lunch.

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 £2.37 **and** the lunchtime care charge of £3.50. **There will be no additional charge to stay for the afternoon.** Please book this online via Arbor 'Educare' for 16th December as well as topping up £2.37 for their lunch. They would then need to be collected at 3.30pm from their usual EYFS door. Please book by Friday 28th November 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).

A jam-packed December, along with lots more activities within school. We can't wait!

Benedict Biscop CE Academy