

St Andrew's Major Church in Wales Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Friday 26th November 2021

Christmas concert filming

The whole school is now busy practicing for the Christmas concert which will be filmed by an external company on Tuesday 7th December. We have tried to keep the costumes as simple as possible (letters have gone out to all classes) and we will add the finishing touches with masks, head pieces and tinsel etc. If you are having any problems with concerts, please let your class teacher know as we may be able to help. We will email the link to everyone but please be aware that if you have said your child cannot be on Twitter or the website (only around 10 children across the school), they will have to take part either out of shot or wearing a mask. If you would like to change this permission status then please let the office know as soon as possible please.

Work on Seesaw/contacting teachers via email

If your child is home as a result of Covid, teachers will put activities on Seesaw for them to complete (if they are well enough). Obviously, the teachers are busy teaching and caring for the children in school, so it is usually impossible for them to put work on for the day we are informed of the absence. Our target is to get work on by day 2 of absence. For the same reasons, teachers are not able or expected to monitor their emails during the school day, so if you need to get a message to them about something urgent – e.g. if your child is going home with someone different, please use the school email address standrewsmajorps@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk as the office staff are able to monitor emails all day and can pass any message on.

Gifts and Cards (Repeated Message)

I am acutely aware of the financial difficulties many families face, particularly at this time of year. In recent years, I have tried to dissuade families from feeling the need to purchase gifts but some feel they would like to. Therefore, can I politely request that classes club together to purchase a voucher for staff as this should prove less of a cost for individual families. As an example a £2/£3 contribution per child put together, would provide a generous voucher for staff. I really appreciate your support with this.

As last year, children will be allowed to bring in Christmas cards for their friends. However, in an attempt to teach the children about the importance of considering the environment, we are restricting this to friends in their own class. Unlike last year, there are no requirements around isolating items, so cards can come in to school at any time during the last 2 weeks of term – from 6th December.

The Big Wrap

As in previous years, we would like to continue to support this initiative which is linked to our collections for the Foodbank at Harvest time. This charity provides gifts for children and young people who may otherwise not receive anything. This year, they have asked if we would collect gifts for older children and teens as they usually receive more for younger children. This could include toiletry sets, make-up and nail varnish,

jewellery (not for pierced ears), hats, scarves, gloves and socks, colouring books suitable for older children, small puzzles/games, gift cards or chocolate treats. We struggle for space to store the items so we will only be collecting during the week commencing 6th December.

INSET days (Please note slight changes)

We have a 6th INSET day for Curriculum Development which will be taking place on Friday 17th June. As a result, we will not have an INSET day on Weds 15th June as this would mean a very disjointed week.

Therefore the INSET days are now confirmed as:

- Tues 4th January 2022
- Weds 5th January 2022
- Monday 25th April 2022
- Friday 17th June 2022
- Fri 22nd July 2022

Upcoming dates

w/c 6th December – Collecting for ‘The Big Wrap’

7th December – filming for our special Christmas concert! More details to follow 😊

10th December – Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day

15th December – Christmas Dinner – Reception to Year 2

16th December – Christmas Dinner – Year 3 to Year 6

17th December – Last day of term

This week, my Headteacher awards for showing compassion go to Aurelie and Harriette for being so kind and caring to their friends! Isla in Year 4 also received an award for her excellent poem. Da iawn merched 😊

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend,

Yours faithfully,



Gen Hallett
Headteacher



"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." (Ephesians 4:32)