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Acting Headteacher: Mr Jon Clark

2nd November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As is now tradition, we will be celebrating the Christmas season with two popular events our:

- Carols Round the Tree evening on Tuesday 11th December
- Wishes Round the Tree assemblies on Friday 21st December



As I know that this is a busy time for you and your days and evenings get booked up very quickly, I thought that I would share all the information early on so that you can save the date/dates.

I have also attached details of the Christmas Toy and Gift Giveaway which we hope that you will support as enthusiastically as last year.

For full details please read on.

I hope that you will be able to join us.

Yours sincerely

Jon Clark
Acting Headteacher



Christmas Toy and Gift Giveaway

Friday 7th December

Once again, this year we are going to be supporting the 'Christmas Toy and Gift Giveaway' to ensure that as many children as possible in the Southampton area receive some Christmas gifts this year. The best way to think of it is as a Harvest Festival but with toys and gifts! These can range from packets of colouring pencils to smellies to balls to books to board games or sticker books for children, aged from babies up to 17 year olds.



To help with selecting toys, Scratch have created a shopping list on Amazon so you can see the items needed - <http://amzn.eu/9CDBqOK>

You are welcome to send in one item or as many as you wish. Please see the list below for ideas.

- Books
- Games & Puzzles
- Toys
- Art and craft items including colouring books, felt tip pens, colouring pencils etc.
- Sweets (with a date to at least January 2019)
- Toiletries and other gifts suitable for teenagers
- Christmas wrapping paper and Sellotape

(Please note that they cannot accept guns or other war related toys)

We do ask that these are **new** toys and gifts rather than second hand or nearly new. SCRATCH also ask that your donations are not gift wrapped as that is something that they encourage the parents to do when they come to the 'Gift Bank' to help them feel that they are part of the experience.

To help with selecting toys, SCRATCH have created a shopping list on Amazon - <http://amzn.eu/9CDBqOK>

Please could children bring their donation into the hall on the morning of Friday 7th December.

If you have any questions about this please visit the SCRATCH website (Christmas Complete project) or contact me via the school office. As stated previously in the Highlights, we appreciate that this is a term with quite a few charity events taking place and we hope that this is a Christmas project that most families will feel that they can manage to contribute to.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Carols Round the Tree - Tuesday 11th December



As is now tradition, we will be holding our annual 'Carols Round the Tree' on Tuesday 11th December at 6.30pm. This event is a chance to come together as a school family for some traditional carol singing in the school hall. This is not a 'performance' or a spectator sport but is instead for those who want to sing themselves! The evening will last about an hour. The seats will be offered on a first come first served basis and will be for children of the junior school, their siblings and their parents. If we have spare seats then we will offer these out to wider friends and family.

Mr Clark and the staff will be leading the carol singing but the choice of songs is up to you. Please indicate on the slip below your family favourites and we will endeavour to get the most popular carols into the evening. We are looking more for 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' rather than 'Do They Know it's Christmas Time'! There will also be some readings and reflections. When we know which families are coming then we can ask for children who will be there if they would like to take part in these. Please indicate on the reply slip if you know that your child would be interested in doing this.

Once again, we will be offering mince pies and mulled wine for the evening so bring along your wallets to make a donation if you would like to lubricate your vocal chords! These will be available on arrival to take into the hall.

Please return the slip below by Monday 3rd December.

✂.....

Reply Slip to School Office: Carols Round the Tree

We would like seats for Carols Round the Tree on Tuesday 11th December 2018
(Please note no tickets will be issued)

Child/children's names Class:

Our Carol choices:

.....

My child..... would be interested in doing a reading

Wishes round the Tree – Friday 21st December

Years 5 and 6 at 1:30pm

Years 3 and 4 at 2:30pm



The final events of our Christmas season are our special 'Wishes round the Tree' assemblies on the afternoon of Friday 21st December. This will be a chance to have a time of reflection and celebration before we break up for the holidays.

Years 5 and 6 pupils will be having their assembly at 1:30pm; **please do not arrive before 1:20pm** as we will still be setting up the hall. Parents are invited to attend although places will need to be strictly limited to one ticket per family due to fire regulations. This is because there will be 200 pupils and accompanying staff in the hall, as well as some staging. One non-walking baby, per person, can be seated on laps although prams will need to be left outside. We will issue tickets to ensure that nobody turns up only to be turned away disappointed.

The assembly will last for approximately 40 minutes and after this the children will return to class. However, parents who have come to the assembly may, if they wish, collect their children and take them home early. This includes siblings who are in years 3 and 4 (although this does mean that they will miss their 'Wishes round the Tree' assembly). If you are watching both assemblies, you may take your children home at 3:15pm.

Years 3 and 4 children will be having their assembly at 2:30pm and again, a limited number of parents will be welcome to join us. **We would ask that parents do not arrive for this until 2:20pm** as we will be organising the hall from the previous assembly and won't be able to let you in before then - we would hate for you to be stood out in the cold for too long! At the end of this assembly, parents will also be able to sign their children out before the end of the afternoon.

We will, of course, look after those children who will be with us until 3:30pm and no child will be allowed to walk home on their own before 3:30pm. After school club will be running as normal until 6pm.

If there are any spare tickets for either assembly, we will re-advertise them.

✂.....

Reply Slip to School Office:

Wishes round the Tree – Friday 21st December

Years 5 and 6 at 1:30pm

Years 3 and 4 at 2:30pm

Child's Name:..... Class:.....

- I would like a ticket for the Y5/Y6 assembly at 1:30pm
- I would like a ticket for the Y3/Y4 assembly at 2:30pm