



# Northbourne News

26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

This term's value: Perseverance

"He will be called Immanuel, which means 'God is with us'" (Matthew 1.23)

## Christmas Updates

Thank you for your patience while we have been working through which Christmas events it is going to be possible for us to host this year. As I know you understand, the potential of any gathering of people to spread Covid remains an ongoing concern, and several local schools continue to be significantly impacted by cases of infection. This has meant we have had to think carefully about what is possible, and to make some changes to what we would have offered before the pandemic. All of these events will be subject to careful ongoing monitoring of cases in Covid in the school, and so subject to last minute changes or cancellation. I appreciate this is far from ideal, but know you understand the reasons for this. Our priority is to aim to give children and families at least some of the Christmas events that we have in the past, given that these have been very much missed from the school calendar since the start of the pandemic.

8<sup>th</sup> December: 9:15am and 5pm                      Key Stage One Carol Concert

*Families will be allocated a total of two tickets – a form to express a preference for either the morning or evening concert will follow shortly. We would be grateful if all children in Robins, Wrens and Nightingales could join us back at school in the evening for this performance.*

10<sup>th</sup> December    Christmas Jumper Day

15<sup>th</sup> December: 10am                                      Christmas Service at St. Peters (Years 1 – 6)

*Unfortunately, due to Covid Risk Assessment of St. Peters, we will not be able to host parents at this service.*

15<sup>th</sup> December, lunchtime                              School Christmas lunch

*If your child would **not** like the Christmas lunch, please remember to use the form sent home through Parentmail to indicate this by next Tuesday (30<sup>th</sup> November).*

9<sup>th</sup> December, exact times TBC                      Penguins Christmas sing- a-long

*Families are welcome to join us at the end of their child's session (parents of 30hr children are welcome to choose either the morning or afternoon time) for a couple of songs in Penguin class to end our first term in school.*

14<sup>th</sup> December, 9:15am                                      Puffins and Swans Christmas Songs

*We would like to welcome up to two adults per child to join us in the hall to see some of Puffins' and Swans' work and to hear some Christmas songs. Please feel free to send children to school with a Christmas jumper or festive headwear on this day.*

16<sup>th</sup> December, 5pm and 6:15pm                      Christmas Discos

*More details to follow from the PTA shortly.*

For events in school where parents are welcome to join us, we ask that you complete a Lateral Flow Test before coming into school, and will ask that you wear a face covering during the performance unless exempt. Each event that we have organised will be fairly short, so we hope this won't be too uncomfortable while you watch, and thank you in advance for your support with this.

**Suggestions for Father Christmas...**

If you haven't yet placed your order with Father Christmas, it might be worth keeping in mind that an analogue watch (ie one with hands) makes an excellent gift. By the end of Y1, the National Curriculum expects that children will be able to tell the time to the hour and half past, and by the end of Y2, pupils should be able to tell and write the time to 5 minutes, including quarter past and quarter to. Pupils across the primary age range are expected to be able to solve problems with time of increasing difficulty – for example, the length of a TV programme, how long until...? – and in Y5 and 6 pupils should be able to use train and bus timetables confidently.

In our experience, this is one area of the curriculum where parental input at home can have a massive influence; by asking pupils what the time is regularly, they are more likely to pick up this skill quickly and be confident in telling the time...so please consider a watch as a gift! If you have any questions about the time requirements of the National Curriculum, please speak to myself, your child's class teacher, or Miss Rawcliffe, our Maths Subject Leader.

**PTA Updates**

Our newly formed PTA committee have got off to a great start with this year's fundraising. Please see their attached newsletter for more information about plans for the rest of this year.