

Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School Newsletter

4th December 2018

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



Christmas Events in the next 3 weeks

Production— Our Class 1 and 2 production will be on Tuesday 11th 1.45pm (Matinee) and Wednesday 12th 6.00pm (Evening). Could your children come into school on Wednesday not before 5.30pm in their costumes. Our Dress Rehearsal is Monday 10th at 1.45pm. We will be selling raffle tickets for two wonderful hampers donated by staff on each day.

Christmas Party Day—On Tuesday 18th December we have our Party Day with infants in the morning and juniors in the afternoon. Children are able to come in their party clothes for the day (please ensure suitable shoes for break time) and as usual we have a lovely picnic style party lunch. In order to have a great party lunch, we ask each child to bring something in for the children to share and to make sure we don't have 500 cakes and sweets donated, the party food list will be put on the class doors Wednesday 12th December for children or parents to sign up to.

School Dinner day— On Wednesday 12th December we will be having our School Christmas Lunch. If your child is usually on packed lunches they are able to order a lunch if required on the day. Otherwise feel free to include Christmas lunch items, Santa hat or crackers in their packed lunch.

Santa Dash and Brass Concert— On Thursday 20th December we will be hosting our very first Bretherton Santa Dash. We will be encouraging children (and parents if you would like to join us) to take part in a fun run around the school grounds dressing in their Santa hat. A letter will come out to give you more information but it will **end with a Brass Concert by children in Class 3 and who individually have Red Admiral brass lessons**. It'll really get you in the festive spirit.

Carol Service— On the last day of term, our Carol Service will be held in St John's Church and the Ethos group and classes will retell the story of the first Christmas along with our Carols and songs for Christmas. It will commence at **2.00pm on Friday 21st December** and end before the end of day. If you are able to walk down to Church with us, you are most welcome.

Holidays at Bretherton for 2019 2020

Schools must always consult with their cluster of schools around them and local high schools when setting their holidays. This year we did this, however by deviating from Lancashire in order to follow our local schools, it caused some families some difficulties when siblings were off at different times. So this year, we have planned that in 2019/2020 school year, we will mostly follow Lancashire County Council agreed dates. I have attached a copy of the holiday list with this newsletter and they will be available under the 'News' tab on the website.

Please note the 2 weeks planned in May/June. We hope this will help parents grab those holiday bargains.

PTFA Update

Thank you for supporting Christmas fair. It was a lovely, festive event and a hugely enjoyable couple of hours.

We hope that you are all now in the festive spirit. I would like to thank the stall holders for visiting us again, parents and PTFA members for their hard work behind the scenes and everyone who came and enjoyed the afternoon with us.

I am pleased to say that we raised over £1100!!

TWITTER for school

For those of you on Twitter, to keep you right up to date with the great learning and sporting opportunities we have at school account.

Our twitter feed is @BrethertonEP
We'd love you to follow our posts.



Remember our door is always open— contact us on bursar@bretherton.lancs.sch.uk

or 01772 600431 to arrange a chat

Extra Information

THEME OF WORSHIP — *ADVENT*

*But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy
Which will be for all the people” Luke 2:8-20*

Christmas Card Delivery

Each year the children who would like to, write cards for their friends and post them into our special postbox in the entrance area. Please could we ask you to remind your children to write their friends full name and class so that we can be sure they arrive at the correct person. They will be delivered by some of Year 6.

Swimming

Last year we reviewed our swimming entitlement as we felt it was more appropriate to support younger children in learning how to swim. Over this year we wanted to ensure that Year 3 and 4 were able to meet the National Curriculum expectations and they are well on their way. We feel that another term for the current children will ensure that they are in excess of this standard so will continue to swim in the Spring 2019 term. Swimming will continue to be on Monday afternoon and will start again after Christmas. In the Summer Term, Year 6 will have a couple of weeks swimming to ensure we can assess them before high school and should be able to offer a couple of enrichment swimming activities for other classes. Our plan for September 2019 is that Class 2 (Year 2/3) will swim.

Please note: there will be **no swimming on Monday 10th December** due to the Production Dress Rehearsal.

Consultation on our Admission Arrangement

Each Voluntary Aided School has to agree its Admissions Arrangement through its Governing Board and the Diocesan Board of Education on an annual basis. We've been setting our Admission arrangements each year and have not made any alterations. However, every seven years, it is good practice to consult on our arrangements so we have commenced this. If you would like more details about how to respond to our consultation, take a look at our website. www.brethertonschool.org.uk/page/admission-consultation-2018-2019-/50195

Part of this consultation will be including it in the newsletter for the next 6 weeks. We would invite any comments on our Admission Arrangements be directed to Alison Moxham or to Mr Tommy Wilson, Chair of Governor C/O Bretherton Endowed CE Primary School, South Road, Bretherton. Lancs PR269AH.

Charity Ambassadors

Congratulations to Charlotte, Bea and Emily for their compassion for animal charities. They planned and manned a great 'squishy' stall at the Christmas Fair last week to raise money for charity. They used their pocket money for buying the stock and then sold them with all monies going to their chosen charity.

Tarleton Academy Production visit

Year 5 have been invited to watch the Tarleton Academy Production this week. It is an original play written by their English and Drama teacher and is sure to be a great afternoon.



Great use of technology in learning

Looking to raise money this year for Learning by questions—technology in school—set of ipads

Panto 'Aladdin' at the Blackpool Tower Circus

We are getting ready for our Christmas Panto visit to Blackpool on Wednesday 20th December. If you can help by accompanying us on the visit, please get in touch with the School Office and I'll provide details for all volunteers the week before. Children who are taking a school packed lunch will get the chance to choose their sandwich choices on Wednesday 12th December in order that our Kitchen may order sufficient supplies. Please remember to send in permission slips if not done so already. Payment of £10.50 can be paid via SchoolMoney. If you have any problems logging in contact the School Office.

Bad weather announcements

I haven't heard that we've any snow on the way yet, but at this time of year, schools will always prepare for possible wintery weather. We have ordered our stock of grit/salt and through routine maintenance are prepared as much as we can be for the changes in weather. In doing this, we are confident that school will cope with winter, but in the unlikely event that we would have to close, I thought it would be a good time to remind you of how we would communicate it. In the first instance, you would receive a text to inform you of any safety issues or school closure. We will also let the local radio stations know and add an announcement to our website. Any updates will be communicated the same way.

DATES AND REMINDERS

MYFOTO—Individual Photographs

We feel lucky to have Adam Crowther, MyFoto to take our Individual and Class photographs in School as they are of a high quality and picture the children so well. This year we had a 45% take up of Individual photographs at the start of year, which is lower than previous years. If you have any comments about the photographs or about any aspect of this provision, I would be grateful if you could pass them to Mrs Carlyon or myself by either popping into the School Office or emailing either bursar@bretherton.lancs.sch.uk or head@bretherton.lancs.sch.uk

Christmas Artwork

Each class is creating a scene from the Christmas Story which will be placed in St John's Church within December for all parishioners to share. Thank you to Mrs Sharrock for her artistic flair and skills— the classes loved working with you.

Safety Poster Design—20 is Plenty

All children's posters for our Road Safety Campaign are to be in this week. Thank you for all children who have taken the time to design an A4 poster. The winners will be announced next week.

Class 3 visit to Narnia

Class 3 have been invited to visit a magical tour of Narnia at the Hesketh Bank Christian Centre next week. It is a great opportunity to look at this superb book which the class will be reading as part of their English this term. We have been fortunate to have been able to hire the Holmeswood Methodist School minibus which has meant a much reduced cost of transport. Hopefully this will be something we can continue to use in the future to save on transport costs. We hope they have a great visit.

Parental Questionnaires

Thank you to all who have taken the time to complete our Parental Questionnaire. Your feedback is invaluable in supporting school improvement and so I would urge you to complete it and return it if you have not done so already. Copies of the form are available from the School Office. I will let you know the outcomes in the newsletter in January.

Our Posada

As Advent commences, school is trimmed up and our Advent Candle has been placed on our Worship table. Thank you to Rosie Stanfield for creating such a lovely display for school. The Ethos group have prepared a 'Posada' that can travel around our families throughout Advent, so I thought I'd introduce you to the idea.

A Posada is a re-enactment of the pilgrimage of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem in the First Christmas Story. Children will be able to take our Mary and Joseph decorations home to share with Christmas preparations for a night before returning to school the next day for another family until 24th December when we will take it to St John's Church at the Christingle Service at 4.00pm. It is a lovely way to share in the true meaning of Christmas, read the Christmas story, say prayers and celebrate the joys of spending time together. Keep your eyes out for it coming home.

Reminders!

Friday 7th December	Deadline for Dobroyd Castle 2019 Interim Payment
Monday 10th December	Infant Christmas Production—Dress Rehearsal 1.45pm
Tuesday 11th December	Infant Christmas Production—Matinee 1.45pm
Wednesday 12th December	Infant Christmas Production—Evening 6.00pm
Thursday 13th December	Last Pre-School for this term
Friday 14th December	Last Toddler for this term
Tuesday 18th December	Christmas Party Day—no school lunches or toast
Friday 21st December	Christmas Carol Service in Church 2.00pm School Closes 3.15pm
Monday 24th December	Christingle Service 4.00pm in St. John's Church—letter will be coming out to ask for children to help with the dressing of the altar with Nativity scene.
Monday 7th January	Back to School



Remember to check the calendar on our website for details of all events.

PRIVATE PROVIDER CLUB INFORMATION

Please note the last session and restarting dates for clubs :

CLUB	Last Session	Club Restarts
TENNIS	Tues 18/12/18	Tues 8/1/19
ART	Tues 18/12/18	Tues 8/1/19
SPANISH	Tues 11/12/18	Tues 8/1/19
JUJITSU	Mon 10/12/18	Mon 7/1/19