

Friday 28th November

Festive Celebrations Overview

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the festive season, we are excited to share the plans for activities and celebrations here at Chapelford Village Primary School. We know this is a time full of anticipation and joy for both the children and families and we want to ensure that while we celebrate, we also maintain the routine and structure that is so important for our pupils' learning. Below are some key events we have planned for the lead-up to the holidays:

School Choir Visit to Arplemere Care Home

In spirit of the festive season, we are delighted to announce that some members of our school choir have been invited to visit Arplemere Care Home on Monday 1st December to spread festive cheer by singing traditional Christmas carols to the residents. This visit is part of a new community link we have recently established, and we hope to offer many of our other children the opportunity to take part in similar visits soon.



St Rocco's Elf and Reindeer Run

On Friday 5th December, all children across the school will be taking part in a festive run as part of our fundraising efforts to support St Rocco's Hospice. A separate letter has already been sent out, including the fundraising link for you to donate directly to the charity. Please note that all children will be required to wear warm PE kit on this day, suitable for the cold weather.

Festive Greetings

We're delighted to announce that we will be continuing our wonderful tradition of sharing Festive Greetings with you all again this year. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 will be performing a selection of Christmas carols for parents and family members to enjoy before the end of the school day. This is a non-ticketed event, and everyone is welcome to attend. Both children and parents are invited to wear a festive accessory with their normal school uniform on their date.

The gates will open from 2:30pm, giving you time to purchase hot drinks (available for £2.00 per drink, cash only) and enjoy a complimentary mince pie before hearing the children sing from **2:45pm to 3:00pm**. The performance will take place in front of the Year 6 building. Please note that after the performance, teachers will return the children to their classrooms to register them before dismissing them from their usual classroom doors. We thank you in advance for your understanding and support. We hope to see you there to enjoy the festive spirit with us!

Performance dates are as follows:

- **Year 6:** Monday 8th December
- **Year 5:** Tuesday 9th December
- **Year 4:** Wednesday 10th December
- **Year 3:** Thursday 11th December
- **Year 2:** Friday 12th December
- **Year 1:** Tuesday 16th December

**EYFS Nativity**

Our youngest children will be performing the nativity for parents to attend. This is always a special occasion, and we are offering a show for siblings to attend the week before during the school day. A separate letter has already been sent out, including details of ticket allocations for the event and which day you should attend to watch your child. Please speak to a member of the EYFS team if you require any further information or support with this.

ChaPTA Snowman Hunt

After the success of last year's snowman hunt, which helped raise important funds for the school, we are excited to be organising another fun snowman hunt this year through Chapelford Village for all the family to enjoy! The hunt will take place during the week commencing Monday 8th December, with the closing date for entries on Monday 15th December. A separate letter with further details will be shared soon.

**Christmas Dinner Day**

On Thursday 18th December, we will celebrate our annual Christmas Dinner Day in the school hall. This is a much-loved event, and the festive spirit will be in full swing as the children come together to enjoy a traditional Christmas meal, provided by our wonderful kitchen staff, with their friends. The full menu will be communicated very soon. If your child would like to opt for a hot school dinner on this day, please remind them closer to the time so they can select it as normal in school and ensure there are sufficient funds in their Parent Pay account. Any children receiving Universal Free School Meals should order as normal.

**Christmas Discos**

The excitement continues with our annual Chapelford Winter Discos! As always, we will invite year groups to come and have an evening of fun, dancing, and celebration with their friends. Children are encouraged to come dressed up in their festive party clothes. A snack (packet of crisps) and a drink will be provided. If your child has any allergies, their class teacher will be in touch to confirm the appropriate snack.

	4:15pm – 5:15pm	5:30pm – 6:30pm
Wednesday 17th December:	EYFS	Year 3 & 4
Thursday 18th December:	Year 1 & 2	Year 5 & 6

Please note: ChaPTA will be sending out a separate letter with details on how to purchase tickets for your child to attend their respective disco. If you have any further questions regarding the disco, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

Religious and Cultural Celebrations

On Wednesday 10th December, Reverend Lauren Bell from our local church will be visiting school to deliver assemblies to the whole school about the Christingle Service and how this is a recognised

symbol of the Christian faith. As part of our ongoing efforts to expand our children's understanding of celebrations across different cultures and religions, we are excited to share that on Monday 15th December the children will be learning about Hanukkah, the Jewish Festival of Light. Hanukkah is a vibrant and meaningful celebration that takes place over eight days, and it commemorates the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. The children will explore the history, traditions, and customs associated with Hanukkah, including the lighting of the Menorah and the playing of the dreidel game.

As part of our festive preparations, the children will be getting creative by making their own Christmas decorations to adorn our school tree! In addition, the children will also be making Christmas cards that they can take home to share the festive spirit with their families.

End of Autumn Term House Point Treat: Santa's Workshop.

On Wednesday 17th December, the winning house for the Autumn term will enjoy a special 'Santa's Workshop' experience as a reward for their fantastic behaviour, collaboration, and positive attitude throughout the term. Children in the winning house will take part in a festive afternoon filled with fun Christmas-themed activities, crafts, and a few surprises from Santa's helpers! We are so proud of all our pupils for their hard work this term and look forward to celebrating their achievements in this magical way.



Christmas Party Day

On the last day of term Friday 19th December, we invite all children to come to school in their festive clothes or clothing in a festive colour to get into the Christmas spirit! While we love to see the children dressed up for the occasion, we kindly ask parents to ensure that their child wears sensible shoes and clothes appropriate for the warm weather. This will ensure the children are comfortable and safe throughout the day. The day will be filled with festive fun, including traditional party games, watching Christmas movies, completing arts and crafts, and winding down in preparation for the Christmas holidays. After a busy half-term of hard work, it's the perfect way to celebrate the festive period together.

We are looking forward to celebrating the festive season with your child while continuing to focus on their learning and development. Thank you for your continued support, and we hope this holiday season brings joy and happiness to all our families.

Best wishes,

Mrs N Stewart
Acting Headteacher

