

Thames View Infants



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8th November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers;

Christmas is Coming!



I love this time of the year and, although Christmas seems a long way off, it will soon be upon us. We try to make the season as special as possible for all of our children. As well as recognising and celebrating this important Christian Festival, through the festivities we will also teach children, regardless of their faith, some important traditional Great British Values – those of citizenship, empathy, tolerance, community-spirit, sharing & giving, 'joining in' and 'having fun'. I'm writing to tell you about just some of the many activities planned for our children before the end of term.

Christmas Bring & Buy Sale (for parents) on Friday 2nd December



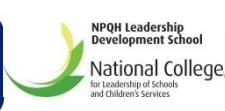
On Friday 2nd December, from 2:30-4:00, we will be opening our doors for you to come and shop at our annual Christmas Bring & Buy Sale. A stall costs £10 (if you're interested in being a seller) and you can reserve a stall by speaking to our staff in the School Office – we're allocating slots on a first come, first served basis and they're quickly running out - so, if you are interested in being a seller, **please book your stall NOW!** All money raised at the Bring & Buy sale will go towards our Christmas Fun Day.

We hope this will be a good way for you to pick up some "Christmas Bargains" or to have a "Christmas Clear Out" - depending on whether you are buying or selling! If you are running your own stall, you'll be able to set up from 2pm.

Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 8th December



This year, as usual, we are going to be supporting 'Save the Children' and participating in 'Christmas Jumper Day'. More information will follow closer to the time but on **Thursday 8th December** all children are invited to wear their **Christmas Jumpers** to school in return for a donation of **£1** which we will pass on to this important charity. **Please note that on this day,**



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.

children who wish to participate should wear their normal uniform but with their Christmas Jumper over the top.

Fun Day on Friday 9th December.

On Friday 9th December, we will be holding our annual **Fun Day**. This will be a very special day for the children. The hall will be transformed into a mini Christmas bazaar, recreating the type of traditional Infant School Christmas celebrations that we as parents grew up with when we were young.

There will be a café and various festive stalls, run by School Staff. Children will have the opportunity to make traditional Christmas decorations and crafts that they will then be able to take home with them.

There will also be a 'bring and buy stall' – where children will be able to 'buy back' toy and book donations. All children in attendance will have the opportunity to have their photograph taken with Father Christmas, which will be available for you to purchase at a later date for £2.00.



What you can do to help:

- Please start to bring any unwanted toys, books, games and presents to school for the 'Fun Day Stall' and drop them into the school office.
- We need donations of empty cardboard egg boxes for one of our stalls. If you have any empty egg boxes, please don't throw them away – bring them to the school office.
- Closer to the time, we'll also need donations of cakes, biscuits and drinks for the café



On The Day:

- Fun Day is a **non-uniform day** and children are allowed to wear their own clothes / party clothes.
- If for any reason you do not want your child to have their photograph taken with Father Christmas, please let the office know.
- On Fun Day your child will need some loose change **(but no more than £1) in 'small coins' to go shopping with** and a **carrier bag with their name on** in order to take home their purchases. Children really enjoy our Christmas Fun Days and they also gain a valuable insight into the principles of shopping and budgeting – like grown-ups.

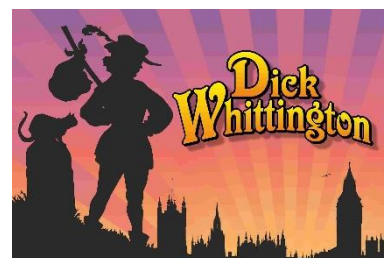


It's Pantomime Time for the children on Monday 12th December

We have arranged for an external Pantomime company to come into school this year on:

Monday 12th December

A Pantomime Company will be transforming our hall into a **Christmas Scene** and every child from Nursery to Year 2 will see the show. This year's production is Dick Whittington, with the usual amount of **'booing, hissing and it's behind you!'** It will be a **non-uniform day**, so come all dressed up ready for the show (or as your favourite Pantomime Character, if you can!). There will be no charge for this – it's an old-fashioned British Christmas tradition.



Christmas Lunch at TVI on Friday 16th December

This year the children will be having a traditional Christmas Lunch at school on Friday 16th December. Violet and her team will be cooking up a delicious roast turkey dinner with all of the trimmings. There will of course be a Halal version and vegetarian options too.



Christmas Concerts

Christmas concerts are still a very long way off indeed! We are still deciding on this year's theme but it's sure to be spectacular! As usual it will followed be a traditional Nativity led by our Nursery Children – with a great big British 'everyone joining in' spirit! There'll be the usual singing and dancing, as well as our famous grand finale! Everyone, for miles around, loves our Christmas concerts! The concerts will take place on the following dates and more information

will follow soon:

Monday 19th December 1:30pm (for Reception Parents)	Tuesday 20th December 9:30am (for Yr 2 and Morning Nursery Parents)	Wednesday 21st December 1:30pm (for Year 1 and Afternoon Nursery Parents)	Thursday 22nd December 9:30am (for Any Parents Who Missed The Earlier Slots) 1pm – ZOOM only TVI Top of The Pops concert (see below)
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Remember! On concert days you won't be able to bring buggies or push-chairs into school (for Health and Safety reasons), but they can be left under the shelter outside the hall. Please try and come on your allocated day – as on the final day, it usually gets really busy!



TVI Top of The Pops - ZOOM Christmas Concert – Thursday 22nd December 1pm

Last year we hosted one of our Christmas Concerts via ZOOM and it was a huge success. Originally, it was intended for parents/carers who weren't going to be able to make it in person...However, on the day we realised

that, as well as parents and carers, we even had Nannys and Grandads zooming in and other relatives like Aunties and Uncles who live abroad! So this year, we'll be doing the same. Any of you who won't be able to make it in person can tune in and see us live on ZOOM in our annual **TVI Top of The Pops** – and you're welcome to share the link with any other relatives who might be. Remember to give us a virtual wave and let us know where you're tuning in from.



Class Parties – Thursday 22nd December

On the last day of term the children will be having their Christmas class parties.

Party Day is a non-uniform day.

We'll need some donations of party foods / drinks on this day and we'll send you out more information closer to the time.



Attendance Competitions in EYFS and KS1

With such important learning taking place, all children, regardless of their Faith, must attend school every day right up until and including the last day of term. This half term our Attendance Officer, Leandra Bempong, is running some really exciting attendance competitions.



For every year group, on 22nd December, Leandra will be awarding each child in the class with the best attendance with a special gift. However, in order to be eligible for this prize, the child *must* also be in school on 22nd December.

You can help with this by making sure that you book any appointments outside of school time, or even (if unavoidable) you can bring your child into school immediately before or after your appointment (if possible).

We will, of course, still be holding our regular 100% Attendance Bike Award Assembly in January, where three children will win a bike – so keep an eye out for your invitations after the Christmas Break.

As always, thank you for your support and trying to get your child into school every day.



Term Dates and Timings

The last day of term will be on Thursday 22nd December and it will be a normal finish time for all year groups.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Jordan
Headteacher



*PS. Please scroll down to see our **Calendar for the rest of this term.***

There's so much happening next month, I thought it might be useful to summarise everything in separate calendar! Please note that on occasion, due to unforeseeable circumstances, we may need to change dates and times. If there are any changes, we'll let you know asap!


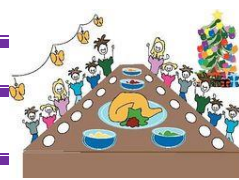





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

November

Monday 14 th	Open Day @TVI For All Parents
Tuesday 15 th	Tigers and Zebras go to Barleylands
Wednesday 16 th	Gorillas and Giraffes go to Barleylands Freshwater Theatre Group – Victorian Schooldays workshops for Year 2
Friday 18 th	Cooking Together – Zebras Children In Need Day – £2 Donation Non-Uniform Day
Monday 21 st Onwards	Help!!! School needs donations for Fun Day this week...Toys, Books, Games, Presents for the stall and Cakes, Biscuits, Drinks etc for the café
Friday 25 th	Cooking Together - Koalas

December

Thursday 1 st	The TVI Christmas Tree goes up!	
Friday 2 nd	TVI – Table-Top Sale / Christmas Bazaar Cooking Together – Lions	
Monday 5 th	Squirrels and Owls go to The Royal Gunpowder Mills	
Tuesday 6 th	Foxes and Snakes go to The Royal Gunpowder Mills Phonics Together for Reception parents	
Thursday 8 th	Cooking Together – Hippos Christmas Jumper Day – Save the Children. For all Year Groups. Come in wearing your Christmas Jumper and support 'Save the Children'. Christmas Jumper to be worn over normal uniform. £1 Donation for Save The Children.	
Friday 9 th	Christmas Fun Day @TVI Non-Uniform Day Children will need a carrier bag and some small change / pennies to go shopping with.	
Monday 12 th	Pantomime Day – Non-Uniform Day Dick Whittington	
Thursday 15 th	Cooking Together – Nursery AM and PM	
Friday 16 th	Cooking Together – Pandas Christmas Dinner at TVI	
Monday 19 th	Christmas Concert 1:30pm – Reception Parents	
Tuesday 20 th	Christmas Concert 9:30am - Morning Nursery and Year 2 Parents	
Wednesday 21 st	Christmas Concert 1:30pm – Year 1 and Afternoon Nursery Parents	
Thursday 22 nd	Christmas Concert 9:30am – Any parents who missed the earlier slots TVI Top of The Pops – Christmas Concert via ZOOM – 1pm Last Day of Term for All Year Groups Non-Uniform Day CLASS PARTY DAY – Donations of party foods / drinks needed	

January

Thursday 5 th and Friday 6 th	Inset Days for Staff
Monday 9 th	CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL – All Year Groups