

Christmas Term Newsletter 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Christmas Term! Who would believe that the sound of Christmas carols is already coming from every classroom and in just a few weeks our Christmas tree will be going up in the hall!

Television Appearance

Last Friday, a group of children from Years 3 and 4 had the exciting opportunity to appear on ITV's *This Morning* during an outside broadcast, celebrating Norwich being named the happiest city in the United Kingdom. Our pupils enthusiastically helped spread joy by cheering and encouraging others to join in the celebration live on air. They were all excellent ambassadors for our school and got the chance for a photo opportunity and autographs from actor Colson Smith.

Christmas Bauble making

On Monday 24th November, we'll be holding our annual Christmas Bauble Making Afternoon—a lovely opportunity for parents to get creative alongside their children. Festivities begin at 2:00pm. You're invited to join your child in their classroom to make a decoration, then head to the hall to enjoy some refreshments and browse the stalls run by our fantastic PTA (more information below).

If you wish to take your child home after the activity, please ensure they are signed out with their class teacher and that you sign out at the main office.

Christmas Fayre

The Free School Norwich PTFA will be holding a Christmas Fayre in the hall alongside the bauble-decorating activities taking place in your children's classes.

The Fayre will take place on **Monday 24th November from 2:00pm to 3:30pm**. After decorating a bauble with your child, you are welcome to bring them down to enjoy the Fayre.

For those with children with SEND needs you may like to visit the Fayre before decorating, whilst it's quiet.

Thank you for bringing in a colourful item our rainbow raffle. We hope your children enjoyed wearing non uniform! We will be selling raffle tickets over the next month and the hampers on display at the Christmas Fayre.

Christmas Show

As mentioned at the end of last term, we've unfortunately been unable to secure a venue for our Christmas show due to circumstances beyond our control. While this is disappointing, it has opened the door to new possibilities, and we're excited to share that plans are already underway for an Easter Extravaganza at a nearby venue!

This means that, with the exception of our Reception children, we won't be holding a Christmas performance this year. Reception

pupils will still perform in school as usual on Thursday 11th December at 3:00pm (please arrive by 2:45pm to be seated).

Further details about the Reception performance and our Easter event will be shared soon.

Protecting Kids Online

Don't forget about our Online Safety Workshops. The first one has been and gone but you are welcome to attend the rest, even if you missed the first. Details below:

09:00-10:00am - Nov 20th - Building digital resilience
09:00-10:00am - Nov 27th - Safeguarding with parental and monitoring tools
09:00-10:00am - Dec 4th - Preparing and adapting for future risks

Appropriate Clothing

As the weather turns colder and wetter, please ensure your child comes to school wearing a suitable waterproof coat.

We've recently had several children arrive without coats, and since break and lunchtime take place outdoors regardless of the weather, some have returned inside quite damp! A warm, waterproof layer will help keep them comfortable and ready to learn.

Violin Lessons Opportunity

The Wharf Academy, our current provider for peripatetic music lessons, has reached out to offer violin lessons to interested pupils. We have a limited number of violins available in school, and depending on demand, lessons could begin in early 2026.

If your child would like to take part, please register your interest using the following link:

https://forms.gle/QrPv1nc2GGrF5VDz9

The Reading Quest Is Better Than Ever!

Since removing the engagement activities, we've seen an incredible surge of brilliant readers completing their Reading Quests! Brilliant! To make it even more exciting, we've revamped the challenge with four new levels for pupils to conquer.

To complete their **Bronze Quest**, they'll need to read:

📚 5 fiction books
📘 5 non-fiction books
📖 10 books of their choice
—20 books in total!

They can choose from their class spine or any other books that inspire them. Remember to ensure they log each book in their Quest Log!

The Four Quest Levels:

🥉 Bronze – 20 books
🥈 Silver – 40 books
🥇 Gold – 60 books
💎 Platinum – 100 books

Each time they complete a level, they'll be awarded a special certificate in assembly to celebrate their achievement!

Useful Dates:
Monday 24th November - 14:00-15:30 Christmas Bauble Afternoon
Thursday 11th December – 15:00 Reception Children's Christmas Show

Kind regards,
Darren

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