



Dear Parents and Carers,
Christmas has come to Lancastrian this week. The elves have been in to school during the weekend and decorated the school so that everything is looking very festive. Over the last three weeks of term, we will be finding creative and new ways of celebrating Christmas in this unique year that we find ourselves in.

News and upcoming events

Squirrel Class Forest School

Despite the departure of Miss Camp on Friday, we are still able to offer Forest School to Squirrel Class for the last 3 weeks of term. These sessions will be on **Wednesdays** and will be run by Lucy Fenwick who is a trained Forest School leader.

DCAT conversion

Tomorrow (Tuesday 1st December) is the day that we convert from a West Sussex school to an academy with the Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust (DCAT). There should be no significant changes for children and staff as most of the changes will occur at management and governance level. You can find out more about DCAT by clicking this [link to our website](#) and if you have any questions, please contact us.

Mrs Hardy

Mrs Hardy, who will be taking over the headship of Lancastrian in January will be in school this week to meet children, staff and pupils. You may see her on the entrance door one morning this week. She is happy to answer any questions that you might have.

Christmas productions

Sadly we are unable to have audiences for our Christmas productions this year due to Covid restrictions. We are still going to rehearse and perform short Christmas productions as we really value their importance in the development of the children's confidence and self-esteem. We will be recording these and then ensuring that you have a way of viewing them (virtually). We will send you more details about this very soon.

Squirrel Class- Jesus' Christmas party

Fox Class- The Nativity Story

Owl Class- Bubble Trouble

Christmas lunch and jumper day 16th December

We have our Christmas lunch booked for Wednesday 16th December and this will be the day that we will be wearing our Christmas jumpers in aid of Save the Children. Children can come dressed in clothing of their choice that day with a Christmas related theme. Please do not feel that you need buy something especially for this. Homemade costumes or accessorised clothing are always just as good if not better! A small donation for Save the Children will be greatly appreciated. Children who have a hot meal will have a festive lunch that day. Children who have packed lunches are welcome to bring something festive to eat that day too.

George and Ollie's appeal

2 brothers (1 current pupil and 1 who is in Year 3) are thinking of others this Christmas and together with their mother, Victoria, they are collecting items for the food bank. Christmas time is always a time that we encourage the children to think of others and so we are especially proud of George and Ollie for starting this appeal. Please see the attached poster

for details. Items should be donated directly to the family who will distribute them.

Christmas Cards

Sadly due to the restrictions on bringing things into school we are **not** allowing children to bring in cards from home to distribute this year. We will be giving the children opportunities to make cards for their friends and family in school, which we will quarantine before sending home.

Christingle

We hope to still be going to St Paul's church on the 17th December to have our annual Christingle/Christmas service. Unfortunately we will not be able to accommodate any parents or carers for this due to the restrictions in the church. Luckily, it is big enough for us to bring the 3 classes in their bubbles and separate them within the church.

Cinderella pantomime

We have organised for a 'virtual' panto that will be watched by the children in their class bubbles on Thursday 17th December. Whilst we are aware that this is not quite 'the real thing', we still value the importance of a live performance and hope the children will enjoy the show.

Chartwells school Lunch 4th January

The first day back after Christmas is the 4th January. We have been informed by Chartwells, our catering company, that they will not have had a delivery due to the way that New Year falls this year. This means that the only food available for those children who have a hot meal, will be jacket potato with a variety of fillings. You may wish to provide your child with a packed lunch on that day. Menus will resume on the 5th January. Apologies for the inconvenience.

Middy Meals Supervisor

We are advertising for a Middy Meals Supervisor for after Christmas. The hours would be 11.45-1.15 every day and the duties would combine; setting up the lunch hall, supervising the children while they eat, supervising the children outside and cleaning up the lunch hall afterwards. The position is subject to a full DBS check. If you are interested, please contact the school office or myself by phone or email.

Reminder:

Covid symptoms

Please ensure that you report to us immediately if your child or anyone in the family has Covid symptoms (temperature above 38.5, new persistent cough, loss of taste and smell). We will then be able to advise you of the actions that you will need to take.

Email addresses

Ms Lazell- squirrelclass@lancastrian.org.uk

Mr Mac- foxclass@lancastrian.org.uk

Mrs Turner- owlclass@lancastrian.org.uk

Office- office@lancastrian.org.uk

Mrs Gordon- head@lancastrian.org.uk

Please don't hesitate to contact either myself or your child's class teacher if you have any queries.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Zoe Gordon, Headteacher

Dates for your Diary...		
Date & Time	Event	Comments
1st December	DCAT academy conversion	More details overleaf and on our website.
16th December	Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day	Details overleaf
17th December	Cinderella pantomime	Details overleaf
17th December	Christingle service at St Paul's church	
18th December	Christmas parties in classes	Children can come to school dressed in party clothes
18th December	Break up for Christmas	2.30pm finish time
4th January	School starts for all children	
New dates in red.		