



St Barnabas C of E Primary School
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Headteacher: Miss K Boardman (BSc Hons)

"Barnabas, the Encourager"

8th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Christmas is approaching quickly and although things will be a little different in school this year we still want to do our best to make it a special time for the children in school. They have worked really hard since returning in September, adapted to all our new routines and remained positive and enthusiastic. We are very proud of them and they deserve some special treats. We are hoping that if we are all good, we will get a special visit from the man in red during the last week.

Huge thanks to the PTA who are supporting many of the Christmas activities.

Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day - Wednesday 16th December

Although the whole school can't sit down together as usual, the children will still have Christmas Dinner with all the trimmings, party hats and decorations in the hall with their usual lunchtime bubbles. There will only be a turkey dinner (or vegetarian option) served for lunch on this day. The cost is the same as usual and free to all children in Reception, Key Stage 1 and those entitled to free school meals. View the full menu [here](#)

Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers to school on this day instead of their school jumpers.

Pantomime and Popcorn - Wednesday 16th December

The PTA have arranged for children to go to the panto (Cinderella) from the comfort of their own classrooms via the big screen. They will have a popcorn treat too. We are hoping that we can send the link out to Johnson class to enjoy at home too.

Thursday 17th December - PE as usual

Children should wear their PE kits as usual. Farah class will also have PE on this day so should wear their PE kits.

Non-uniform, party lunch, and 1:30 finish - Friday 18th December

On the last day, children can wear their own clothes. They will have some party games in their classrooms during the morning and lunch will be a selection of party food. School will finish at 1:30pm. The Out of School club will be running from 1:30 until 6pm for the price of £13. We are offering a discounted rate of £5 for children entitled to free school meals who would like to attend the club on this day. There are limited places so please book quickly stbarnabas@yorkchildcare.co.uk Tel 07730434814

Theatre Royal Panto Performance

This Thursday, the Theatre Royal are using our hall for a public performance of their travelling pantomime in the evening. I think tickets have already sold out for this. They have kindly offered to give a free performance to children in school. As we can only have one bubble watching it, Nyong'o and Attenborough will have this treat in the afternoon.

Nativity

We can't let Christmas pass by without a nativity performance! Each class will be filming a different part of the nativity and it will be put together as one video for you all to enjoy. As Johnson class are at home, we will arrange for some 'stand ins' to do their part and hopefully the children can record their section when they return in January as they have already worked so hard on it.

Visits to Church

Each bubble will hopefully visit church for a short collective worship time and to see the decorations during the last week.

Decorated Baubles and Family Quiz

I hope children are enjoying designing their baubles and you are managing to have a go at the quiz. If you would like to enter please send all entries in by Monday 14th December at the latest with the payment made on Parent Pay (50p for Bauble Design, £1 for each quiz). Johnson class can send their entries as photos to the school email stbarnabas@york.gov.uk.

Christmas Cards

In order to keep the items coming in from home to a minimum, we ask that children don't bring in Christmas cards this year. Teachers will provide activities for children to send Christmas wishes to their classmates in a different way. If cards have already been written, children can still bring them in by Monday 14th and put them in a box in the classroom. They will be quarantined and given out later in the week.

PTA Raffle

It is the last chance to buy raffle tickets on Wednesday to win some amazing prizes. The raffle will be drawn on Monday 14th on zoom at 1:45pm. A link will be emailed on Monday morning and we will let you know how to collect prizes if you are a winner.

Presents for staff

Some of you have asked if you are able to send in gifts for staff. This is very kind but not at all expected - we would rather you spent the money on your families. However, if you would like to send in a gift, staff will accept them as they can manage the safety arrangements.

Car Park

For the next two weeks, the gates will be open at the beginning and end of day to help families of Johnson class who need to bring siblings to school. Please avoid using the car park if it is not for this reason and pedestrians take extra care with the increased traffic.

Donations

The PTA suggest a donation of £5 per child to cover the cost of the panto, popcorn and Christmas gift from Santa. Please make this donation (or whatever you can afford) on Parent Pay to avoid cash coming into school.

Book Fair

Thank you for supporting the recent book fair. Your purchases have generated £90 for school to spend on books which is absolutely amazing!

Reporting Covid cases during the Christmas break

We hope that there will be no further covid cases however, if your child develops **symptoms within 48hrs of last being in school and then receives a positive test** result please email school stbarnabas@york.gov.uk. The DfE have asked schools to support with contract tracing for the first 6 days of the Christmas break. The school email will be checked at least once each day during this period (19th to noon on 24th December). We will be contacting any children who need to isolate as a result of contact with a positive Covid case in school (fingers crossed there aren't any!)

If your child develops symptoms **later than 48hrs of last being in school** followed by a positive test, you do not need to let us know until we return in January.

The school email will not be checked between noon on 24th December and 8:30am on Monday 4th January in order to allow school staff to have a break from carrying out Covid related work.

Thank you and Merry Christmas

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support and understanding this term as we have all got used to adapting to the ever changing situation. I understand that the bubble closures, national restrictions and changes to school routines may have been so frustrating but I feel that together we have

been able to keep things as normal as possible for the children. This has shown through in their fantastic behaviour and attitudes in school.

I sincerely hope that you can manage to enjoy Christmas safely with your family 'bubbles' and we can look forward to a more hopeful Spring when we return.

The children return to school on Tuesday 5th January.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Boardman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Miss K Boardman
Headteacher