

Dear Parents and Carers,

Website Updates – what has been uploaded this week?

All Friday letters and updates (not linked to specific areas: Safeguarding, Online Safety etc.), will be published in either: **Parents – Friday Letters – Autumn 1 2023 OR Parents – Letters and Flyers**

Friday Letter 1st December 2023

<https://www.thedriveprimary.co.uk/friday-letters/>

Christmas Activities

Lots of Christmas events starting to take place in the next few weeks. Next week, we have Christmas Dinner Day, Christmas Jumper Day, and our School Christmas Fayre. You have received letters in relation to all these events and you should have had letters this week regarding Nativities, Carol Services and Parties. If not, please speak to a member of staff or check your child’s book bag/school bag.

We are all looking forward to seeing you in school and at St Mary’s over the coming weeks, and if you have any queries, please contact school.

Wellbeing Champions

Our newly recruited Champions have started their training this week. They engaged in a zoom call with another Gateshead school on Thursday and can’t wait to get plans in place to further promote wellbeing and good mental health in school! They were a credit to The Drive, enthusiastic and full of passion. I think perhaps badges are required to promote our new Champions Mrs Graham, so children across school don’t forget who they are! Well done everyone!



Non-uniform – ‘Water to Wine’

In order to get as many prizes as possible for our tombola, we are having a non-uniform day on Monday 4th December and it would be great if families could donate a bottle for our tombola – this could be a bottle of water, shampoo, vinegar or if you are feeling more festive, wine or spirits. If alcohol is being brought into school, we ask if this could be placed in the black bins that will be situated at the gates so the bottles can be locked away ready for Friday. Thank you in advance for your support!

Attendance – The League and attendance update

0 points if attendance is below 96%

1 point awarded for weekly attendance figures between 96% - 97.5%

2 points awarded for weekly attendance figures between 97.6% - 98.9%

3 points awarded for weekly attendance figures between 99% - 100%

Well done Year 3 for getting a point this week. 1 week to go until we announce the League Winners, but it’s looking likely that it will be Year 3.

Teams	Total Points	Overall Weekly Attendance
Nursery	0	83.78% +
Reception	4	92.73% +
Year 1	7	87.86% -
Year 2	4	93.36% -
Year 3	10	96.4% -
Year 4	2	88.66% -
Year 5	1	93.5% -
Year 6	6	89.23% -



Have a lovely weekend everyone, stay warm and be careful if you are travelling: the roads and paths are slippery!

Yours sincerely,



Mrs R Farren
Head Teacher

Dates for the Diary – dates will be added to and possibly changes made. Keep an eye on our website calendar also.

Just a reminder, a 'C' will feature next to an event that requires parent/carer consent.

PLEASE NOTE, CONSENT IS NOW GIVEN ON PARENT PAY www.parentpay.com

All letters can be found in Letters and Flyer on our school website.

<https://www.thedriveprimary.co.uk/letter-and-flyers/>

Autumn Term 2023 – 7 week half term

Monday 4th December	Non-Uniform Day – 'Water to Wine' bottle drive. Flyer issued 01.12.23
Wednesday 6th December	Parent/Carer Coffee Morning 9 – 10am in the hall
	Christmas Dinner Day Letter issued 17.11.23
	Nursery Theatre Trip C Letter issued 17.11.23
Thursday 7th December	Christmas Jumper Day Letter issued 16.11.23
Friday 8th December	Christmas Fayre PM Letter issued 24.11.23
Monday 11th December	Year 5 Festive Solar System Decorations with RAL Space
Tuesday 12th December	Reception Nativity (in school) AM
	Nursery Christmas Sing Along PM
	Attendance League Party
Wednesday 13th December	KS1 Nativity (in school) PM
	LETTERS ISSUED FOR ALL THE HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS 01.12.23
	Reception Panto Trip C Letter sent 25.10.23
Thursday 14th December	KS2 Carol Service (St Mary's Church) PM
Monday 18th December	Nursery and Reception Christmas Party
Tuesday 19th December	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party
Wednesday 20th December	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party
	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party
	LETTERS ISSUED FOR ALL THE HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS 01.12.23
Thursday 21st December	Polar Express Day – Reception ONLY Mrs Jackson will be/has issued a flyer in relation to this.
	Break up for Christmas
Monday 8th January	Staff INSET – Children not in school
Tuesday 9th January	Return to school after Christmas