



WINTER NEWSLETTER



Welcome to our Newsletter for Term 2. We have had a busy first term, and already we find ourselves almost half way into Term 2; with Christmas fast approaching! Well done to all our children and staff for settling into their classes and a particular well done to our Owlets who have had a very successful first term of school life. Our Harvest Festival was very enjoyable and very well received – well done to everyone involved. It was lovely to be able to be back in the Church and for the children to be singing once again! Your donations were gratefully received by us and the Thrapston Food Bank, and the tea and biscuits will be distributed to our elderly village residents. At the end of our Newsletter you will find a list of ‘Dates for your Diary’, just to make sure that you can keep an eye on our activities, as this term promises to be a busy one! I hope that you find our Newsletter useful and informative, and as always, we thank you for your continued support of Titchmarsh Primary School.

Children in Need



On **Friday 12th November** we will be supporting Children in Need by coming to school in Fancy Dress, or wearing our own clothes, and by selling Children in Need Juggling Pudsey & Hoola Hooping Blush Pin Badges. The pin badges will be on sale until Friday 19th November. After this date, we will be able to give you a total amount of money that we have raised. We thank you for your support of this very worthy cause.

Flu Vaccinations



The School Nursing Team will be visiting us on **Tuesday, 16th November** to administer flu vaccinations to the children. You will have already received a ParentMail concerning the completion of consent forms for this. If you have already completed a consent form for our original cancelled date, then you **do not** need to complete another one. If you have already had your child vaccinated, then please let Mrs Skerritt know so that she can inform the nurses on the day.

Individual School Photos



Tempest will be in School on **Friday 19th November**, to take individual school photographs, so please ensure that your child has a clean jumper/cardigan on this day, and that they are wearing their correct school uniform. This year, we will be able to have sibling photographs taken, as we are not restricted by bubbles. We will only be able to have sibling photographs of children that attend our school.



Breakfast and Afterschool Club

Please ensure that places are pre-booked for Breakfast and Afterschool Club online using the ParentMail app. Places are limited to 15 per session for Breakfast Club and 20 per session for Afterschool Club. If you encounter any problems with the on-line system, please contact Mrs Skerritt in the school office.



Pupil Absence

If your child is absent from school, please contact the School Office **before 9.30am** on the morning of their absence. A message will then be relayed to their Class Teacher. All absences should be followed by a letter upon your child’s return to school. If no contact has been made by **10.30am**, the School has a duty of care to check on your child’s welfare, and the School Office will contact you to enquire why your child is absent from School.

As you are aware I can only grant permission for holidays during term time in exceptional circumstances. Should you wish to request a leave of absence for your child during term time, a ‘Leave of Absence Request Form’ will need to be completed. Forms are available from the School Office.





Nut Free Zone

As you are aware, we do have pupils with nut allergies in school, we therefore need to keep school a nut free zone. I thank you for your cooperation in these matters.



Names Please!

Could we please remind parents and carers, once again, to **clearly label their child's uniform, their coats and their PE kit**. Many thanks.



Is your Child Entitled to Free School Meals?

All children that are in Reception, YR1 and YR2 are entitled to Free School Meals under the Government Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme. However, your child may still be entitled to receive Free School Meals in KS2. To check if your family could benefit from this entitlement, please use the following link to the NNC website:

<https://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/Pages/free-school-meals.aspx>.

For every child that is eligible for Free School Meals, from YR3 onwards, the school will receive a Pupil Premium grant. This money is used to further aid the child's learning experiences whilst at school and can be used to aide parents and carers with school trip and residential expenses.



Parking

Could I, please remind parents to not park on the corners of busy junctions during drop off and pick times, and to also be considerate by not blocking driveways when parking at drop off and pick up times. This limits the places that can be used to cross the road safely. Could I please ask that this message be conveyed to other family members that may pick up or drop off your child on your behalf. Could you please also ensure that by parking your vehicle you have not obstructed access for emergency and utility vehicles. I thank you for your continued support and co-operation in this matter.

FOTS



There will be another Film Night, after school, on **Friday, 3rd December**. The film choices and voting will take place within the next week or two, and further details will be sent home. Places for the Film Night will be bookable via ParentMail, as before.

Wreath Night is back, and will be taking place in the Church on **Tuesday 7th December, from 7.30pm**. Tickets are available from Sarah Fortescue; please email Sarah with your requests: sfortescue@titchmarshprimary.co.uk. Wreath Night tickets are **£25.00**, and will include all your materials for your wreath, a mince pie and a welcome drink. Extra decorations for your wreath are available to purchase on the night. FOTS will also be holding a Christmas Raffle.

The **Secret Present Service** is up and running and raring to go! Please complete your forms and return them to school, along with your payment, by **Monday 29th November**. This will allow the FOTS elves to make sure they have enough gifts for everybody! Choosing and wrapping of the presents will begin week commencing **Monday 15th November** and all presents will be sent home with your child by **Friday 17th December**.



Teacher Training Days

The Teacher Training Days for 2022 are: Wednesday, 5th January and Tuesday, 19th April 2022.

Christmas Celebrations:



Post Box



Our Post Box will be making its annual appearance on **Wednesday 1st December**. Christmas cards can be posted on **Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays** with deliveries happening **every Friday**, until **Friday 17th December**. Please ensure that your child writes the **full name of the recipient and their year group onto the envelope**.

Christmas Performances



We are very much looking forward to our Christmas performances this year. The children will be performing **'Lights, Camel, Action!'** We will have our Twilight Service in the Church on **Tuesday 14th December 2021**, starting at **6.30pm**. Our Morning Service will take place on **Wednesday, 15th December 2021** at **9.30am**. Both of our performances will be ticketed events. For safety reasons, tickets will be allocated **2 per family, per performance**. We hope that you will be able to join us for our performances this year. Further details will be sent home nearer the time.

Christmas Jumper Day



We will, once again, be supporting Save the Children's **Christmas Jumper Day** on **Wednesday, 15th December**. Children will be able to wear a Christmas Jumper, or a Christmas outfit, on this day, in return for a donation to the Save the Children charity. The children will be able to change into their Christmas outfits after the morning performance at the Church. As with Children in Need, Just Giving have partnered with Save the Children and Titchmarsh Primary School has a Just Giving page for you to make your donations. Simply zap the QR code at the bottom of this newsletter, and you will be able to donate to our page – it's as simple as that! We look forward to seeing the children's Christmas Jumpers & Outfits!

Children's Christmas Dinner



Our Kingswood Christmas Dinner will take place on **Wednesday 15th December**. The children will all eat together in the hall, whether they choose to have a Kingswood Christmas dinner or their own packed lunch. There will be party crackers, silly hats and Christmas music! If you would like to order a Christmas lunch for your child, please do so before midnight on **Wednesday 8th December 2021**.

Pantomime



We are off to the Castle Theatre, in Wellingborough on **Thursday 16th December** to see **'Sleeping Beauty'**. This is a whole school event and we will be travelling by coach to the theatre, leaving school at approximately **9.15am**. We are watching the **10am performance** of the show, and will be returning to school for approximately **12.45pm**. The children will then be able to have their lunch. The children will receive an ice cream or ice lolly during the interval of the performance too. We hope that this will be an exciting outing for the children, and I am sure they will thoroughly enjoy the show!

Mufti Days



We will be having two more Mufti Days in December! One will be on **Friday 3rd December 2021**; children will be able to come to school in their own clothes, in return for a donation of **mince pies from our KS2 children** and a donation of **biscuits from our KS1 children and Owlets**. Could we please ask that **one donation of mince pies and biscuits is made per family**. Thank you. These donations will be for FOTS to serve after both of our Christmas performances, along with refreshments. Our second Mufti Day will be a special Mufti Day on **Friday 17th December** – the last day of term! Children will be able to wear their own clothes to school, or a party outfit or a Christmas outfit to celebrate the end of term! There will be no donation required for this Mufti Day, and we are very much looking forward to seeing the children in their chosen outfit!

As always Titchmarsh Primary School prides itself on being a friendly open school and if there is anything we can support you with or if you have a query or need information, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of our members of staff.

Yours sincerely,

Mr E Carlyle

Executive Headteacher





Diary Dates for Term 2, 2021

(All dates and times correct at time of printing)

Children in Need Non-Uniform Day	Friday 12 th November	~
Anti-Bullying Week – Odd Socks Day	Monday 15 th November	~
Flu Vaccinations	Tuesday 16 th November	AM
Individual Photographs	Friday 19 th November	AM
Open Week	Monday 22 nd – Friday 26 th November	~
YR5 & YR6 Tag Rugby Competition	Wednesday 24 th November	4pm PWS
African Dance Workshop – Whole School	Friday 26 th November	During the school day
Church Service – All Welcome	Thursday 2 nd December	From 2.15pm
Mufti Day for Mince Pie & Biscuit Donations	Friday 3 rd December	~
FOTS Film Night	Friday 3 rd December	From 3.15pm
YR6 Residential to Govilon	Monday 6 th – Friday 10 th December	~
FOTS Wreath Night, St Mary's Church, Titchmarsh	Tuesday 7 th December	7.30pm
Twilight Christmas Performance	Tuesday 14 th December	6.30pm
Morning Christmas Performance	Wednesday 15 th December	9.30am
Christmas Jumper Day	Wednesday 15 th December	~
Kingswood Christmas Dinner	Wednesday 15 th December	~
Whole School Pantomime Visit	Thursday 16 th December	9.15am
Last Day of Term Mufti Day – no donations required	Friday 17 th December	~
Special Visitor to School	Friday 17 th December	From 2pm
School Closes for Christmas Holidays	Friday 17th December	3.15pm
Training Day	Wednesday 5th January 2022	~
School Re-opens for Term 3	Thursday 6th January	8.50am



Christmas Jumper Day QR Code