



Acton CE Primary Academy

Parents' Newsletter 4

'For nothing is impossible with God' Luke 1:37

Thursday 9th December 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we are nearing the end of a very busy term, may I take this opportunity to thank you all for all your support over this time. We are so proud of the children. They have shown such resilience once again and enjoyed getting back to some sort of normality.

Last day of term.

Please be aware that our last day of term is Friday 17th December. We will be finishing at the usual time of 3.30pm. We return on Wednesday 5th January 2022. We will continue with our staggered drop offs and collection times

Covid update

I am sure you are all rather fed up now of the ever-changing guidance from the Government. As it stands the main updates are face masks for adults entering the school and school grounds and children to isolate for 5 days if you have a positive covid case in the household. No doubt Boris Johnson will update us with further changes on the lead up to Christmas and I will ensure that I share any information with you as soon as I receive it. I feel we are hanging on by a very thin thread to get us to the Christmas break.

New staff!

I am delighted to share with you some new faces at Acton. Mrs Allison Kaziewicz is our new Teaching Assistant who will be working to support children across the school. Miss Sophie Glover, will be taking the position of EYFS Teaching Assistant from January and Mrs Imogen Southgate has started in the position of Mid-day assistant. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all a warm welcome.

Christmas Jumper Day

School Jumper Day will take place on Friday 10th December. There is no donation for this. We just wanted to spread a little joy!

St Mary's Festive events

St Mary's Church is hosting their annual Tree Festival in Church beginning Saturday 11th December at 10-4.30pm and Sunday 12th December 12-5pm
The Church Christmas concert will take place at 7.30pm on Saturday 11th December.
There is also an Acton Guided walk on Sunday 12th December at 1pm from Church. All very much welcome to join.

The children are very excited to once again be able to visit the Church for the annual advent trail. This will take place over the course of the week beginning 13th December in school time. It is a really wonderful and magical event for the children to enjoy.

Elf Run for St Luke's

All children will take part in an elf run on Friday 10th December to raise vital funds for St Luke's hospice. All children will be given a hat for the event. Any kind donations are welcome. Please use the envelope that has been sent home.

Pupil Fund Raising

We have a wonderful pupil in Year 2, Matilda Bennett, who is collecting donations for the Nantwich food bank. If you have anything to donate please pop them into school by the end of this week.

Head Boy and Girl are hosting a bottle and chocolate raffle. If you would like any raffle tickets, please send your child with the money by Friday 10th December. 50p a strip.

Christmas Virtual Panto and Christmas Lunch

The Virtual Christmas Panto will be streamed into classrooms on Wednesday 15th December. Christmas Lunch will also be served on this day. Children may wear festive jumpers for the day.

SHH It's a secret!

On the last day of term, we have a very special visitor who will be visiting all the children and delivering a little gift. I better get the mince pies and milk at the ready!

Reports

A short summary of your child's attainment and progress will be sent out at the end of the term. We hope you find this to be a useful overview.

Nativity and Carol Service

The Nativity shows have been a huge success. As you can imagine, lots of time has gone into preparing the children for this event and I want to thank the staff for all their hard work in ensuring that the service can run as smoothly as possible. Many thanks to the parents/carers for supporting us with the covid restrictions that we have had to put into place. By working together, we have been able to continue with our shows.

Our KS2 service will take place on the 16th December. There will be 2 services (Yr3 and 4 parents/carers- 9.30am and Yr5 and 6 parents/carers- 2pm) so we are able to limit numbers attending. Can I remind you that it is x2 tickets per child, please wear a mask and where possible, LAT flow before the service. If you have any symptoms, you must not come to the service. In the event of bad weather, we will move our service virtually and will show this at 2pm. A text will go out with the link if we need to do this. Let's hope that the weather is kind to us next week! Don't forget to wrap up warm!

FOAS Treat!

FOAS have planned an amazing falconry treat for the children on the last day of term. Can I also take this opportunity to thank the team for all their support this term and all the amazing things they have organised for the children and the school. We are very grateful.

Class Parties

We all love a good party at Acton, so class teachers are planning parties over the next week. Please watch out for further details on this.

Year 1 classroom update

I am pleased to share with you that the emergency roof work over the Year 1 classroom is now complete. The classroom has been gutted, the double doors boarded up and walls and ceilings are now being plastered and painted. I have been working with the interior designer to ensure that the classroom is going to be amazing. I am very excited to see the outcome.

School Dinners

The cost for next half term is **£78.40**. Please can all monies for the half term be paid by Friday 15th January at the latest.

Please note if payment is not made, your entitlement to dinners will be stopped. If it is necessary for you to pay weekly, please arrange this with Mrs Curry. All weekly monies must be paid for in advance of the meals being taken.

If your child is in Key Stage 1, they are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

Class Highlights!

Reception

Merry Christmas!

Reception have really been getting into the Christmas spirit this half term. We have enjoyed learning some wonderful songs for the nativity, along with the wonderful dances. The children have been getting creative making their own 'space rockets' and Christmas decorations ready for our end of term Christmas Party... with lots of glitter. It has been a true pleasure to watch them settle into school life and get to know each of their personalities, they are all very much a big part of our Acton family. I am looking forward to all of our spring term adventures together.
Mrs Gregory

Year 1

Year 1 has enjoyed the last few weeks learning about our story of Dexter and the horrible troll. We have been working towards writing our own fairy tale and set of instructions to catch a troublesome witch. In maths we have been learning about numbers between 11 -20 and recognising the value of each number. We have looked at the different ways we can record our work using the concrete, pictorial, and abstract methods. Additionally, we have been spending lots of time learning our nativity songs and rehearsing our parts ahead of our performances this week. We have lots of fun activities planned for the remainder of the term and look forward to sending home their craft creations over the next week.

Miss Bloore

Year 2

In Year 2 we have had a fantastic time really bringing our topic to life over this past month. We held a World War 2 Evacuation experience day. The children did an amazing job with their costumes and really enjoyed the day. They built model air raid shelters, created peg dolls, received wartime letters, baked a rationing cake recipe, shopped using ration books and finished the day learning a dance from the time with Miss Jolene's dance. From what we were told they all, unsurprisingly, slept well that night. After our trip the children blew us away with their diary and letter writing in their role as evacuees. The children in Year 2 have also worked very hard to learn all their lines, dances and songs for the nativity and we are very proud of them. In science the children have been working in role as zoologists and applying their knowledge of animal habitats to design their own zoo enclosure

Mrs Torrie and Mrs Rogers

Year 3

In year 3 we have been learning all about Queen Victoria's Empire. We have looked at the countries that she has reigned over. We also looked at what life was like for school children during the Victorian times, and we cannot wait until our Victorian Day next week. In science we have been looking at light and dark and made shadow puppets to show how shadows work. We did this through recreating fairy-tales and we really enjoyed showing these to the rest of the class and school. We have also really enjoyed creating decorations for the Christmas tree and are really looking forward to all the Christmas activities we are going to do over the next week. We are particularly looking forward to the pantomime and KS2 Carol Service next week.

Mr Hollinrake

Year 4

We are all excited about the Christmas Carol service, parties and panto but Miss Cross is still making us work hard until then. We loved making Christmas decorations for the Christmas Tree festival and our Lords will be leaping and our ladies will be dancing all over the tree. This week we have been learning how to multiply and divide in maths using lots of different practical equipment including dienes apparatus, Numicon and counters. It has been great fun using lots of equipment and has helped us to understand our methods and made journaling our work much better. In English this week, we have started our newspaper reports based on our class story and the highlight of last week was looking at the vibrations on water when we were investigating tuning forks in Science, especially as the water jumped out of the top of the cup and splashed Miss Cross.

Miss Cross

Year 5

The children have worked their socks off this month. They have enjoyed the beautiful book called *The Farther* which has encouraged lots of amazing descriptive language and vocabulary. The children have been using lots of resources to support them with developing their knowledge of fractions of a number in Maths. We have also been developing our architectural skills and making exploded diagrams for our Wonders of the World model. The class have enjoyed learning about a range of different music form around the world and we even went on a carnival around school with our instruments. Year 5 have worked extremely hard this half term and are very much looking forward to all the festivities next week.

Mrs Bramwell and Mrs McKinlay

Year 6

These past few weeks Y6 have been really enjoying their Science topic of Electricity! We have been finding out about the different ways our energy is supplied and creating our own investigations using circuit components. We have also been designing and creating our own APPs in DT - enjoying exploring the current market and how we can improve it! We have spent time with our buddies - even making Christmas decorations together for the Church and creating Marshmallow and spaghetti towers for Children in Need! We have been learning all about refugees in English and writing our own real-life newspaper reports as if we were real journalists. We have also been practicing brand new festive songs ready for our upcoming Carol Service!

Happy Christmas everyone and have a restful break!

Miss Stevinson

Head Boy and Girl updates

Key Stage One

In key stage one their favourite part of this festive month in school is the nativity. It was hosted at the church just down the road. The nativity featured students from foundation to Y2, the older students starring larger and more advanced roles. As you may or may not know, nativity follows the birth of Jesus Christ born in Bethlehem.

Key Stage two

Y3: *Year three are going to be doing a Victorian day soon where they come to school dressed as Victorian children as part of their history topic.*

Y4: *Year four recently had a visit from 'Mr Maidment' to learn all about Jesus and the Bible.*

Y5: *Year five recently had Tudor day where they all dressed up and re-lived the life of a Tudor (even the teacher joined in).*

Y6: *In Year six we are continuing to develop our roles and responsibilities running many competitions across the school!*

Whole School

We are looking forward to Christmas parties, dressing up in our own clothes and playing fun Christmas games. We will also be holding a KS2 Carol Service which Reverend Anne will be attending also. We are very much looking forward to Christmas

Written by Freya Harris

Dates are as follows:

10 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
10 th December	St Mary's Tree Festival
10 th December	Elf run for St Luke's Hospice
11 th December	St Mary's Tree Festival and Concert
12 th December	Acton Guided Walk from Church
13 th December	Advent Trail for all classes begin this week in Church.
15 th December	Christmas Lunch and panto. (Festive wear welcome)
16 th December	KS2 carol service Y3/4 parents- 9.30am Yr5/6 parents/carers 2pm
17 th December	FOAS Falconary Treat
17 th December	A visit from Santa!
5 th January	School reopens

On behalf of all the team at Acton and the Governing Body, I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a restful, well-deserved break with your families. Please stay safe and look after yourself and each other.

As always, if you have any concerns or queries regarding your child's education, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Merry Christmas and a Happy 2022!

Yours faithfully,

Rachael McKinlay
Head Teacher

