**Birtley East School Times**

1st December 2023

**Christmas Performances**

Most children will wear Christmas jumpers/tops (if you have one, please do not buy one specially) and Santa hats (which they will have from Santa run), if you have any Christmas jumpers you no longer need please send them in, we will use these for children who do not have any.

**Outdoor Christmas tree**

This weekend will be when many families put up their Christmas tree. We have a tree outside the hall which we would love each family to bring a spare bauble/decoration to add to. Please bring them and hang them anywhere on the tree when you collect/drop off the children. School staff will move them further up the tree.

**Christmas Hampers**

Any donations for our Christmas Hampers will be gratefully received by 8th December. We need:

* Biscuits
* Sweets
* Chocolates
* Smellies

The children will bring home £2 worth of raffle tickets to win the hampers on Friday 8th December, these are for you to sell to family/friends. The raffle will be drawn on Friday 15th December. Please return any ticket stubs with the name of the person who has bought the ticket AND the linked child and their year group written on them with the money you have raised by Thursday 14th December. You will need to return the stubs to be included in the raffle. Funds raised will be added to school fund, this subsidises visits (**all** educational visits are subsidised by school), events like M&M’s show the children enjoyed this week and equipment for the play provision for the children.

**Christmas Decorations: made by the children**

We are making decorations for you to buy for £1, again the funds raised will go towards school fund. We are making additional decorations to donate to local organisations. Please send in your £1 in an envelope with your child’s name on.

**Santa Run (Walk!)**

Birtley East are taking part in a mile walk around our local community on Thursday 7th December. We are leaving school at 9:30am and will walk the route attached. We would love for adults to come and support our walk, which we are doing to raise money for St Cuthbert's Hospice. We will be easy to spot in our Santa hats and singing our Christmas songs!

**Dates for your diary**

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| **WB 30-10-23** | **Half term** |
| 7-12-23 | Santa Run\* and Christmas School Lunch \* Change of focus! (The children will also be able to wear a Christmas jumper if they want.)**Additional: On this day please can children bring in any donations for hampers.** |
| WB 11-12-23 | Christmas performances:11-12-23: Babies and toddlers welcome, 2pm12-12-23: 9.30am: Parents with children in years 3 and 513-12-23: 9.30am: Parents with children in years Reception, 1 and 213-12-23: 2pm: Parents with children in years 6 and 4Families will be offered tickets to the babies and toddlers performance if needed and then ONE of the above performances, to which pre school children SHOULD NOT be brought. |
| 14-12-23 | Drama Club Show (after school) |
| 15-12-23 | Nasal Flu Vaccines |
| WB 18-12-23 | Christmas parties |
| 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