

## Winter Festivities

Each year, the second autumn half term is full of celebrations and traditions from a range of beliefs and cultures. Whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Eid, Diwali, the birth of Jesus or the tradition of Santa, flying reindeers and naughty elves, there is fun to be had. All these festivities have the common theme of being times for families and friends to get together. This year, we all appreciate the level of challenge these family gatherings pose and the disappointment children might be feeling about plans being different to usual. As well as providing valuable learning opportunities for children, one of the key roles of schools is to provide stability and routine. This supports children when times are challenging. At the moment, I believe this is vital. In light of this, we are going to try our hardest to make this season as close to 'normal' as possible. Whatever your situation is at home, you can rest assured that your children are having their usual diet of December joy. We know that some children will be isolating during this time but wherever possible we will invite them to events through Teams. Please find below the outline plan of the final week of term.

### **Monday 14th December**

#### **am - Santa Run**

Children to come to school in their own clothes. If they have a Santa suit wear it over the top.

#### **pm – FOGs Pantomime**

Fogs have provided us with an online pantomime that we can watch within our bubbles with popcorn and special drinks. Listen out for 'Here's behind you!' ringing out from our school

### **Tuesday 15th December**

#### **am - Winter Ramble – please wear any sensible clothes and bring wellies/boots in a bag**

We will be carrying out staggered class bubble rambles to the Christmas woods to see what the Elves have been up to this year. Sadly, we cannot invite those outside of school to this event. Bring a change of trousers/leggings and socks please.



### **Wednesday 16th December**

#### **am – Cracker making**

#### **Christmas Dinner and Party Afternoon**

Please wear your party clothes and sensible shoes

### **Thursday 17th December**

#### **Festive activities in the classroom**

Please wear any sensible clothes

### **Friday 18th December**

#### **Open the Book Christmas Service within classroom bubbles**

Please wear any sensible clothes



**Traditionally we close at 2.30 at Christmas. This needs to be staggered, so we will be 1 hour earlier than usual. Cedar – 2.10pm**

**Sycamore – 2.15pm**

**Maple – 2.20 pm**

**Willow – 2.25pm**

**Oak, Beech, Chestnut – 2.30pm**

**We will assume usual sibling arrangements unless told otherwise.**

## Where and Who to find information from

There is so much information within school at the moment that I think it is very tricky to know where and who to ask for different things. Here's a quick overview.

### Parentmail

Download the Parentmail App to receive notifications about all life in school – we try very hard not to send out paper letters. It's really important that you check this regularly. You can also report absences through Parentmail.

### [www.gothamprimary.co.uk](http://www.gothamprimary.co.uk)

See our website for the full calendar, information on using Microsoft Teams, photos of memories in subject, progressions in work for different subjects, policies and much more

### @SchoolGotham

Follow Twitter for postings about activities in your child's class

### [ndelfino@gotham.notts.sch.uk](mailto:ndelfino@gotham.notts.sch.uk)

Email Miss Delfino about non-covid absences, medicines, dinner related matters and general enquiries. If you need to get a message to your child quickly, Miss Delfino is usually your best bet.

### [office@gotham.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@gotham.notts.sch.uk)

Email Mrs Hughes with general enquiries

### [janetteallen1@gotham.notts.sch.uk](mailto:janetteallen1@gotham.notts.sch.uk)

Email Miss Allen about Covid-19 absences and with matters related to teaching and learning, behaviour, sensitive issues, safeguarding and general enquiries that cannot be dealt with by the office.

### 0115 914 9751

Urgent messages are best sent by phone as well – none of us are constantly reading our emails. So, if it is a matter that needs sorting out quickly, please phone.

## Exciting Visitors

In the week beginning 2nd November the whole school took part in 'UK Parliament Week'. The exciting event at the end of the week was to be a visit from Ruth Edwards MP and Rex Walker, our Rushcliffe Borough councillor. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 this couldn't happen on the planned date but they will be visiting school at the end of this week. The children are very excited! Sycamore, Cedar and Maple classes are proposing some new school rules and trying to persuade our visitors and myself that we should take them on as a school. It will be done in a Dragon's Den style! Look out for news on how the visit went!



Ruth Edwards M.P.



Rex Walker



Welcome back, Miss Danylevych! If you haven't managed to meet her yet – here she is!



Miss Danylevych



Whilst Miss Danylevych was off Mrs Kenny covered the Deputy Head role and Miss Hopkins was our English Lead. Thank you both for all your support through a very challenging time. You were both amazing!

Could your child be entitled to a

**FREE** school meal?



Many people's work situations have changed over the last few months. Please remember to check your free school meal eligibility. If you sign up before the holidays you will receive a voucher for food over the Christmas holidays.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>