

24 November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Christmas at BFS 2023

We are pleased to share with you the plans to celebrate this year's winter festivities. We are aware that this is a busy period for us all so we hoped that by putting all this information into one letter it becomes a one stop shop. Below is all the information you need regarding Christmas events and dates for the coming weeks.

Upcoming Dates

Dates and Times	Event
Saturday 02 December- 1.25pm	Broadstone Christmas Parade Once again, we have entered the Christmas Parade. A number of our Year 3 and 4 children are participating. Please do come along and support. It is great fun for all.
Monday 04 December until Wednesday 13 December Before School	Children Christmas Card Exchange Class post-boxes situated out the front of school
Wednesday 06 December until Monday 11 December 3.05pm -3.30pm	Book Fair
Friday 08 December	Christmas Jumper Day Even though the official day is on 07 Dec we have decided to celebrate it in line with the PTA Christmas Surprise in the afternoon.
Saturday 09 December	PTA Christmas Grotto - tickets are still available. www.pta-events.co.uk/bfs
Monday 11 December - 9.30am	Reception Nativity to Parents 2 tickets per child
Wednesday 13 December	Christmas lunch in the school hall
Wednesday 13 December - 5pm	Christmas by Carols at St John's Church whole school welcome to join
Thursday 14 December	House celebration More details to follow to house winners of this half term. Event will be in school and school time
Friday 15 December	Christmas Party Morning
Friday 15 December - 1.30pm	School Closes to all children Please note there are no after school clubs on this day

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Christmas Cards

From Monday 04 December – Wednesday 13 December children are welcome to bring in Christmas cards for their friends. These can be posted in the correct class post box which will be situated outside the front of the school before school. Should the weather be particularly bad, these will be located under the front entrance or just inside the office foyer. Please make sure all cards are clearly labelled with the recipient's name and class. We ask that you support the smooth running of our BFS postal service by placing cards in the boxes, any cards taken directly to classrooms will be placed in the boxes, children are unable to give these out during class time. Please note after Wednesday 13 December we will not be able to accept any more cards. We have had several parents ask for class lists to support writing of cards, due to GDPR regulations we are sadly unable to provide these.

Gifts

Some of our families like to bring in a gift for their child's class teacher. We truly are grateful for these but please know there is no expectation to do so. If you do wish to, these can be given directly to the class.

We are also asking that should your child want to exchange presents with their friends that they do this away from school, in their own time. We thank you in advance for your support with this.

Book Fair

Scholastic half price book fair. This will take place in the hall from 3.10- 3.30 after school on 6th, 7th and 8th December. There will be a great selection of books from £2.99.

Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 8 December

We will once again be celebrating Christmas Jumper day in aid of Save the Children. On Friday 8 December children are invited to come to school wearing either a Christmas jumper or Christmas accessory. Please note school uniform is still expected to be worn. There is no expectation that your child MUST wear a jumper as we are mindful of the financial burden this can cause so close to Christmas. We just want them to feel festive if they please and support a good cause so a Christmas hat or accessories is absolutely fine.

There is a suggested donation of £2 from the Save the Children's Charity and as a school we are committed to supporting our local charities and ensuring pupils understand the purpose of fundraising. Yet there is certainly no pressure to do so. We would be grateful of any donations at all, and all funds will go directly to the charity. A large collection tub will be available at the front of the school for all donations on the morning of the 8 December.

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 13 December

Poole Grammer will be providing a Christmas lunch option on this day. The Christmas Lunch meal options are available to view and order via Weduc as per the usual cut off point. If you have already booked a meal for your child on this day, we will convert this to either the meat or veg version which matches your original order.

As it is Christmas Lunch Day, all children will be eating in the hall with a few festive surprises along the way. If your child isn't having a hot school meal on this day, then you are welcome to send them in with a party lunchbox. Please can we remind you that we are a nut free school.

Carols by Candlelight – Wednesday 13 December 5pm

We would like to invite you all along to our Christmas Service- Carols by Candlelight which this year is being held at St Johns Church, Macaulay Road, Broadstone. The service will include carols, readings, a special performance from our school choir and musicians, plus our Y2 learners sharing their poetry recital as a part of their end of module quest.

Christmas Party Morning - Friday 15 December

Our Christmas party morning will be on Friday 15 December. All children are invited to come into school dressed in their party clothes. The morning will be packed with festive fun and entertainment for all to enjoy!

End of term arrangements- Friday 15 December- school closes at 1.30pm.

The arrangements for the last day of term are as follows: Collection time: 1.30pm for all year groups. Children will have their lunch as normal, be registered and then collection will be from usual points around school at the earlier time of 1.30pm. Please note there will be no after-school clubs on this day.

PTA Events

A massive thank you to our fantastic PTA on all of their up-and-coming festive activities including; Letters to Santa and our Christmas grotto. We hope that many of our families will join in and support our fabulous PTA in raising funds for our school and in spreading Christmas joy.

Our fabulous PTA have arranged for a very special surprise for all children. Ahead of the Christmas Grotto opening and before Father Christmas arrives on the Saturday, his reindeers will be visiting Broadstone First School. On Friday 8 December, a

special message will arrive at BFS, leading us to discovering reindeers in our school grounds. During the afternoon all children will have the opportunity to visit and meet the reindeers. Please note we will not be touching or feeding them.

We are all very excited about this and cannot wait to share this magical experience with the children however we do need your help in keeping this a surprise- so please can we ask that you don't share this with your children yet.

As always if you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us.

Best wishes

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Rebecca Wood Head of School