



Meersbrook Bank Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs G. Harvey



Tuesday 16th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

For some of you Christmas will still feel like an age away but for others, you started thinking about it in September! In schools, we are usually the September planning people as the usual arrangements are complicated and time consuming. However, this year we decided to wait to see the emerging picture with Covid.

Although Step 4 of the government's plan means that all restrictions have been lifted, life in large organisations still isn't that simple. We still have all manner of risk assessments in place and outbreak contingency plans. Some schools have been hit hard by covid cases; luckily we are in a minority who have up until now had fairly low case numbers.

There is no getting away from the fact that the more large scale gatherings that are held, the more risk of transmission there is. I am mindful that in the final weeks before Christmas, just one event could mean that many people are ill or need to self-isolate over the Christmas period.

We have thought long and hard about putting on performances this year, but it would mean significantly limiting the audience size which would mean having to ask the children to perform many times. (From bitter experience, they peak after about 2 performances!!) We have discussed filming but without an audience it's very 'flat' for the children, and Christmas is about the children after all!! Singing indoors is still very much in contention too, as far as public health are concerned - and what's Christmas without singing?

However, we certainly don't want to cancel Christmas! We have decided that we will hold outdoor Christmas singing events (so wrap up warm) for parents and families to attend, a class at a time. Dates will be sent out next week. FMBS have kindly offered to sell hot drinks and cakes too which will also help to make this extra special. We will also be selling raffle tickets for our new class hampers (See overleaf for more info).

In addition to these performances we are holding 2 Christmas craft sessions per class which parents can come and help at (although we will have to cap the numbers.) Please message the teachers via Dojo to sign up.

Nursery	Tues 30 th (am & pm) & Wed 1 st (am & pm)
Reception	Tues 30 th (pm); & Wed 1 st (am)
Year 1	Wed 1 st (am) & Thurs 2 nd (pm)
Year 2	Wed 1 st (pm) & Thurs 2 nd (pm)

Year 3	Wed 1 st (pm) & Thurs 2 nd (pm)
Year 4	Tues 30 th (pm) & Thurs 2 nd (pm)
Year 5	Fri 3 rd (am & pm)
Year 6	Fri 3 rd (am & pm)

We will also be holding class parties in the final week before we break up.

Nursery	Tuesday 14 th Dec (am & pm)
Reception & Key Stage 1	Wed 15 th Dec (pm)
Key Stage 2	Thurs 16 th Dec (pm)

Children may come dressed in their 'party clothes' (non-uniform) all day.

We will of course be decorating the school up and each class will update class dojo daily during December so you can see all the Christmassy fun we're having through advent. Once again, although we are having to make concessions to Covid, we still plan to have a wonderful festive period in school.

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs G. Harvey



INTRODUCING THE BIG CLASS HAMPER RAFFLE!

This year we thought we'd try something new. We would like to invite families to contribute to class hampers. Each class has been given a colour, to guide your donation choices. So for example, if your child's class is gold, it would be fantastic if you could send in something gold (or if you're really struggling, something wrapped in gold paper!) Here are some examples:



The class's colours are:

Nursery	Purple
Reception	Red
Year 1	Silver
Year 2	Black
Year 3	Gold
Year 4	Green
Year 5	White
Year 6	Blue

Please bring your donations in by **Friday 3rd December** so that the hampers can be made up and displayed ready for parents to see. Each class will have a big box in their classrooms, so they should pop it into there.

Raffle tickets will be sold at the outdoor singing events, or alternatively pop into the office from 6th December onwards at drop-off or pick-up. Tickets will be priced at £1 each and all the proceeds will go to FMBS which then comes back into school to give children treats such as subsidies towards trips or to develop the playground.

The draw will take place at 3.30pm on Thursday 16th December in the playground.

Huge thanks in advance for your generosity..... And good luck in the prize draw!