

SCHOOL NEWS

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Christmas Arrangements

Next week is the last of the term and we have tried hard to keep as much of the celebrations in place as possible. Here's what to look out for:



For those of you new to Etchells, Freddy Fit visits us each Christmas and takes the children through their paces with an energetic work out with lots of festive music. We have made adaptations this year such as smaller groups, time to clean equipment between bubbles and Freddy will be distanced from the children. We will ensure the hall is well ventilated too. On your child's Freddy Fit day, please send them in wearing PE kit and a festive hat if they wish! They will need their water bottle too so please ensure it is brought to school.

Day	Year Group
Monday	Reception, Y1, Y3, Y6
Tuesday	Nursery, Y2, Y4, Y5



We will be having our Christmas Parties this year in our classrooms and the school hall. Please be reassured that all precautions will be taken and we will ensure games are non contact and that food etc is not brought in from home. The fun will still be there which is the most important ingredient! On party day, children can come in clothes of their choice.

Day	Year Group
Wednesday	Nursery
Thursday	Year 3 and 4
Friday	Reception Year 1, 2 5 and 6



Sadly, bubble logistics and risk assessments mean that we are unable to have our traditional Christmas Dinner in the hall. However, on Wednesday, we will serve our usual menu but have a festive theme and with some familiar tunes and some sparkle! We are asking KS2 children to bring a festive snack in their lunch box on their party day to bring a special touch to their lunch that day.

Nativity

The Nativity and Christmas Performances have been recorded this year and an unlisted YouTube link will be sent home for the children involved. If you are a parent/carer of children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, you should have received an agreement form regarding online performances. Please ensure you have read and understood this. I have attached again to this email.





Join the Legends Family in this short, animated series as they go on a journey to Interland and learn some very important lessons about internet safety along the way. There is a lot of fun to be had - find out more by clicking [here](#).

You can also win prizes for school by completing the Challenge. The more families who join in and register, the more prizes we could win. So demonstrate your knowledge of internet safety and promote discussion with your family too. Enter the challenge [here](#).

As this is the last newsletter of this term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our families for their tremendous support during these incredibly challenging few months. My thanks to the staff also for an fantastic job and providing the Etchells experience as far as they possibly could. I hope everyone is able to have a very well earned break and enjoy some family time together. A last reminder that we have two INSET days in January, on the 7th and 8th January, and so we will see the children ready for the Spring Term on Monday 11th January, 2021.

Take care and stay safe,

Cathy Beddows

and the Etchells staff

Santa Dash

It wasn't the best day for it, but the classes managed to get out and complete their Santa Dash in the school grounds. A sponsor form was sent home earlier this week; we are raising money for a new sound system for the hall and are very close to reaching our target. If you are able to provide a sponsorship donation in aid of this PTA fundraising initiative, it would be very much appreciated. This can be brought to school anytime up to Friday 18th December. Thank you in advance.



Heald Green Christmas Eve Jingle Bells

Please see the message below from Councillor Carole McCann:

"You may have heard a 6pm jingle of bells is being encouraged on door steps on Christmas Eve (similar to the NHS clap)

Ratepayers of Heald Green have gone a little further and arranged for St Catherine's church to ring their bell at 5.58 for 2 minutes to start the jingle then the door step jingle will start at 6pm

Children are encouraged to stand on their drive and jingle their bells to let Santa know Heald Green (and the rest of the UK) is ready for Santa

If the children colour in a picture of a robin, take it to Roger Dean Estate Agents in the village they will display them all in the window and give them a jingle bell to jingle on Christmas Eve, lets gets Christmassy !!"

You can download a robin following this link:

<https://images.app.goo.gl/jcmpEQ2SeGGqcMwC7>

