

As there's quite a lot happening in the run up to Christmas, we're sending out brief newsletter this week too.

## Our News

- Thank you so much to the great support we had on Monday with our open afternoon / evening. It was fantastic to see the children have such fun and was a great start to our run up to Christmas. We had a number of new families visit throughout the day and also managed to raise £151.00 which will help us to pay for our ukuleles and various items we need for our Christmas activities. Thank you!

## What's been happening in school?



### **Nikolaus and Krampus visit Dame Catherine Harpur's School!**

We've been learning a little about Christmas celebrations in other countries this week. We've joined in with traditions from Germany and Austria and Nikolaus and Krampus paid us a visit today. Luckily we can report that the children deserved some treats. Although Krampus did try to get away with giving a couple of children less-desirable items they took this in good spirit and we all enjoyed some German Spekulatius and Lebkuchen (biscuits) afterwards.



## Reminders and requests

- **NUT- FREE:** We have a couple of families in school that have some type of nut allergy in the family, and as a tight-knit community with children and parents moving through our building, we need to support those who have this allergy. We are also in a rural location, being some distance away from a hospital. Our policy is therefore to be 'nut-free' in school. We ask for your support in checking items you send in for snacks, especially things like chocolate bars. Thank you.
- **Arriving late? Picking your child up for an appointment? :** We ask that parents who arrive after 9.05am to ring the front door bell and sign your child in using the new sign-in sheets in the foyer. We have taken registers by this time and put them away and need to ensure that we have a robust system for recording children arriving after this time (for safeguarding and fire-safety purposes.) There are also signing out sheets if you need to collect your child early due to an illness or for an appointment. We have a lot of parents who support us with a whole host of activities in school and

it would help us if you ring the front door bell too instead of the one to the library area, and then sign in using the visitor's book as you come into school (and out again.) In this way we can be sure that we are recording exactly who is in the building at any given time. If you are coming in at the same time as bringing your child and staying to help in school, we would appreciate it if you could still go through and sign in. Thank you for your understanding with this.

- **Requesting time out of school?:** If you are intending to plan a holiday / short break and wish to request time out during term time, there is a form to complete to request days out of school. In order to authorise absence due to holidays, we need these requests to be sent in to Lorna at least 2 weeks prior to the date, so that we can record this absence appropriately as authorised or unauthorised absence. We are a school which supports a limited amount of planned absence (holidays in term time) and have the flexibility to do this. Knowing about absences in advance helps us to ensure that we can plan our staffing levels. Obviously we still need to ensure that any absence is not significant enough to have an impact on progress, as this will form part of the evidence requested by OFSTED too.

## Fundraising

- Please could we have all hamper prizes by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Dec.
- Please return any unsold raffle tickets after this weekend
- Please return any parent feedback forms to Bria by Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Dec.
- Date of next meeting Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 4pm.

## Dates for your diary

### Coming up....

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December : Ice skating visit.** Meet at the ice-rink (opposite the Assembly Rooms.) Note – parents are responsible for their own children's health and safety at all times from the time they collect their child from school.

Pick up children from 3.30pm. Arrive at the ice rink 4.30pm.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 1pm :** Christmas lunch (village hall.) Please bring in Christmas dinner forms by WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> at the latest.

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December : Our Christmas Performance. 5.15pm**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December :** School finishes 4pm (1<sup>st</sup> day back Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019)