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November Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all had an enjoyable half term and returned to school refreshed and ready for the exciting events over the next few weeks.

Thank you for all your understanding with our recent covid cases. Please continue to take your child for a PCR if they show any of the covid symptoms.

Shoebox

Thank you to everyone who has or will be bringing in a shoebox for the Rotary collection. I am sure the children who receive them at Christmas will appreciate them enormously. You can still bring them in until 5th November.

Cold Weather

As the seasonal weather can be wet and windy, with some very unpredictable weather please make sure your child has a coat every day, even if it seems sunny in the morning. As a reminder please name all items of clothing – it is then very easy to return a lost item of clothing to a child. Also, children do need a pair of sensible school shoes which are waterproof, as well as PE plimsolls and trainers. Our site means that every class has to move around outside between classes and the hall, and it is important for children to have the right kit at the right me.

If the school needs to close we will inform you by text. Do also listen to local radio for any updates.

Extended School Reminder

Please could we ask that except in emergencies you book a place at afterschool club by lunchtime that day at the latest. This will enable us to monitor numbers as it has become very popular.

Remembrance Day

The whole school except Reception and Year 1 will on 11th November at 10.55 observe the minute's silence. There will be a child from William Barnes to lay the wreath.

Christmas Panto

We have taken the decision to do an online interactive pantomime this year. It will be Jack and the Beanstalk. It has been tried and tested by other schools and proved a huge hit with the children. If we booked the Lighthouse panto in Poole as in other years and have to cancel due to covid cases then we will not be able to have a refund. We very much hope to go to a live pantomime next year.

PTFA News

We are still hoping to run a Christmas market but it is likely the stalls will be out-

Dates for your Diary

11th November

Remembrance Day at
School 10.55

19th November

Non school uniform for chil-
dren in need

14th December

Pantomime at School.

Jack and the Beanstalk

15th December

Whole school Christmas
Lunch.

16th December

Last day of term, school
ends at 3.15pm.



side. We will update you on the Christmas events in due course. A big thank you to all who brought a book for our school for Black History month. It is much appreciated.

School Admissions Dorset are running the annual consultation on the School Admission Arrangements for 2022/2023 with effect from October to November. Details of the consultation will be available to view at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-council/consultations/find-a-consultation.aspx>. Responses must be submitted either in writing to School Admissions Team, Dorset Council, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ or by email to schoolorganisa-on@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk by Friday 22nd November 2019. Upon the conclusion of the consultation period all responses will be considered carefully and a report will be presented to The People Scrutiny Committee prior to the determination deadline on 28th February 2020.

New Parents 2022-New Reception parents for September 2022 were able to attend our open evening and/or day on 13th October 2021 but if you were unable to visit and you would like to be shown around, please contact the school office and we will be able to arrange a visit. We will be running our Rising Fives after spring half term but we will be unable to email prospective parents due to GDPR (general data) regulations. We will therefore put up posters to advertise the afternoon.

Pupil Premium The government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a 'Pupil Premium'. For every child registered, William Barnes Primary School gets £1320 per year and with this money we could help target pupils' specific needs and support them in their learning. If you are registered for Free School Meals you will also qualify for a free school jumper in KS1 and KS2 and may be able to access help with costs of residential visits. Please speak to the office staff if you think you may be able to apply. The process takes a very short time and will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. Dates and Events Over the next few weeks we have a number of events planned, some of them leading up to Christmas, so please do come and join us and help your child take part

Children in Need 2021

Friday the 19th November is Non school uniform day in aid of Children in Need. As we are moving towards a cashless school we have set up parent pay to make a donation. We will send out a letter via email with the direct link. Many thanks.

Christmas Lunch

The whole school Christmas lunch is on **Wednesday 15th December**. This will be available to order after half term. Remember that a week's notice is required to order from our food supplier. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still have their meals free but we still require you to let us know whether they will have meat or vegetarian option.

Christmas Production

Years 1,2 and 3 are producing their own shows. We are hoping to have several performances for parents to attend but this will obviously be dependent on the situation at the time. Details on all the class productions will be sent out in due course.

Church Service

We are still hoping to attend the church on Monday 13th December at 2.00. We will adjust events as situations change and will inform you as soon as we can.



Please remember that Friday 17th December is our additional bank holiday and so the school will be closed that day. School will finish on **Thursday 16th December**.

With best wishes for a very happy and busy half term!

Karen Wrixon

Headteacher