



All Saints C.E Primary School December 2020 Newsletter



'Tis the Season to be Jolly ...

Christmas is an exciting time but this year it is going to be very different in school without the Christmas productions and not being able to gather in church for our Carol Service. With this in mind we want to do our best to make it special for the children. Throughout December, the children will take part in a variety of activities linked to Christmas, including a Santa dash which will take place on Wednesday, 16th December.

To try and make it even more special for the children this year we are going to have *'Festive Friday'* each week to the end of term. On *'Festive Friday'* each class will take part in festive activities and on the last Friday of term (18th December) the children can come in non-uniform.

Christmas parties will take place in the class bubbles (see diary dates below). The children can bring their party clothes to get changed into after lunch. The Nursery children can come to school dressed in their party clothes.



Early School Closure

As outlined in a previous letter school will be closing to pupils and staff on Friday, 18th December in order to reduce the risk of families being required to self-isolate over the Christmas holiday.

It is very important that the children do not miss any more learning time. Therefore, your child's teacher will put together a learning pack which will be sent home with the children on the last day of term. The children will be expected to bring the completed work into school when they return after the Christmas holiday.



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Winter Mini Reading Challenge

Over the school holidays children can experience a 'dip' in reading skills and learning, and due to the disruption to education caused by Covid-19, this year is set to have an even greater impact on learning loss. Researchers at the Centre for Research on Education Outcomes estimate primary-aged children have lost an average of 57 to 183 days of learning in reading, making it more important than ever that children are encouraged to keep up reading habits during the holidays.



The Winter Mini Challenge, presented by The Reading Agency and funded by the Arts Council of England encourages children to keep reading through the winter holidays by rewarding them for reading and reviewing books. The challenge runs from Tuesday, 1st December 2020 to Friday 15th January 2021.

To take part in the Winter Mini Challenge online, children simply read any books (including eBooks and audiobooks) of their choice (we recommend reading at least three), then rate and review them at www.wintermini.org.uk

Books added to the website during the six-week Mini Challenge period will count towards unlocking special rewards including a certificate and a virtual badge. The website will also feature activities, recommendations for great winter reads, and competitions. And, just like the Summer Reading Challenge, the website will also feature the Book Sorter - a unique database which has over 1.3 million peer-to-peer recommendations.



This year the Reading Agency are teaming up with awesome children's publisher **Knights Of** to bring you the *Everyone Is A Hero* reading challenge, where you'll meet characters from *Knights and Bikes*, *High-Rise Mystery*, and the *Run* series.

Learning Values Mascot Competition

May I remind everyone that there is still time for children to enter our Learning Values Mascot Competition. A letter has already gone out explaining what the competition entails. The closing date for this is Friday, 11th December and the winners will be announced on Friday, 18th December. If anyone has any questions about it please don't hesitate to contact school.

Assemblies

The Friday assembly plan for December is as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 4 th December | Whole school Zoom Well Done |
| 11 th December | Years 5 & 6 Bubble Celebration Assembly |
| 18 th December | Whole school Zoom Well Done |



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Dates for your diary

| December | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Thursday 3 rd | Inset Day – School Closed for the children |
| Monday 7 th | Reception class Christmas party |
| Tuesday 8 th | Year 1 & 2 Christmas party |
| Thursday 10 th | Christmas dinner (children only this year unfortunately) Christmas Jumper Day |
| Friday 11 th | Closing date for the Learning Values Mascot competition |
| Monday 14 th | Year 3 & 4 Christmas party |
| Tuesday 15 th | Year 5 & 6 Christmas party |
| Wednesday 16 th | am - Beginning of Week Nursery Christmas party pm - End of Week Nursery Christmas party Santa Dash - whole school |
| Friday 18 th | Non-uniform day School closes for Christmas |
| January | |
| Thursday 7 th | School reopens |

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