

Thames View Infants



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Monday 13th December 2021

Dear Parents / Carers;

Christmas and New Year @ TVI

Our Children's Fun Day was hugely successful. Our children really enjoyed taking part. I am grateful for all those who volunteered their help on Fun Day and I extend all my thanks for the huge donations of toys and party food. The Pantomime last week was also a great success too and everybody got into the festive spirit!

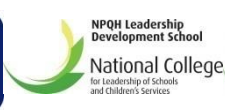
Remember, on the last day of term children in the classes with the best attendance in each year group will go home with a special prize – but you need to be in School on the last day to win it!

Christmas Concerts

The Christmas concerts are now all rehearsed and this year's theme is 'Christmas Joy'. As usual they will be followed by a traditional Nativity led by our Nursery Children.

This year, as you know, we have had to limit the number of people in our school hall and so we have implemented some rules. Please read over the following guidelines for this year's Christmas Concerts:

- We can only issue one personalised ticket per child. That ticket will allow 1 adult and, if necessary, 1 child (under the age of 4) into the hall.
- You will need to have your ticket with you to hand over on the day. If you don't have your ticket, unfortunately we won't be able to let you in.
- Because we have to limit the number of people in the hall, we won't be able to issue replacement tickets for anyone who loses their ticket. We have issued a limited number of tickets for each day and unfortunately that has to be it! So, please don't lose your ticket, it can't be replaced.



We're a PAPERLESS School – so you must download & register your ParentMail App to receive e-newsletters, to book after-school clubs & Parents' meetings or to confirm consent for educational visits.

- Your ticket is non-transferrable and can only be used on the day stipulated on the ticket. Once again, this is because we need to keep the numbers of people in the hall to a minimum on each day.
- You will need to do a Lateral Flow Test before you come into school on your day. Please have the result of your test ready for checking on your phone for when you come in.
- Wearing a mask will be compulsory and you won't be allowed in without a proper facial mask that covers both your nose and mouth.
- So remember.... We don't want to disappoint anybody but if you don't have your ticket on the day, or if you've lost your ticket, we won't be allowed to let you in. Bring your ticket, have a lateral flow test that morning and wear your mask!!!

PLEASE SEE THE BELOW DATES AND TIMES FOR THIS YEAR'S CONCERTS:

- **Monday 13th December 1:30pm**
Lions, Tigers, Owls and Penguins PM
- **Tuesday 14th December 9:30am**
Koalas, Zebras, Foxes and Parrots AM
- **Wednesday 15th December 1:30pm**
Pandas, Giraffes, Snakes and Parrots PM
- **Thursday 16th December 9:30am**
Hippos, Gorillas, Squirrels, Bumblebees and Penguins AM
- **Friday 17th December 9:30am (via Zoom)**
A second chance to see Lions, Tigers, Owls, Koalas, Zebras, Foxes Pandas, Giraffes, Snakes, Hippos, Gorillas, Squirrels and Bumblebees perform their concert dances for you remotely.

Please note that there will be no late entry to our Christmas Concerts so, if you want to come along and see your child, please be on time!

Parties

Class parties will be taking place in school on the last day of term, **Friday 17th December**. If your child attends Morning Nursery, then their party will be on the morning of Wednesday 15th December and for Afternoon Nursery children, party day is on Thursday 16th December.

Party day is a **non-uniform day**.

On Party Days we are grateful for any food you can donate to school. However, children have recently had a lot of cake, crisps and other 'snack foods'. For a change, may we ask you to provide, if possible, some of the below:

We DO need:	savoury food – such as, quiche, pizza, samosas, rice and peas, sandwiches, finger foods, (ice cream?); <u>some</u> crisps, meats (spicy chicken etc), salads and juice. Paper cups and plates.
We DON'T need:	cakes, <u>lots of</u> crisps, chocolate, biscuits, squash and lollies or things that might contain nuts.

Holiday

School will close for the Christmas Holidays on **Friday 17th December at 1:30pm.**

The new term starts on the morning of **Wednesday 5th January 2022** for all pupils (including Nursery). **We're asking all families to take a COVID-test before returning to School in the New Year, to help keep our School as safe as possible.**

Reading over the Holiday

We are doing a lot to make our children as clever as possible. We want *all* children, regardless of ability, to flourish and grow. Every child has the right to fully reach their potential. All children will be getting special homework for over the holidays.

In addition, parents of children in Reception and Key Stage One can:

- ✚ Hear your child read every day.
- ✚ Practise reading key words from their word book.
- ✚ Practise spelling key words from their word book.
- ✚ Practise "sounding out" simple words – "sh / ee / p", "t / ow / n" (ask your child, if in Yrs 1 or 2, to play "sound buttons" or the "grid game" – they'll show you how!).
- ✚ Year 1 and 2 children can even practise copying out their reading books in their best handwriting.



Over 200 specially made resources are available for you to download from the homework section of our website:

<https://thamesviewinfants.org/learning/homework/>

Nursery children need to share stories with adults at home. They need lots of opportunities to play games and to talk. Children learn so much when we spend quality time talking chatting with them.

Our special 100% Attendance Flower Assembly and Bike Award

Parents of children that come to school every single day each term are invited to attend a special 'flower assembly'. Each family gets a bunch of flowers and each child gets a special certificate to commemorate the event. Each term, we also award a specially selected child with a bike for making a big effort in this matter.

Many thanks to all those families that have made sure that their child has come to school every day so far this term!

Continuing to Come to School Every Day

The first **Attendance Flower and Bike Award Assembly** will be on: **Friday 14th January.** If your child has qualified for this assembly, please look out for the special invitation that your child will bring home early in the new year.

School continues to be a thriving and enjoyable place with high-quality learning taking place. Important and very valuable learning will continue to take place in school around traditional celebrations. It is unfair to deprive any child from the memorable social and emotional benefits of being fully immersed in school life at this special time of year. We want all our children to reach their maximum potentials and flourish. Only with



regular attendance, can we achieve this together. To make sure you qualify for the attendance award, you must continue to bring your child to school every day, until and including, the last day of term.

Time to apply for a Reception place?



If your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018, then they'll be due to start Reception in September 2022. It's really important that you apply for a place in Reception. Even if you have a place in our Nursery, you still have to apply again for Reception. You can apply on-line by going on the LBBB website. Please see the ParentMail sent to you last week from Emma Murphy explaining how to do this. Please come and see Emma if you have any questions about this process or if you need help.

There's still lots more to look forward to...

After the Christmas holidays we'll be doing 'Learning Together'. This is a great chance for you to come in to our Outstanding Academy, see how your child learns at TVI and observe how well they are taught. Again – keep an eye out for that newsletter after the break!

Then, after Easter it'll be 'Sports Together'. This is great fun and the children love sharing a sports lesson with their parents / carers – keep an eye out for our 'Sports Together' newsletter later on in the school year!

May I thank you in advance for all your help in trying to bring your child to school every day. Christmas is a very special time of the year. On behalf of all my staff, I wish you and your families, a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Jordan
Headteacher