

# WELTON ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY



## Christmas 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

December is almost upon us. Advent is a time of preparation and we have been working hard to make the remainder of this term one of joy and happiness for all. It is an incredibly busy time of year for our school but one which we hope is special for the children and a time to make memories. There is no better place to be, than in a primary school in December with the magic that comes with Christmas whilst also remembering the true meaning of Christmas and why Christians around the world celebrate at this time of year.

Please have a read about the different activities that will be taking place this Advent.

We look forward to sharing Christmas with your children in school.

Best wishes

Mrs N Gough

Headteacher



### Christmas Cards

Children enjoy bringing Christmas cards into school for their friends. This year there will be a postbox for Years 4, 5 and 6 (in the Year 5/6 corridor) and one for Years 1, 2, 3 and Foundation Stage in the Year 2/3 shared area.

Cards can be brought into school and posted on any day from **Monday 2nd December** but will only be **delivered** on:

**Friday 6th December**

**Friday 13th December**

**Thursday 19th December**

**Children need to use the post-boxes rather than handing out their own Christmas cards. Children like to receive their post on delivery day.**

As part of our mission to save paper and card, some children may choose not to send Christmas cards this year.

Alternatively, rather than sending cards, children could make a small donation to the Food Bank. Any donations can be left in the box in the school reception. We will take them over to Welton Church.



## Peace Doves

Christmas is a busy time for all. There will be the opportunity for you to sit and think about loved ones who are not here for Christmas and also have some time for quiet reflection, spending a few moments gazing on the messages and prayers of peace written by our children and members of our community, letting peace wash over you as you prepare for a joyous and peaceful Christmas. Our installation and quiet space will be open on 10th, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> December from 10.30am – 12pm and 16<sup>th</sup> December from 1.30pm- 2.30pm.



Children enjoy having a Christmas dinner with their friends. Our Christmas dinner will be on Tuesday 17th December. The meals are available to order from Good Lookin Cookin <https://www.goodlookincookin.co.uk/>

We also invite everyone to wear something Christmassy on that day.

## 'Wearing something Christmassy' Day

Children love wearing something Christmassy to school. This year, instead of it being Christmas Jumper Day, children are invited to **'wear something Christmassy'** - This could be some tinsel in their hair, a Christmas badge, reindeer antlers, a Christmas hat...

**Do you have any jumpers that no longer fit?**

Have you any Christmas jumpers that your children have outgrown? If so, would you be willing to donate them so we can 'recycle' them? Please help us reduce landfill waste and recycle what we can. If we could have any unwanted Christmas jumpers by Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December and then they will be available on our uniform rail for a small donation (or a donation for the food bank).

Children can **'Wear something Christmassy'** on:

- **December 16th – Carols on the Playground**
- **December 17th – Christmas dinner day**
- **December 19th – last day of term**



## Nativity 2024

Taking part in a Nativity is an important and memorable experience for children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2. The dates for performances are as follows, please arrive at 9:15am for a prompt 9:30am start:

**Tuesday 10th December**

**Wednesday 11th December**

**Thursday 12th December**

We ask that pre-school children are not brought to any performance (even to sit on parents' knees) as our young actors and actresses become upset if they cannot be heard when they have worked so hard in rehearsals. Local preschools have been invited to the dress rehearsal. All children in Key Stage 2 also get the opportunity to see the younger members of our school family share their Nativity.



## Christmas Shop is back!

This event is loved by our children who get the opportunity to buy gifts for their family. This year this will take place on Friday, December 6th. A Parentmail with further details will be sent out shortly.



## Carols on the Playground – Monday 16th December

Carols on the playground is our Christmas gift to you. Come along and enjoy listening to, and taking part in, our Carol concert. Everyone is welcome. Gates open at 2:15pm for a prompt 2:30pm start. Please do wrap up warm. **School Friends** will once again be serving hot drinks (tea, coffee & hot chocolate) and mince pies in the main hall **after** Carols on the Playground. Parents, family and carers are welcome to stay in the main hall after the performance. Our Elfridges Christmas Shop will be set up for you to buy some stocking fillers, and another opportunity for the children to buy any further gifts after school. We will also have some games set up for some festive fun. We will stay open until 4:30pm.



## Pantomime



We have a pantomime in school for all of the children on the last afternoon of term - 19th December.



## Christingles

On Monday 2nd of December, we will commence our Advent celebration by making Christingles. **Good Lookin Cookin are kindly providing us with oranges and so there will be no need for children to bring in one.** All other resources will be provided.

We would be delighted if you could participate by playing the very important role of helping the children learn about, and make, the Christingles in their classrooms, first thing that morning (approx 9:05am). If you have more than one child at our school, you will be able to work together as a family in the hall. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate any pre schoolers / babies / toddlers during this time. Later in the day the children will be attending a Christingle service led by Rev Lynne. Regretfully, due to the limited capacity of our hall, this service will only be for staff and children and one adult for each Year 6 child.

Our church service will be on Wednesday 18th December. There will be two services with one class from each year group attending each service. Unfortunately due to the capacity of the church, there will not be room for families.

We do hope that you will be able to join us in the creation of the Christingles as we begin to celebrate the birth of Jesus – the light of the world and encourage everyone to “let their light shine”.



Looking forward to seeing you then.

Collective Worship Council

## Welton Christmas Lights

Welton Parish Council invites you to join us at the Christmas Tree Lighting Event on the village green on Sunday, December 1st. The event starts at 3pm, when Santa will be ready for you in his grotto with presents for the children and free mulled wine and mince pies available for the adults. The Christmas Tree is being switched on at 4:30pm, by the recipient of this years community award. The Welton St Marys Church of England Primary Academy choir will be singing at the event as well as music from The Lincoln Brass Band. There will be fairground rides, balloon twister, food stalls including delicious hog roasts and lots of gift stalls available.

