**Birtley East School Times**

15th December 2023

**Christmas Performances**

Thank you to all those family members who have come along to any of our Christmas shows this week, the children across school and in drama club have done themselves proud! A special mention for the drama club choir who sang at Morrisons today – making the wider community happy too. The various events would not happen without extra effort from staff, pupils and you at home. Thank you to one and all for all the support and hard work. We still have the nursery singing to look forward to next week.

We will be singing carols as a whole school from 1.15pm on the last day of term. To manage numbers please can **only one member of each family attend**. You will receive a named ticket for you to bring in order to gain entry. Little ones are welcome on knees (they will not need a ticket), you will be asked to leave pushchairs and prams outside.

**Reminder: Christmas parties**

The dates of the Christmas parties are below. The children can either come in their party clothes on the day OR they can bring clothes to change into at lunchtime if their part is in the afternoon. Bear in mind that children with parties in the afternoon will be out at morning and lunchtime playtimes and so it might be better to send them in school uniform with clothes to change into. We cannot accommodate parents coming at lunchtime to change their children into party outfits, staff will help the children if needed.

On the day of the party, please send your child to school with their own ‘party tea’ to enjoy during their party. We will provide drinks.

**Santa Bus**

Here is a link to the route for the Go North East Santa Bus, it will be travelling through Birtley at tea time on Saturday 23rd December. Scroll down to the last route on the web page [Santa bus is back! - Go North East](https://www.gonortheast.co.uk/santa-bus-returns?utm_campaign=Santa%20Bus%20is%20back%21&utm_content=Santa%20bus%20routes&utm_term=&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Adestra) or here’s a link to just the route travelling through Birtley: [Santa Bus - Saturday 23rd December - Gateshead, Birtley, Low Fell and Whickham | Go North East](https://www.gonortheast.co.uk/services/GNE/SB23?date=2023-12-23&direction=outbound).

**Dates for your diary**

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| WB 18-12-23 | Christmas parties:  Monday 18th December: AM Nursery party, PM Y3/4 party  Tuesday 19th December: PM Reception party  Wednesday 20th December: PM Y5/6 Christmas party  Thursday 21st December: PM Y1/2 Christmas party |
| 22-12-23 | Carols in the hall (pm), end of term |
| **Tuesday** 9-1-24 | Start of spring term (8-1-24 is a staff INSET day) |

Anna Diggle

Headteacher