

<u>Parent Information Sheet – Thursday 6th December 2018</u>

We have been asked to share the information below with parents by the Local Authority.

Draft budget proposals for 2019/2020

On Wednesday 14 November, Cabinet Members considered draft savings proposals, along with a higher than anticipated council tax rise, totalling over £15.6 million, which is required if the council is to deliver a balanced budget for next year.

Caerphilly has to find savings for the next year alone (2019/20) totalling almost £14.7 million, with a proposed 6.95% increase in council tax in order to help the council meet its extremely challenging savings targets.

In its draft budget proposals for 2019/2020, the council is forced to consider proposals which include:

- Reductions in street cleansing, grass cutting and highways maintenance
- The closure of two Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Reduced spending on libraries, youth, adult services and day care provision
- Reductions in school budgets and school initiatives
- Increases in school meal prices
- The Community Safety Wardens service to cease
- Closure of public toilets and four community centres
- Cease Meals on Wheels service except for clients under section 117

These proposals are now subject to a period of widespread public consultation, running until Friday 11th January 2019.

A full list of the proposed savings for 2019/2020 and details of how to respond to the consultation can be found here: https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/thecaerphillyconversation

Christmas Lunch

Christmas Lunch is being served on Friday 14th December. We are encouraging pupils and staff to wear their Christmas jumpers on this day! Pupils may bring a Christmas cracker if they wish. Please send dinner money in as normal on Monday 10th December. Due to Christmas Lunch being served on Friday 14th December the menu choice for Wednesday 12th December will change to Sea Stars / Salmon Fishcake or Cheese Panini (V).

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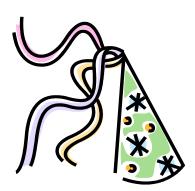
Non-Uniform Day

Friday 21st December is our final day in school of the autumn term. On this day the school council have requested that pupils and staff wear non-uniform. They have suggested a donation of £1 to wear non-uniform.

Christmas Parties

These will take place at the following times:

•	Nursery Morning Party –	Tuesday 18 th December
•	Nursery Afternoon Party –	Tuesday 18 th December
•	Reception Party –	Monday 17 th December
•	Year 1 Party –	Tuesday 18 th December
•	Year 2 Party –	Wednesday 19 th December
•	Year 3/4 Party –	Thursday 20 th December
•	Year 5/6 Party –	Friday 21 st December



Children are not required to wear school uniform on the day of their party. However, parents are reminded that during dry break times the pupils will be out on the playground and therefore clothing needs to be warm and children need to wear sensible shoes.

There is no charge to parents for the parties. The food, prizes and entertainment will be funded from money raised by our Christmas Concerts.

Pantomimes

Key Stage 2 pupils will be attending the Pantomime at the New Theatre in Cardiff. Pupils will have lunch in school before they leave and we expect pupils to return to school at approximately 5pm. Pupils must be collected from the outside door of their classroom.

Year 5/6 – Wednesday 12th December (New Theatre Cardiff)

Year 3/4 - Thursday 13th December (New Theatre Cardiff)

Foundation Phase pupils (Reception – Year 2) are attending the pantomime in Blackwood. They will have lunch in school and will return to school at approximately 3:30pm. Pupils should be collected from their classrooms as normal.

Reception – Year 2 – Thursday 20th December

School uniform must be worn for all pantomime visits.

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