



Mary Dean's CE Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 4th December 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,



Finally, it is December and the anticipation is building...

We have a number of events lined up over the next weeks to make Christmas as much fun in school as we are able.

Last week we sent you the schedule for year group parties and story-teller visits.

Due to Key Stage One classes being in isolation until 17th December, we are making some changes to our original timetable. This is to make sure our KS1 children do not miss out on Christmas events.

Christmas Lunch

We are now having our Christmas lunch on **Thursday 17th December.**

All the children from each bubble will eat together in the hall, both packed lunches and school meals. Because we will have to clean down after each bubble, it is likely that children in Years 5 and 6 will eat somewhat later than usual, nearer 1-1.15 pm. You may wish to pack them up with an additional snack on Thursday to help them bridge the hunger gap until lunch.

If you have already ordered a lunch, Sharon will simply move your child's booking to Thursday 17th. Please remember to send them with lunch or order lunch this Thursday – 10th. Thank you.

Christmas Jumper Day

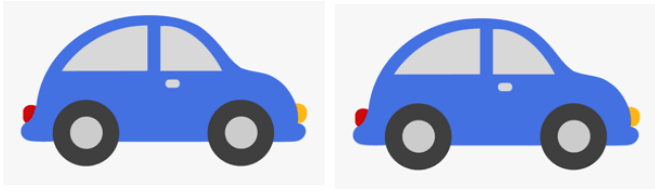
To coincide with Christmas lunch, we are going to make **Thursday 17th** our Christmas Jumper day too.



Children are welcome to wear festive jumpers, dresses, cardigans etc. (Please make sure that footwear is still suitable for school) for a donation. Funds will be split 50/50 between Save the Children and the School's PTFA . Thank you.

Revised Arrangements

Year group	Arrangements
Nursery	Party – Friday 18 th December. AM Donations requested and Staff will provide food.
Reception: Mrs Lennox Mrs Baker Mrs Boroczky	Party – Tuesday 15th December. PM Children will be provided with a party lunch by the school kitchen on request, or provide their own party packed lunch from home. Story Teller in school Wednesday 16 th December AM.
Years 1 and 2: Mrs Gill Mrs Dove Miss Rees	Party – Friday 18th December. PM. School kitchen to provide a party packed lunch on request or provide party packed lunch from home. Story Teller – to be rearranged for the spring term
Years 3 and 4: Mrs Butchers Mrs Ketley Miss Horwell Mr Maunder	Party – Monday 14 th December. PM. Children to bring their own party food for their own consumption. Story Teller in school Tuesday 15 th December AM.
Years 5 and 6: Mr Cozens Mrs Elliott Mrs Bone Mrs Brown Mr Maunder	Party – Wednesday 16 th December PM. Children to bring their own party food for their own consumption. Story Teller in school Tuesday 15 th December AM



Traffic and parking

Things have been generally better this week on Mary Dean Avenue, so thank you to all those who have changed their habits for the better. Your changes are making our school safer which is good for everyone.

Items in school

As we are all aware, despite the recent lockdown coming to an end there are still strict restrictions in place about what we can and cannot do in school. Thank you for doing your best to comply with all the instructions.

We have noticed that some children are starting to bring in items from home – small toys, magnets and spinners to name just a few. Please would you remind your child that this is not something they should be doing? Children should only bring the essential school items and equipment such as reading book, packed lunch, snack and drink. Thank you.

Selection Boxes

Thank you to those who have already donated a selection box for us to pass on to the Food Bank. Mrs Ketley's pile of filled boxes appears to be growing daily.



If you would like to donate a selection box to a family in need, please send it in via your child and we will store it in a box until the end of term.

Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you

At times of difficulty, it takes special people to keep everything going.

These are extremely difficult times that change from day to day.

As we manage the latest challenge in school, I would like to say thank you to all the staff. Each of them puts themselves at potential risk by being at work every day and they continue to undertake all their roles willingly and with unfailing humour.

When many would be concerned only for themselves, the only thought from the staff is for the children. As soon as we knew we had to isolate a group of children from today, the first offer I had from a staff member was to move the Christmas lunch date.

It's not just the date, it's the food orders, storage and cooking, the organisation of bookings and the preparing additional items like crackers and festive biscuits – plus the clear up!

But it means **all** our children will now still be able to enjoy this special day.

Thank you Sharon.



Thank you also to those parents who have sent in positive messages today. They are truly appreciated and have lifted the spirits!

