



General News

Message from Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

As we head into December, we are all very excited about Christmas and the activities we have planned. Christmas play rehearsals are underway during our drama sessions and we are looking forward to performing our play. Over the next week there will be costume letters coming out. We appreciate your support helping out with costumes but if you don't have a particular item, please let us know so we can sort it rather than you buying something new.

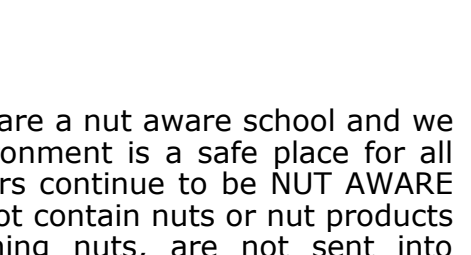
We are also looking forward to our pantomime visit as well as the Christmas Fair and Christmas dinner!

We understand this time of year is very expensive. If you need any support, please let us know so we can try to help out.

On behalf of the governors, staff and pupils, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss E Jackson
Headteacher



Merry Christmas

General Reminders

School Closing & Opening

I would like to remind you that school finishes at 2.30pm on Wednesday 21st December and we return on Wednesday 4th January 2023.

Reminder - Nut Aware

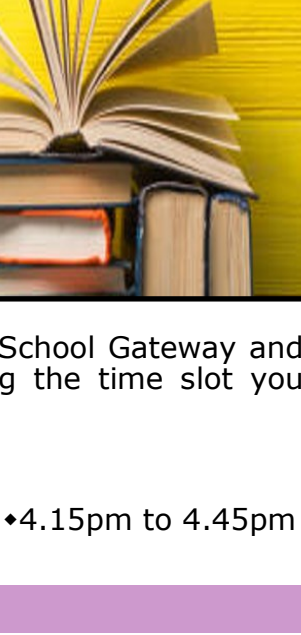
We would like to remind you that we are a nut aware school and we have to ensure that the school environment is a safe place for all children. Please can all parents/carers continue to be NUT AWARE by ensuring that packed lunches do not contain nuts or nut products including Nutella and foods containing nuts, are not sent into school. Thank you for your continued support.

Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who contributed towards our recent fundraising efforts. Please see below for money raised for charity:

Red for Racism = £125.00
Children in Need = £137.00

A **HUGE** thank you to everyone who collected sponsorship money for the Mini Marathon event that took place in October. We raised an amazing £905.00. The money raised is for the school sports fund and children will be involved in deciding what we buy.



Book Look

Parent/Carer Book Look Tuesday 6th December

An opportunity to view your child's books

Please book online

If you would like to attend please login to the School Gateway and make a booking via the Clubs option selecting the time slot you want.

Time Slots Available are:

- 3.15pm to 3.45pm
- 3.45pm to 4.15pm
- 4.15pm to 4.45pm

Celebrating Success

Well done to all of the children who received a reward in one of our Celebration Assemblies last month.

We continue to recognise kindness, resilience and excellent effort in our learning.



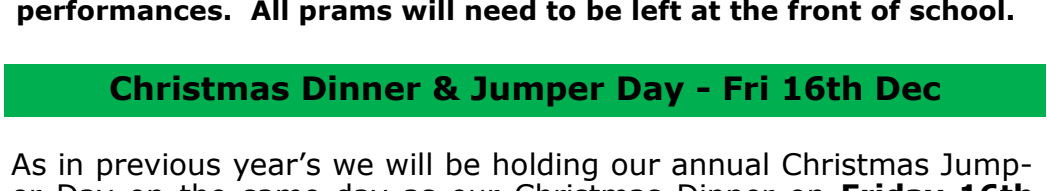
Christmas Fair

We would like to invite you to attend the Gorsewood Christmas Fair! **This will take place on Friday 9th December 2022 from 2.00pm. Please note school will close at 1.50pm on this day.**

Admission will be by ticket only and tickets will cost 50p per adult. We will be using cash on the day for the activities and ask if you can please bring change with you.

If you require tickets please login to the School Gateway and purchase the amount you require using the 'Payments' option. **All adults will need to have paid the entrance fee.**

All children must be collected by an adult when school finishes at 1.50pm.



Christmas Carols

School will close at 2.30pm on Wednesday 21st December for the Christmas holiday.

As in previous years, we would like to invite all parents/carers to join us for carols on the playground at 2.15pm.

Own Clothes Day

Friday 9th December 2022
Fill a Sweet Cone

To help provide a few more prizes for our Christmas Fair we are asking each child to fill a cone with sweets and return school by Wednesday 7th December.

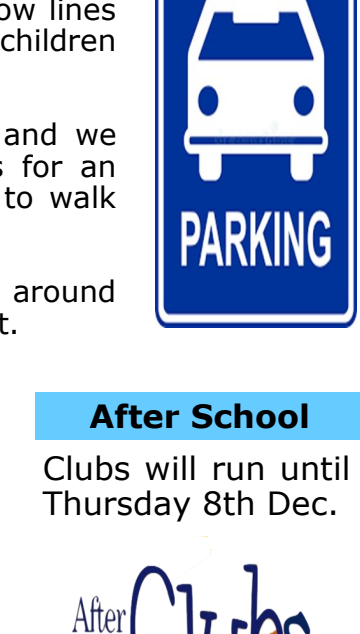
Every child who returns their bag will be able to wear their own

Value of the Month

This month we have 2 values:

Happiness & Love

We will be finding out how happiness means different things to different people and discussing the question - what is love?



Christmas Performances

This year's Christmas production will take place as a whole school production on **Tuesday 20th December**. There will be 3 performances during the day which will take place at 10.30am, 1.00pm & 2.30pm.

Please note school will finish at 3.20pm on this day.

Admission will be by booking only and is restricted to a maximum of 2 seats per family.

If you require tickets please login to the School Gateway and make a booking via the Clubs option selecting the performance you want.

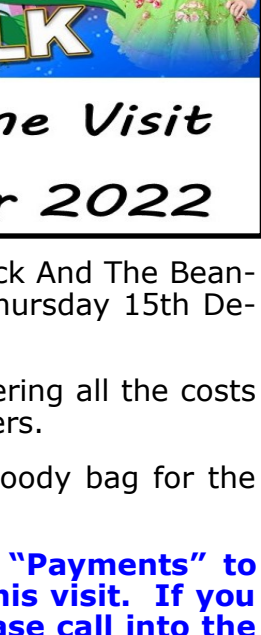


Unfortunately due to hall space and maximum capacity guidelines we cannot accommodate any additional siblings or prams for these performances. All prams will need to be left at the front of school.

Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day - Fri 16th Dec

As in previous year's we will be holding our annual Christmas Jumper Day on the same day as our Christmas Dinner on **Friday 16th December**.

Children can come to school wearing own clothes and Christmas jumpers. We are asking for donations of £1.00 per pupil which can be paid online via the School Gateway or in cash from today. All proceeds raised this year will be in aid of local charity Stick N Step.



In order for the kitchen to cater for correct numbers, we will assume that all children who usually have a free school meal will be having a Christmas Lunch.

Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who do not receive free school meals and who would like a Christmas Lunch will need to pay online through the School Gateway as usual; the cost is £2.50 per pupil.

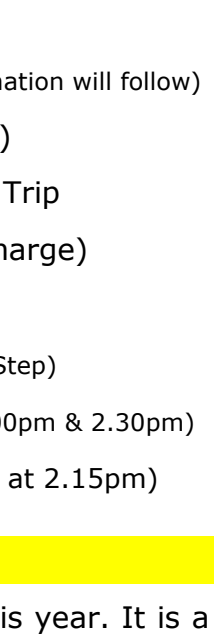
Parking Around School

Please can we remind all parents/carers to park safely and responsibly outside the school.

Many cars are still parking on the single yellow lines and blocking pavements too which is putting children at risk.

The 'Drop & Go' area is often under used and we would encourage parents/carers to use this for an easy drop off. Mrs Newby is always there to walk your child into school.

Our local PSCOs will be monitoring parking around school. Thank you for your continued support.

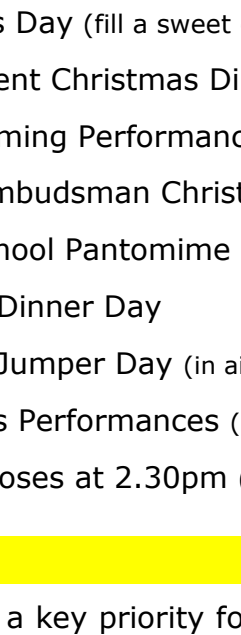


Grandparents Christmas Dinner

This will take place on **Tuesday 13th December**.

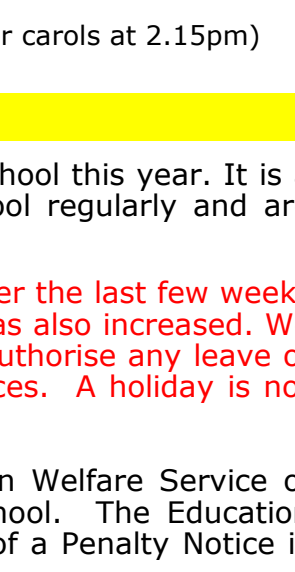
Invitations have been sent out.

Please contact the office if you would still like to nominate a grandparent to join us.



After School

Clubs will run until Thursday 8th Dec.



PE Reminder

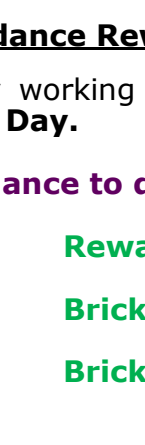
A reminder that children should come to school in their PE kits on the days they have PE.

PE kit consists of a plain white T-shirt or Gorsewood T-shirt, blue/black shorts or black jogging bottoms and Gorsewood PE hoody, sweatshirt or fleece. **Please note sports kits and gym wear are removed on PE days.**

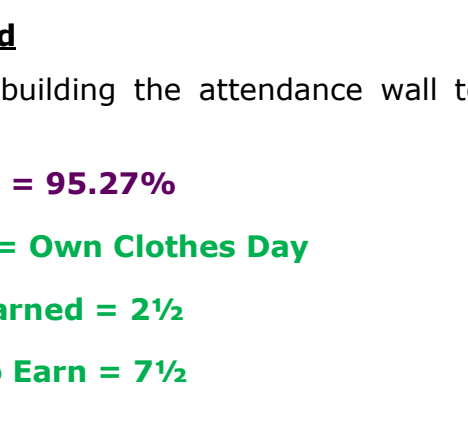
If you are struggling to buy PE items please let school know.

Marvellous Me

Please make sure you have signed up to Marvellous Me so you can be kept updated with what your child is doing in school each day.



Twitter



School Houses

You will know that the whole school including staff have now been organised into our school houses. Everyone has now received a badge to show which house they belong to.

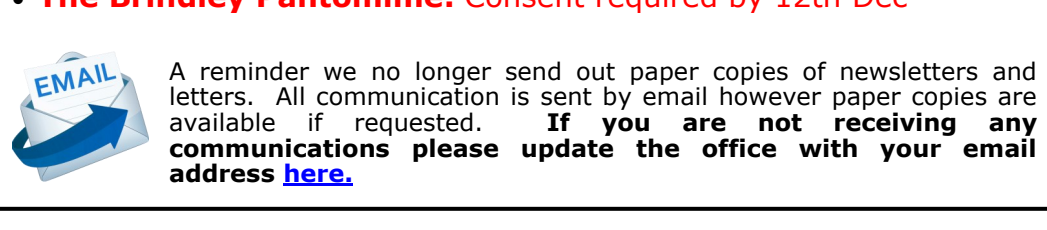
Children continue to work hard to earn these points. The winning house for this half term will receive a.



The current scores are:

Ash	2361	Oak	2232
Birch	2105	Sycamore	2347

Whole School Pantomime Visit - Thu 15th Dec



Whole School Pantomime Visit
Thursday 15th December 2022

We have arranged for the whole school to see "Jack And The Beanstalk" in pantomime at the Brindley Theatre on Thursday 15th December.

We are pleased to confirm that school will be covering all the costs for this visit and there is no charge to parents/carers.

School will also be providing all children with a goody bag for the interval.

Please log in to the school gateway under "Payments" to give consent so your child can take part in this visit. If you are unable to access the school gateway please call into the school office.

Please note we will arrive back at school at approximately 4.30pm.

Reading

Reading is very important and we expect all children to read at least 3 times each week to their parent at home. The difference this makes to a child's progress is huge so please take the time to hear your child read. Please record your child's reading using either their reading record or on the MM App.

Diary Dates

- Fri 2nd Dec - Y5/Y6 Choir Visit to Shopping City
- Fri 2nd Dec - YR Library Visit
- Tue 6th Dec - Book Look for Parents/Carers. (Drop In 3.15-4.30)
- Wed 7th Dec - Y4 Grosvenor Museum Visit
- Fri 9th Dec - Christmas Fair 2.00pm (school will close at 1.50pm)
- Fri 9th Dec - Own Clothes Day (fill a sweet cone)
- Tue 13th Dec - Grandparent Christmas Dinner (information will follow)
- Wed 14th Dec - Y5 Drumming Performance (1.30pm)
- Wed 14th Dec - YR/Y1 Ombudsman Christmas Party Trip
- Thu 15th Dec - Whole School Pantomime Visit (No charge)
- Fri 16th Dec - Christmas Dinner Day
- Fri 16th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day (in aid of Stick N Step)
- Tue 20th Dec - Christmas Performances (10.30am, 1.00pm & 2.30pm)
- Wed 21st Dec - School closes at 2.30pm (after carols at 2.15pm)

Attendance Reminder

Attendance continues to be a key priority for school this year. It is a legal requirement that all children attend school regularly and are only absent when absolutely necessary.

Unfortunately attendance has dropped again over the last few weeks and the number of leave of absence requests has also increased. We would like to remind you that school may not authorise any leave of absence unless it is for exceptional circumstances. A holiday is not classed as exceptional circumstances.

School is also required to inform the Education Welfare Service of any periods of unauthorised absence from school. The Education Welfare Service will then consider if the issue of a Penalty Notice is appropriate.

Please help us to ensure your child achieves their potential by promoting good attendance and punctuality.

Whole School Attendance Reward

Children are currently working on building the attendance wall to earn an **Own Clothes Day**.

Whole school attendance to date = 95.27%

Reward = Own Clothes Day

Bricks Earned = 2½

Bricks to Earn = 7½

Everyone can help to build the pyramid and earn the reward!

Useful Links

- [School Term Dates](#)
- [School Website](#)
- [School Twitter](#)

School Gateway Reminders

Currently payment/consent is due for:

- **Tuck** - Payment of £5.00 due for all pupils for yearly tuck (fruit)
- **Y5/Y6 St Braivels Cardiff Visit** - Next payment due by 4th Nov
- **Y3 CHET**: Next payment due by 4th Nov. Full balance by 16th Dec
- **The Brindley Pantomime**: Consent required by 12th Dec

A reminder we no longer send out paper copies of newsletters and letters. All communication is sent by email however paper copies are available if requested. **If you are not receiving any communications please update the office with your email address [here](#).**