



CHRISTMAS DINNER DAY

Our Christmas Dinner day is on 19th December. If you have ordered a lunch for your child, £2.20 was due in on 27th November – if you have not paid yet, please put your payment in an envelope with your child's name, class number and 'Christmas Dinner' written on as soon as possible. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals or Universal Free School Meals, you do not have to pay.

If you have chosen for your child to have sandwiches on that day, you must provide a packed lunch for them.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On the last day of term we are inviting the children to come to school in a Christmas jumper. We ask for a £1 donation to raise funds for the 'Shelter' charity.



PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACES

If you have a child with a date of birth between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014, you must apply for a place at Primary School by 15th January 2018 for the September 2018 intake. An offer letter will be sent out on 16th April when places are allocated. Applications are available on the Staffordshire County Council website, which is the preferred method of application. If you are unable to access the internet the please collect a form from the Office.

FUNDRAISING

Thank you for purchasing books from the book stall at Parents' evening in October, you have helped to raise £597.57 for the school to spend on books. Your photograph orders have also earned £906.92 for the school in commission.

The recent Poppy Appeal has raised £176.88 from the sale of poppies in school. Thank you for your continued support.

WATER BOTTLES

There is an increasing amount of children who are not bringing in water bottles to school.

Research has shown that being properly hydrated at all times improves brain function therefore; children must bring to school a separate water bottle with the sports teat at the top, for drinking from in the classroom. This bottle should be named and only contain water for hygienic and health



reasons. They can be refilled in school during the day but the bottle should go home each day for cleaning and refilling. To help you bottles are sold in school at the cost of £1.30. We have chilled water dispensers in the dining room and the corridor.

If your child brings in a separate drink to have alongside their school meal, please ensure it is clearly named.

FLU VACCINATIONS

Staffordshire County Council have advised us that this year two strong strains of flu are expected. The nasal spray vaccination is recommended by the NHS to help protect younger children and also to reduce the spread of flu to their family, carers and friends. Our Reception to Year 4 have been offered the vaccination at school which was recently administered. If you would like your child vaccinated, please contact your GP.

EMERGENCY CLOSURE

If we do have to close the school in an emergency, we will text you, please ensure you update us if you change your mobile as we use the texting messaging service for important announcements.



There is also an Emergency School Closure page on the Staffordshire County Council website, where information received by the local authority from Headteachers regarding school closures, will be shown:

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures

If possible, we will try to man the phones at school or at least put a message on the answer phone explaining briefly what is happening. We will also put notices or staff outside the school gate if at all possible. Please let your child know what they should do if they walk unaccompanied to school. All children who arrive at the school playground will be taken into our care until we can contact you or one of the people you have nominated on your contact form. **It is vital you inform us of any changes of telephone numbers and contacts as soon as possible.**

The following Radio Stations might announce the closure on our behalf:

- Radio Derby (104.5 FM, 95.3FM & 96FM)
- Touch FM (101.6 & 102.4 FM)

Please note, if they make such an announcement you do not need to ring the school to check, as the Radio Stations have security measures in place to ensure that they do not make hoax announcements.

SNOW CLOSURE

The arrangements for snow closure are almost the same as above except no notices will be put at the gates as it would not be safe for staff to do so. If you wake up to find it has snowed, please listen to one of the Radio Stations listed above. We try our very best to remain open during snowfalls.

The main reasons we would close would be:

- Safety around the site and building
- Lack of heating/hot water
- Closure of school kitchen
- Staff being physically unable to get to school in enough numbers to make it safe for the children to be supervised during the day.

On the very rare occasion that there are heavy snowfalls during the day and we have to send staff home early, we will keep the children until normal closure time. You can ring the

school if you are concerned and we will advise you if you should come to collect them earlier than normal.

We will also use our texting service to update you.



Thank you to everybody who came to school during the snowy spell. We had many messages of support but some were puzzled as to why we remained open. School have a duty to remain open because if they close parents cannot go to work which damages the country's economy. We undertake a risk assessment on the safety of our site – whether the building is warm, enough teachers are in school, availability of hot water and ensuring the children can be fed, circumstances are different in all schools. Provided that these criteria are met, we are expected to be open. We thank you for your support.

PLAYGROUND RULES & SNOW

We do allow children who are suitably dressed in:

- warm waterproof coat with hood or hat
 - gloves
 - wellington boots or waterproof snowboots,
- to go out and play in the snow provided that they have brought a letter from home saying that they have permission to play in the snow and, that you as parents understand and accept the risks involved. Children who have the correct clothes and letter, but who behave in a reckless or dangerous manner such as throwing snowballs or ice, putting snow inside the clothes of others or building/using slides will be brought off the yards without question. If you wish your child to be allowed to play in the snow should we have any, please send in such a letter as soon as possible. All previous letters have been destroyed as new ones are required each year.

E-SAFETY

E-safety is vitally important to ensure children stay safe on-line. To learn more about the risks facing our children when they use computers, please log on to <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

Another useful website you might like to visit is <http://support.xbox.com/en-GB/xbox-live/>



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PLEASE NOTE THESE MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

11 Dec	Years 1 & 2 Christmas Play 2.00pm
12 Dec	Years 3 & 4 Christmas Play 2.00pm
13 Dec	Years 3 & 4 Christmas Play 2.00pm
14 Dec	Years 5 & 6 Christmas Play 1.45pm
15 Dec	Years 5 & 6 Christmas Play 1.45pm
18 Dec	Year 3-6 Christmas Film
18 Dec	Early Years & Key Stage 1 Parties
19 Dec	Christmas Lunch Day
19 Dec	Key Stage 2 Parties
19 Dec	BREAK UP FOR HOLIDAYS
	Christmas Jumper Day £1 for 'Shelter'
3 Jan	BACK TO SCHOOL
10 Jan	Open Classrooms 3.30pm – 4.30pm
11 Jan	Class 7 Assembly & Family Meal 11.30am
1 Feb	Class 5 Assembly & Family Meal 11.30am
8 Feb	Class 11 Assembly & Family Meal 11.30am
16 Feb	BREAK UP FOR HALF-TERM
26 Feb	BACK TO SCHOOL