

## Christmas Celebrations for Pupils in Years 3 to 8

Pre Prep parents have received separate information on Christmas events in the Pre Prep.

Next Monday, the school will celebrate the start of the Christmas season through a pre-recorded Advent Service which will be shown within Tutor groups. In keeping with tradition, the two youngest members of the school will light the Advent candle. In the final week of term, all the pupils in Years 3 to 8 can look forward to a hot Christmas lunch, including turkey and all the trimmings! On the penultimate day of term, the pupils will, as usual, be invited to wear a Christmas jumper in place of their school blazer, and to donate an item or two to a local charity (for further information, please see the section below). On that afternoon, the children will enjoy Tutor group parties and an online pantomime. As many of you will be aware, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December would usually be the day one of the most popular events in the school calendar, Last House Standing, our House singing and variety show. We very much hope that we will be able to hold this event later in the academic year. On the final day of term, there be a traditional pre-recorded Christmas Carol Service and a special recording of the Twelves Days of Christmas which all the pupils have been putting together recently. We are planning to make these events available for parents to view at the end of term.



*Be a star this Christmas  
and help to make a  
difference in people's  
lives.*

*Support local charities  
this Christmas.*

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December** is 'Party Day' for Prep Prep and **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December** is 'Christmas Jumper Day' for Year 3-8. Instead of asking pupils to donate £2 to wear their Christmas jumper to school, we will be supporting local charities by donating items that they need. Items will be collected on 8<sup>th</sup> December for Pre Prep and 10<sup>th</sup> December for Years 3 to 8.

As this collection replaces the usual £2 charity donation, we are suggesting that an item of a similar value might be donated this year. If you wish to donate something more substantial, the charities below would be very grateful.

**The Pre Prep will be supporting the work of our local Salvation Army by collecting toys for disadvantaged children who might not receive any presents this Christmas.**

This year, the Salvation Army will be supporting around 500 families in our region. They provide support, Christmas hampers and presents to meet genuine need in our area. They would be delighted to receive new and unused, **unwrapped** gifts which will be distributed to children who might not otherwise have anything to open on Christmas day. Suggested items include:

Toy cars  
Colouring books  
Coloured crayons  
Reading books  
Picture books  
Puzzles  
Small games  
Sticker books

Items to give babies 0-12 months like cloth books, rattles, teethers etc.  
Any item a child might like to receive!

**Year 3 and 4 will be supporting the Cambridge City Foodbank by collecting food items which will form Christmas hampers to be given to local families who are struggling to feed themselves and their children in these difficult times.**

Cambridge City Foodbank provide three days' nutritionally balanced emergency food and support to local people who are referred to them in crisis. They are part of a nationwide network of foodbanks, supported by The Trussell Trust, working to combat poverty and hunger across the UK. The children will be discussing this list with their Tutor groups and will choose an item each to ensure that we don't have an abundance of one product. If you have any spare 'bags for life' they would also be greatly appreciated. Their current 'most needed' list includes:

Tins of rice pudding  
Instant coffee  
Tins of salmon and tuna  
Olive oil 500ml  
Chocolate yule log  
Tinned ham  
Meals in a tin (e.g. chilli, chicken in sauce)  
Tinned vegetables (not baked beans)  
Soap  
Anti-bacterial hand gel  
Chocolate biscuits  
Long life cartons of fruit juice  
Savoury biscuits/crackers  
Tins of custard  
Christmas treat e.g. selection box

**Year 5 and 6 will be supporting Jimmy's Night Shelter by putting together parcels of gifts for homeless people this Christmas.**

For 25 years, Jimmy's has been providing help to people experiencing homelessness in Cambridge. They work with local people, communities, organisations, and partners to deliver 24/7 emergency help, support and accommodation 365 days a year for those who would otherwise be sleeping rough. We will be putting together gift bags or boxes to bring some Christmas cheer. The children will be discussing this list in their Tutor groups and will choose an item each to ensure that we don't have an abundance of one product. Suggested items include:

- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Shower gel
- Anti-bacterial hand gel
- Nail varnish
- Hair gel
- Chocolate
- Biscuits
- Pens
- Notepads
- Hairbrush/comb
- Sweets
- Toiletries (male/female)

**Year 7 and 8 will be supporting Cambridge Housing Services by putting together parcels of small gifts which will be given to young, vulnerable people in our region who might otherwise not receive presents this Christmas.**

CHS provides accommodation and support to vulnerable young people in our region who are at risk of homelessness. CHS are collecting Christmas gifts to ensure that young people living in their supported housing services will have a present to open this Christmas. This can be a particularly difficult time of year for these young people as the majority do not have family members they can turn to. CHS ensures that the youngsters have the essentials they need while showing them there are people who care about them and their situation. We will be putting together gift bags to bring some festive cheer. The children will be discussing this list in their Tutor groups and will choose an item each to ensure that we don't have an abundance of one product. Suggested items include:

- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Shower gel
- Anti-bacterial hand gel
- Nail varnish
- Hair gel
- Chocolate
- Biscuits
- Pens
- Notepads
- Hairbrush/comb
- Sweets
- Toiletries (male/female)