



# RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017

Here we are rapidly approaching the end of term and there is lots more news to share - including a packed Christmas calendar!

With school open right through to 22<sup>nd</sup> December I am sure we will have some seriously excited pupils by the time we break up!

### Nursery changes

We have some additional capacity in our nursery, both now and in January. We really want every space taken up as it helps our pupils to thrive socially - please let folk know that we are available to book additional sessions and also now take pupils from their actual 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday (with sessions chargeable through to commencement of funded sessions the term after 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday). Read more [HERE](#).

### Pastoral Workshop

Don't forget that on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 6-7pm we will be hosting a Pastoral Workshop/Information Evening for parents. You can access the flier and booking form [HERE](#).

The workshop will give you information on how we can work with you to support your child on a whole range of issues including attendance, health, anxiety, behaviour, bullying, bereavement and others - all of which impact on every child from time to time. Knowing how we can work together is a vital 'tool in your armoury' to be prepared and know what to do, should the need arise.

Do please come along. There will also be an information booklet shared as part of the evening, which we will then post on our school website for all.

### Emergency closure information

As usual at this time of year I need to let you know our emergency closure procedures as we never know what the great British weather will throw at us!

Should weather be poor and we need to pass on information, this will normally be done via three routes:

1. The Twitter feed on the bottom left hand side of the website will be updated. If you follow @TadRiverside, you will of course get this information directly!
2. Text messages to those of you who have up-to-date numbers on file.
3. BBC Radio York - both via announcements on air and their website.

Wherever possible we will attempt to remain fully open, but we have the safety of all site users to consider and at

times may need to shorten the school day, close to certain classes, or even close completely.

(If you have a mobile but have not been receiving messages, you may wish to update your information with the school office)



Whilst on this theme, please DO ensure your child has an appropriate coat, hat, gloves, wellies, etc for the prevailing weather conditions - children need a fresh air break and we try and get out for at least part of a playtime unless the weather is awful (please ensure all items are named).

### Children In Need update



## Children in Need

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November saw us mark Children In Need day in school with some fantastic fundraising.

Our children looked very cosy indeed in their nightclothes! Also, big thanks to our Year 6 pupils for all their hard work in the afternoon co-ordinating dozens of stalls. A wonderful total of **£1333** was raised for Children In Need.

### Christmas events



Reminders for Christmas events:

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December will be Christmas dinner in school - with a special 'dress Christmassy day' - Christmas jumpers, reindeer antlers, Santa hats, etc. £1 donation with 50% going to our chosen Christmas charity this year and 50% to FOR funds. **If your child will be taking Christmas dinner on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and you have not let us know already, please notify the School Office as a matter of urgency (BY Monday 4<sup>th</sup>), or your child will miss out!**

Our Christmas menu this year is roast turkey with all the trimmings followed by a chocolate coated Christmas tree ice cream, with a butternut squash strudel as the vegetarian option. Because of Christmas Lunch on Thursday, the menu for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December will be sausage (including veggie alternative), beans and chips with a crispy bun for pudding.

**Christmas in the Nursery** - please come and join your child in Nursery for "Christmas family day" on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. We will have all our Christmas activities set up for you and your child to play together, including a roleplay 'Santa's grotto' in the home corner. You are welcome to stay for as long or short a time as you wish. For the last 15 minutes of both morning and afternoon sessions we will sing some favourite songs to you. If your child doesn't usually attend on this day, you are welcome to bring them along and stay with them. The activities will be available to all children over the last two weeks of term.



**Early years and Key Stage 1** will have their parties on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December - party food will be provided by the school kitchen that day, but please watch out for extra requests from classroom staff. The menu for parties will be: assorted sandwiches, veg sticks, sausages, pizza, veggie crisps and chocolate iced buns.

**The Reception classes** would like to invite parents to celebrate Christmas with them on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December in the hall from 2.45pm performing a range of Christmas songs.



**Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)** are performing jointly this year with narration and songs. These will take place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec at 2pm and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec at 9.30am. The shows will last about 20-30 minutes and parents and grandparents are invited to accompany their children back to classrooms for Christmas congratulations and goodbyes!

**Key Stage 2** will share their Christmas songs and narration in St Mary's Church on Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Dec at 1.45pm and on Weds 20<sup>th</sup> Dec at 9.45am. The doors at St Mary's will be open from 1.00pm on Tuesday and 9.00am on Wednesday - please do not be late as this is a church service and late arrivals do disrupt the children and the atmosphere in the church and as such we will turn you away if you are late! Because we are a growing school and with limited space in the church, please can I urge families to only attend one of the Key stage 2 services. Some parents and relatives will undoubtedly end up having to stand and/or have a restricted view - apologies in advance, these really are very busy services.

For your information, throughout all of our Christmas events we do allow parents, carers and family to take video and photos, but PLEASE if using social media only post photos of your own child online.

Every year the School Council choose a charity to support. This year they have chosen the Alzheimer's Society. Our Christmas Cups and donations at Nativity Shows and Church services will be shared between supporting Edmon through

World Vision and Alzheimer's. This year we aim not just to raise money but also to deepen our understanding. During the year our pupils will be taking part in lessons to raise their awareness of the condition which sadly affects 1 in 3 families in the UK. We feel that Riverside can reach out to our community near and far and as such we are looking to become a Dementia Friendly School. We aim to help everyone to have an awareness of dementia and look at the small things we can do to make a difference to the lives of people affected. More information can be found at [dementiafriends.org.uk](http://dementiafriends.org.uk) and [alzheimers.org.uk](http://alzheimers.org.uk). All of our Nativity and Christmas Service collections will also support the Alzheimer's Society.

### **Medicines in school**

Whilst it is heading towards the end of the term, please could I take this opportunity to remind parents about rules with regard medicines in school.

All medicines must be received via the school office with a permission form completed by an adult. The form is also available on our website [HERE](#). Medicine should NOT be sent in with a child and no medicines should be given to children 'in case.' Just occasionally parents send older pupils with Calpol sachets etc tucked away in bags. We understand the reasons for this, but please refrain from doing so - even over the counter medication should be handed in to the office to ensure the safety of every pupil and to be administered by our 'named person' for medication.

### **Some dates for your diaries:**

#### **December 2017**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec Presents for Parents

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> Dec PM Ainsty Carols for years 5 and 6 choir 1.30pm at TGS

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec Full Governors Meeting 6.30pm

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec KS2 panto

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec -EYFS Christmas show- 2.45 pm

Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Dec Christmas lunch

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec School discos

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec KS2 practise at church

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Dec KS1 nativity 2pm

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec KS1 nativity 9.30am

Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Dec KS2 church service at 1.45pm

Weds 20<sup>th</sup> Dec KS2 church service at 9.45am

Weds 20<sup>th</sup> KS1 party day and Santa in school

**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Sherry and Mince Pies AM - only for our 'grandparent generation' (not parents) and by prior booking**

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Nursery family day

Term closes Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec

#### **January 2018**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January Training Day - school closed to pupils

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 Term begins for pupils

**Have a very merry Christmas and a peaceful start to 2018.**

*Ian Yapp*

**Headteacher**

PS we raised a super £154 for the Poppy Appeal this year