

Newsletter – 24th November 2023



Dear Parents

November has whizzed by and we are now quickly heading towards the festive season at school. You may already have heard a few Christmas songs around the house as the children start to prepare for their Christmas plays. This newsletter includes key diary dates for the Spring Term as well as a few reminders of festive events taking place in December.

Christmas on the Cobbles – Sunday 26th November 1.00-6.00pm

Jingle all the way to Aylesbury on Sunday 26 November for Christmas on the Cobbles – the best way to kickstart your festive season! All things merry and bright will be taking over Aylesbury Town Centre across the day in Market Square, Friars Square Shopping Centre and Kingsbury. Further information about this event can be found here: <https://bit.ly/Cobbles23>.

Year 1 and 2 phonics workshop – Monday 27th November 2.15pm-3.00pm

Join Mrs Baud, our phonics lead, in the hall for a demonstration of how we teach phonics in Year 1 and 2. Please note that as this event is being held during the school day, we will be videoing a demonstration by Mrs Baud and sharing a link to a recording of this for parents who are interested in learning more but unable to attend this event. We have organised this workshop following our discussions with parents and carers at Parents Evenings.

FoTIS Winter Fayre and Winter Sparkle day – Friday 1st December

Next Friday is the FoTIS Winter Fayre. It is a non-uniform day. Children and staff can wear something sparkly to school if they would like to. The Fayre is being held in the hall and will be open for early browsing from 2.45pm. Mrs Baud will be leading a 'sing and sign' session with the children at 3.30pm and 4.30pm.

FoTIS are still collecting the following items for the children and adult tombola. If you have anything to donate, please drop it off at the school office by Wednesday 29th:

- Toys and games (children's tombola)
- Bottles of alcohol
- Bath and body gift sets

Finally, if you have any unused or unwanted raffle tickets, please return them to the school office.

Save the Children Christmas Jumper day – Friday 8th December

Children can wear a Christmas jumper to school instead of their school sweatshirt or cardigan. Bring a £1 to make a donation to Save the Children.

Christmas Pantomime in school – Friday 8th December

The pantomime for children in school will take place in the afternoon. It should be lots of fun.

Names for Christmas cards and the Christmas post box

Our school Christmas post box will be open from 1st December. If your child has cards for friends and staff that they would like to post, please make sure that the name, class or class teacher's name is also written on the front. Class lists, first names only, can be provided on request.

1970's day – Friday 12th January 2024

In January, Turnfurlong Infant School will be celebrating our 50th birthday. We will hold a special event in the Summer term but, to mark the actual opening of the school in January, the children will be experiencing a school day with a 1970's feel. Children should come to school in their usual clothes but they will be having 1970's style lessons, including a 1970's infant school assembly.

Applications for Reception and Year 3 school places in September 2024

If your child is in Year 2 you must apply for their Year 3 school place at Junior school.

If your child is in Nursery, and they were born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, you must apply for a Reception place.

You must submit your application to Buckinghamshire Council by Monday 15th January 2024. The link to complete the application for Reception and Year 3 is here:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions/apply-for-a-primary-school-place/>

Christmas plays

We are really looking forward to being able to perform our Christmas plays again this year. **We are able to accommodate a maximum of 2 adults per family.** However, we know that being able to watch the plays together later or watch them with family members who can't attend is also something special to share. Therefore, each of Reception, Year 1 & Year 2's Christmas play dress rehearsals will be professionally filmed again this year. The children will be filmed by Richard Carr from BucksTV. The films will not be shared on social media. After the Christmas play has been filmed we will provide an online link from which you can view your child's performance.

We know that we have some children in school who cannot be filmed but please can you complete the Microsoft form to give permission for your child to be filmed. If we do not have your permission, your child will not be able to be included in the final performance.

The permission form can be accessed via the link below on the email.

This form will close for responses on Sunday 3rd December.

[Christmas filming permission - please click here](#)

Train to Teach information event – Tuesday 5th December

This is an event for people interested in school centred teacher training. The details are on the flyer attached to the email.

Dates for the Diary	
November	
Monday 27 th	Years 1 & 2 Phonics Workshop for parents 2.15 pm-3.00 pm
December	
Friday 1 st	'Winter Sparkle' day - wear something sparkly to school FoTIS Winter Fayre 2.45-5.30 pm
Wednesday 6 th	Nursery Christmas party in the morning for all nursery children . Singing for parents at 11.00am No afternoon session.
Friday 8 th	Save the Children Christmas jumper day (£1 suggested donation) Pantomime for the children during the school afternoon session
Tuesday 12 th	Reception Christmas Play - 9.30 am
Wednesday 13 th	Year 1 Christmas Play - 9.30 am Year 2 Christmas Play - 2.15 pm
Thursday 14 th	Reception walk to the post box
Monday 18 th	Christmas Party Day – wear non uniform to school
Tuesday 19 th	Carols round the Christmas Tree - 2.15 pm (children and parents) End of Term 3.15 pm
January	
Monday 8 th	Term begins for all children
Friday 12 th	1970's day
Tuesday 16 th	SENDCo coffee morning for parents – 9.00am
Monday 22 nd	Year 2 SATs meeting for parents and carers – 9.00-9.40am
February	
Friday 9 th	Break up for half term holiday, finish at usual time
Monday 19 th	Start of second half of spring term
March	
Thursday 7 th	World Book Day - come to school dressed as a character from a story
Monday 11 th	Parents' Discussions - 5.30-7.30 pm
Tuesday 12 th	Parents' Discussions - 3.30-4.30 pm
Wednesday 13 th	Parents' Discussions - 3.30-4.30 pm
Wednesday 20 th	Parent involvement morning - 9.00-10.30 am
Thursday 28 th	End of Term (finish at usual time)

TERM DATES 2023-24		
	Open on morning of	Close at end of afternoon of
Autumn Term	Tuesday 5 September 2023	Friday 20 October 2023
	Monday 30 October 2023	Tuesday 19 December 2023
Spring Term	Monday 8 January 2024	Friday 9 February 2024
	Monday 19 February 2024	Thursday 28 March 2024
Summer Term	Monday 15 April 2024	Friday 24 May 2024
	Tuesday 4 June 2024	Tuesday 23 July 2024
Staff Training Days	Friday 1 September 2023 Monday 4 September 2023 Thursday 4 January 2024 Friday 5 January 2024 Monday 3 June 2024	
Bank Holiday	Monday 6 May 2024 (school closed)	