

ASTON ALL SAINTS CHURCH OF
ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2017



Dear Parents,

The Christmas season is only just around the corner so here is our Christmas Newsletter with all the dates and information for the coming weeks. It includes the dates of Christmas events both at school and in All Saints Church, Christ Church Swallownest and Holy Trinity Ulley.

Christmas is always a very special time in school and I do hope that you and your family will enjoy sharing our special Christmas events in school and in church.



CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

JUNIOR CONCERTS “Pictures of a Christmas World”

- Wednesday 6th December
- Thursday 7th December – both concerts will begin at **6.00pm**

Please note the change to the days when we usually have junior evening concerts

FOUNDATION CONCERT... “The Pop-up Nativity”

- Thursday 14th December
- Friday 15th December – both concerts will begin at **9.45am** and parents are welcome to join us for a drink and mince pie from 9am.

We hold the Foundation concert at a separate time so that our very youngest children perform to a smaller audience. Parents are welcome to come to the hall as soon as they have dropped their child off and we will serve drinks and mince pies before the concerts begin.

INFANT CONCERT [children in Y1 and Y2] ... “Star of Wonder”

- Thursday 14th December
- Friday 15th December – both infant concerts will begin at **2pm**

TICKET SALES

Tickets will be on sale for both concerts from **Monday 27th November**. These will be available each morning and at the end of the day from the **SCHOOL OFFICE**.

The cost of the tickets will be £2.00 for the junior concert and £1.00 for each of the Foundation and infant concerts.

As in previous years we will, initially, be allocating 3 tickets per family for the junior concert and 3 tickets per family for the foundation and the infant concerts. We feel that this is the fairest way to ensure that everyone gets an equal chance to purchase tickets. We will offer tickets for sale in this way from Monday 27th November until [and including] Thursday 30th November, but **FROM FRIDAY 1st December** any remaining tickets will be available on a **FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS**.

Please note that no tickets are reserved, even though we allocate three tickets per family, they must be purchased in school during this week.



.....parkingespecially on the infant concert days.....

Visitors to our Infant Concerts in previous years will know that, on several occasions, we have had **major** problems with parking outside school on the afternoons of the infant concerts. This has often led to parents and visitors double parking outside school. **Please help** us to keep everyone safe by preferably, walking to school or parking well away from the school entrance.

OTHER CHRISTMAS EVENTS!

MONDAY 18th DECEMBER ...

- **INFANT CHRISTMAS PARTY** at 1.30pm

For the Infant Christmas Party, each Infant class teacher will be grateful to have a couple of parent helpers but I am afraid we are unable to allow pre school age brothers and sisters to attend. If you wish to help at the

party please speak to your child`s class teacher. Lists of party food will be available in classrooms nearer the time and donations will be gratefully received.

We will also welcome parent helpers to the junior disco, please speak to your child`s class teacher.

MONDAY 18TH DECEMBER

- Junior Disco starting at **6pm and finishing at 8pm**. There is no cost for the junior disco and crisps and drinks are provided. If the children wish to bring some money, raffle tickets costing 10p each will be on sale.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Wednesday 20th DECEMBER

Christmas lunch will be served on **Wednesday 20th December**. Parents will need to order on the Dolce Website in the usual way. I am sure this will be a delicious lunch!

CHRISTMAS EUCHARIST



On Friday 22nd December the children in the Year Two class will be leading the Christmas Eucharist service and everyone is welcome to join us for the service which will be held in the school hall and will begin at 9.15am. The Foundation children will join this Eucharist Service – their very first Eucharist and the parents of the Foundation children are very welcome to join us too!



CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

Information will shortly be sent to parents about our annual Christmas hamper raffle. As always, a big thank you to our team of teaching assistants, who will make up the hampers and organise the raffle, along with some very hard working Y6 children who will be selling the raffle tickets. Look out for posters advertising the sale of tickets! We are very grateful to everyone who supports our hamper raffle and all proceeds help to support the activities we do with the children throughout the year. Thank you!



CHRISTMAS FUND RAISING AFTERNOON

Christmas jumpers are ready for Friday 1st December! Everyone is invited to a fund raising afternoon on Friday 1st December beginning at 2pm. There will be stalls, games and tea and coffee and mince pies will be served. On this date, the children will also be invited to dress up in Christmas jumpers or festive clothes and donate £1.00 to school funds.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN OUR CHURCHES



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE – Aston Parish Church

Sunday 10th December at 4.00pm

There will be our very special Christingle Service on Sunday 10th December. This is a beautiful service, held in All Saints Church, especially for the children, which begins just as it becomes dusk! Everyone will receive a lighted Christingle during the service which can then be taken home and the goodies decorating the orange can be eaten!

It is traditional to donate the collection from a Christingle service to the Children's Society. A collection for this charity will be taken during these services.

There will be an **evening service at Ulley Church** on Sunday 10th December at 6.30pm and the Aston All Saints Choir will be singing during this service.

There will be a **Family Carol Service with Nativity followed by a party for the children at Ulley Church** on 19th December at 4.30pm

On Sunday 17th December at 6.30pm will be **“CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT”** in All Saints Church.

This is a beautiful service, by candlelight as the title suggests and an opportunity to get everyone into the true spirit of Christmas. There will be special readings, beautiful music from the choir and an opportunity to join in singing traditional carols. This service will also celebrate the retirement of Paul Hudson, Director of Music, who is retiring at Christmas. Paul has been in this role for forty years and many children from the church school have joined the church choir over the years and in

recent years Paul has also worked with our choir in school as they joined the confirmation services and sang with the church choir.

THE CRIB SERVICE

Christmas Eve at 4.00pm - in All Saints Church

A service especially for the children, as the final preparations for Christmas are made and the children help place all the nativity figures in the crib.

The midnight service, in All Saints Church, on Christmas Eve begins at 11.30pm and everyone is welcome to join in the first communion of Christmas.

I do hope that you will be able to join us at our Christmas services; you will be made very welcome.

Other news and information

Aston All Saints Church Christmas Fair

This will take place in All Saints Church on Saturday 25th November starting at 1pm. Look out for posters advertising the Fair! Donations for the stalls will be very welcome and can either be left in school or taken to church on the morning of the fair. To support the fair school will run a toy tombola stall and donations for this stall will also be very welcome.

Change to Inset Days

Just in case parents missed the extra news letter before half term, there has been a change to the planned Inset Days. When planning the dates originally I made a mistake! There will **not be** an Inset Day on Friday 25th May and instead the last day of the summer term **will be** an Inset Day – Monday 23rd July and therefore school will close on Friday 20th July for the summer holiday.

The remaining Inset days for this school year are –

Friday 24th November

Friday 6th July

Monday 23rd July

School will close for the Christmas holiday at 3.15pm [for ALL children] on Friday 22nd December and re open on Monday 8th January 2018.

I do hope that you will enjoy sharing in our Christmas events this year.

Yours sincerely

S. Mellor

Head Teacher

