



27<sup>th</sup> November, 2020

Dear Families,

### Christmas Arrangements

As we head towards December, Christmas will very soon be upon us and I wanted to share some of the activities that the children will be participating in this year. Unfortunately, as with so many other things this year, there will be no Nativity performances where parents/carers and families can come into school. This is always such a highlight of the school year and a perfect way to begin the festive season. However, the children in each class will perform a Christmas Carol using Makaton, which we will upload onto our school website before the Christmas holidays.

### Christmas Dinner Day

If you would like your child to have Christmas Dinner this year, please complete the questionnaire on the school website. This survey closes on Monday at 12.00pm and Mrs Delaney, our school cook, is ordering all of the food needed on Monday afternoon so any requests received after this time cannot be accommodated. A School Dinner costs £2.10 for children in Nursery and £2.20 for children in Key Stage 2. Please note that children in Reception and Key Stage 1 receive a universal free school meal. Please ensure that dinner money is sent into school in an envelope that is clearly labelled with your child's name and class.

This year, due to current guidance, we are unable to have all of our children in the Dinner Hall on the same day for their Christmas Dinner. Therefore, in order to be able to offer Christmas Dinner to every class in school this year, different classes will have their Christmas Dinner on different days. The timetable for this will be as follows:

Children in **Rainbows Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** will have their Christmas Dinner on **TUESDAY 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER.**

Children in **Year 3 and Year 4** will have their Christmas Dinner on **WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER.**

Children in **Sunshine Nursery and Year 5 and Year 6** will have their Christmas Dinner on **THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER.**

City Cuisine have informed school that, on the days your child is not having their Christmas Lunch, they will be provided with a packed lunch from the school kitchen. We are unable to offer hot meal options due to the fact that the school cook will be cooking Christmas Dinner as the hot meal option on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

### **Christmas Party Day**

Your child's Christmas Party Day will be the same day as their Christmas Dinner Day. Children are invited to come into school wearing their party clothes on their Christmas Dinner Day. The Christmas Party days in school are as follows:

Rainbows Nursery: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
Sunshine Nursery: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
Reception: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Year 1: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
Year 2: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Year 3: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Year 4: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

Year 5: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
Year 6: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December

This year, your child does NOT need to bring a party plate of food into school. School will provide refreshments for your child's Christmas Party day.

### **Christmas Pantomime**

Due to the current restrictions in place, we are unable to take our children to West Denton Association as we did last year to watch a Christmas pantomime. Instead, the PTFA have organised for all of our children to watch an online pantomime within their year group bubbles. We also have some very exciting surprises planned for all of our children! Thank you to all of our PTFA.

### **Christmas Cards**

At this time of year, children normally bring in Christmas cards for their friends. This year, in order to follow all current guidance, we are asking children to bring in Christmas cards for their friends on **FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**. The cards will then be quarantined for 72 hours in line with Government guidance and these will be delivered and sent home on **WEDNESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**. Unfortunately, we are unable to receive any cards after this time.

### **Year 5 First Holy Communion**

In view of the Government announcement that Newcastle will be in Tier 3 following Lockdown, Father Martin is awaiting Diocesan guidance from the Bishop with regards to First Holy Communion. We will keep you updated of any new information as soon as we receive it.

### **COVID-19 Contact**

If you need to contact school over the weekend regarding COVID-19 issues, please contact me at [admin@stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjohnvianney.newcastle.sch.uk).

Can I personally thank you for your patience, understanding and co-operation in these challenging times.

With my very best wishes,

*C. Meldrum*

Acting Headteacher