

# Christmas

## Hemingford Grey Primary School 2020

Whilst this year has been challenging for many in all sorts of ways, we are determined to make sure that Christmas traditions continue at school as much as (Covid-safe) possible.

Here are our plans about giving at Christmas and how Hemingford Grey Primary School wishes to celebrate and share at this special time of year.



### Community and Giving at Christmas

The Harvest collection we ran this term was hugely successful with an incredibly generous amount of food donated – thank you! We will continue to support the St.Ives Foodbank throughout the year and food donations can be given to your child’s class teacher at any time which we will deliver on your behalf. We will make a delivery to the foodbank before the Christmas holidays.

### Christmas Lunch

Yay – Christmas lunch will take place this year with the children enjoying their yummy feast with festive music accompaniment in the school hall within their bubbles.

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December - Foundation Stage followed by Years 1 and 2

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Years 3 and 4

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Years 5 and 6



An alternative hot meal will be available on 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December to children on the days when it is not their Christmas Lunch day. Please note that the sandwich option will not be offered. The alternative menu is on page 2 of the Christmas menu. If your child would like a Christmas lunch, please book it via your SIMs Pay account in **EVENTS** by **10:00am on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**. It will show as being a ‘free’ item as the money will be deducted from your SIMs account on the day of your child’s lunch. Please don’t forget to check your basket out - you will receive email notification from SIMs Pay confirming your booking.

### Christmas Jumper Day

Save the Children, Christmas Jumper Day is Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December although we are extending it to Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> as well to tie in with Christmas lunches. The children are able to wear their Christmas jumpers on any or all of these days – this is optional and for more information about this event, please see:

<https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day>



## School Staff – Giving Tree

Please see: <https://www.kidsout.org.uk/how-companies-can-help/giving-tree/>

You may recall that last year Hemingford staff replaced 'Secret Santa' with joining KidsOut's Giving Tree initiative to buy toys for children in local refuge homes and we are going to support the same cause again this year. Many of the recipients are children who have escaped domestic violence, being forced to flee their homes quickly and leave all possessions behind. Without Giving Tree, these children may not otherwise receive a gift at Christmas.



## Christmas Performances

During December the children in Years 1 to 6 will be performing something festive which will be uploaded to Seesaw for you to enjoy. The performances are as follows:

Foundation Stage – A Festive Treat

Year 1/2 - Original 12 days of Christmas

Year 3/4 – Covid 12 days of Christmas

Year 5/6 – Christmas songs from Europe



## Pantomime Alternative

Although we can't host our usual Pantomime this year, we couldn't let Christmas go by without something a bit special for the children to enjoy! We have purchased a film, *The Selfish Giant*, from Riding Lights, a company with a long history of making wonderful Christmas shows for primary schools to enjoy together. The film will be delivered in three 15 minute episodes with accompanying creative resources for the children to use in the lead up to Christmas. Crucially, it can be used to bring everyone together whether children are in school or isolating at home.



## Christmas Films After School

The children in Years 1 to 6 can stay after school to watch a Christmas film together in the hall. This will be a fundraising event for school and we would ask for a contribution of £3 per child via your SIMs account by Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December please. Tickets won't be issued but instead we will have a register of every child who has booked to attend. Drinks and a snack will be provided for each child.

The dates for each bubble are as follows:

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December - Years 1 and 2

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Years 3 and 4

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Years 5 and 6

Your child will go to the hall directly from class. Please collect your child at 4:30pm from their usual classroom door and use the usual entrance and exit one way system for the school site. As it will be dark, children who would usually walk home independently must be collected please.



## Christmas Parties

The children in Years 1 to 6 will enjoy a Christmas party this year with music, fun and games in the school hall. Children can come to school in non-uniform on the day of their Phase's party. There will be no food provided for the parties as Christmas lunches are taking place on the same days

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December - Years 1/2

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December - Years 3/4

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Years 5/6



## Christmas Church Services:

Reverend Peter Cunliffe from St.James' Church is kindly coming to school to deliver Christmas assemblies to the children as we are not able to enjoy our usual visit to church. These will take place in bubbles on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December.



## Christmas Cards

Sorry, but due to the current situation it will not be possible for children to exchange Christmas cards at school this year. Should they wish to share cards with their friends, this needs to be done off the school grounds.

We hope the children enjoy the activities planned for them and that you have a fabulous and safe Christmas break with your family.

We thank you for your continued support of school.

# Merry Christmas