

WELTON ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY ACADEMY



December 2023

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 4th December** but will only be **delivered** on:

Friday 8th December

Friday 15th December

Wednesday 20th 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.



Christmas church services



Our Christingle service will be held in school on Friday 1st December.

Our church service will be on Wednesday 20th December. Foundation Stage, Year 1,2 and 3 will attend one service. Years 4, 5 and 6 will attend a service together. Unfortunately due to the capacity of the church, there will not be room for families.



Children enjoy having a Christmas dinner with their friends. Our Christmas dinner will be on Tuesday 19th 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 11th 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 18th** – Carols on the Playground
- **December 19th** – Christmas dinner day
- **December 20th**—last day of term



Nativity 2023

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 12th December

Wednesday 13th December

Thursday 14th 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 8th. Please see the recent Parentmail for further details.



Carols on the Playground – 2.15pm Monday 18th 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. School Friends will be serving refreshments at this event.



Pantomime



We have a pantomime in school on the last afternoon of term - 20th December .



Christingles

On the Friday the 1st 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 Carol. Regretfully, due to the limited capacity of our hall, this service will only be for staff and children.

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.

Kind regards,

Collective Worship Council



Welton Christmas Lights

Welton Parish Council invites you to join them at the Christmas Tree Lighting Event on the village green this Sunday, December 3rd. 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 a special guest – Gemma Dawson from Look North. The Welton St Marys CE Primary Academy choir will be singing at the event as well as music from The Lincoln Brass Band. There will be a fairground ride, balloon twister, food stalls and lots of gift stalls.

