SHOBNALL PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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6th December 2019

"Education is the key to unlocking the world – a passport to freedom."

Dear Parents/Carers,

By the time this week's newsletter goes 'live', the PFA Christmas Fair will be in full swing! I would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all members of the PFA for organising what promises to be a fantastic Christmas extravaganza! We are hoping this fundraising gets us ever closer to our target so that we can begin revamping our staging, lighting and music resources to provide a much needed boost for our commitment to promoting the Arts at Shobnall Primary School. I would also like to thank all of our parents and friends on behalf of the PFA who have donated unwanted items, whether that be books, toys or games, food or their time to making this event a success. It is very much appreciated and humbles us when celebrating and thinking about the true meaning of Christmas. The festive feel is well and truly flowing through school and our dedicated team of Learning Support Assistants have been busy decorating the school to its usual high standard. The tree, nativity scene and post box are set up and I would like to take this opportunity to ask that you encourage your children to use the postal system for their cards, as this will ensure valuable lesson time is not taken up by pupils handing them out in class. We look forward to welcoming you in and around school over the next week or so, as many of our Christmas productions begin to take place from Monday onwards. Have a great weekend, and many thanks again for your continued support!

Polling Day – Thursday 12th December 2019

As our politicians prepare for the General Election on Thursday, I would like to remind you that the school will be closed due to the premises being in use for voting. Those involved in the JTMAT Christmas Concert will be at John Taylor High School on that day and I look forward to seeing you there for a good old traditional sing song to get us in the mood for Christmas!

Shobnall Stars News

The children at Shobnall Stars have been busy creating their Christmas lists for Santa and preparing for the **Polar Express Movie Night** on **Friday 13th December 2019** which has now SOLD OUT! Due to the popularity of this event, the PFA have decided to host their own film night in the New Year – more details will follow in subsequent newsletters! The staff at Shobnall Stars have asked the school to support them with this event, so it has been agreed that ALL the children can come to school in their **pyjamas** on that day (along with a small voluntary donation) to develop the resources at the Club. As always, places can be booked for any sessions via wraparound@shobnall.staffs.sch.uk. Remember, due to the General Election on Thursday 12th December 2019, Shobnall Stars will be closed.

Raven

We were delighted to welcome Raven, a therapy dog, into school this week to ask questions, stroke and cuddle her as part of our ongoing commitment to wellbeing. Therapy dogs are trained to provide affection, comfort and support to those who need it and we look forward to welcoming her back in the New Year as part of our 'Healthy, Happy Children Week' in January. Thank you, Raven!

Year 4 Forest School

Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed getting festive this week at Forest School! The Christmas bug was well and truly present in our woodland area where the children were learning to use bow saws to make their own Christmas decorations. Miss Alexander and Mrs Leedham enjoyed sprucing up their own Christmas trees with the work that was undertaken and the children participated in a festive sing-a-long and hot chocolate to end the session!

Christingle Assembly – Monday 9th December 2019

Monday 9th December 2019 will be our annual Christingle Assembly day. If you would like to send your child with a Christingle orange (please see instructions below), please ensure that it arrives in school on the Monday morning. ***Please note that due to allergies, instead of using nuts to decorate the cocktail sticks, may we please ask that parents use alternatives such as sweets and dried fruit.***

Making a Christingle

Equipment:

- Orange
- Four cocktail sticks
- Sweets
- Candle
- Red ribbon

Instructions:

1. Tie your red ribbon in a bow around the centre of the orange.
2. Place some sweets on your cocktail sticks.
3. Insert your cocktail sticks evenly around the centre of your orange.
4. Place your candle in the hole that your teacher has made at the top of the orange.

Christmas Performances for Parents

As previously mentioned, we look forward to welcoming you into school next week for our Christmas performances. These are summarised as follows:

Date	Time	Year Group(s)
Tuesday 10th December 2019	9.15am	Nursery and Reception
Wednesday 11th December 2019	9.15am	Nursery and Reception
Friday 13th December 2019	9.15am	Year 3
Monday 16th December 2019	9.15am **AND** 2pm	Year 1 and Year 2

Whilst there has been no charge for the tickets we will be having a retiring collection at the end of each performance in support of our designated charity for this season which is **St. Giles Hospice** – a charity close to all of our hearts. We also try to be as accommodating and as fair as we possibly can. As teachers and parents, we realise that parents do like to take photographs and videos of their child during performances as a personal memento. However, this can only be allowed if parents follow the strict guidelines which have been agreed by our school community i.e.

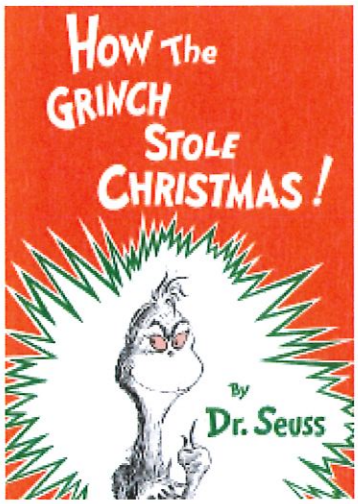
- Photographs must not appear on the internet or social websites.
- Photographs/videos are used as a personal memento only and cannot be reproduced or shared elsewhere publicly.
- Parents wishing to take videos/photographs are asked to stand in a position which does not detract from the children's performances, and does not restrict the view of other audience members.

We thank you for your co-operation with this and look forward to watching the performances!

The Sun Newspaper – Books for Schools!

Please don't forget, we are collecting 'Books for Schools' tokens from The Sun Newspaper. There will be a token printed every day until **18th January 2020**. We need to collect a huge 3,500 tokens to receive £600 worth of books for our school! Please help us by handing these tokens in to your child's class teacher – keep your eye out for the bonus tokens too!

Reading Corner



This week's recommended read is for children aged 6 – 7...

How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Written by Dr Seuss
Published by Redbook

No Christmas season is complete without the Grinch and all of the Whos in Whoville who help him find the true meaning of Christmas. With its whimsical images and hilarious rhymes, *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* delivers a serious message about the commercialization of Christmas.

With a heart "two sizes too small," the Grinch steals all of the Whos' gifts, decorations and food (even the Who Pudding and Roast Beast!) Those Whos, however, aren't phased, and Christmas goes on anyway. Their simple, yet still joyful celebration helps the green guy see the error of his Grinchy ways and realize that Christmas is really about the spirit of the season and being together.

The classic Dr. Seuss story was originally published in 1957, and its message is more appropriate today than ever as we're too often overwhelmed with gift lists and menus and decorations. This book is a great way to remind readers young and old that Christmas means a whole lot more.

Head Teacher's Awards

Reception	Dylan S	Kristers K
Year 1	Tabatha L	Flora P
Year 2	Oscar T	Hakim A
Year 3	Luke W	Musa H
Year 4	Millie D	Finley D
Year 5	Trystan B	Oscar Mc
Year 6	Archie S	Joe B

Lunchtime Star Awards

Reception	Jonah M-Y
Year 1	Noah O
Year 2	Millie C
Year 3	Owais H
Year 4	Millie D
Year 5	Manayal S
Year 6	Archie S

Team Points

Team Points	**Claymills**	**Rosliston**	**Sinai**	**Trent**
Points (*Week Ending 6.12.19)*	**132**	**146**	**204**	**102**
Position	**3rd – 2**	**2nd - 3**	**1st - 4**	**4th - 1**
Second Half Autumn Term 2019 Running Total	**42**	**29**	**21**	**39**

Autumn Term Diary Dates

Event	**Date/Time**
PFA Christmas Fair	Friday 6th December 2019, 3.30-6.00 pm
Christingle Assembly for Children	Monday 9th December, 2019
EYFS (Nursery and Reception) Nativity	Tuesday 10th December 2019, 9.15 am Wednesday 11th December 2019, 9.15 am
SCHOOL CLOSED – General Election	**Thursday 12th December 2019**
JTMAT Christmas Concert @ John Taylor High School	Thursday 12th December 2019
Year 3 Cosy Christmas Celebration	Friday 13th December 2019, 9.15 am
Pyjama Day – Whole School 50p charge	Friday 13th December 2019
KS1 (Year 1 and 2) Christmas Performance	Monday 16th December 2019, 9.15 am AND 2.00 pm
Christmas Lunch for Pupils	Wednesday 18th December 2019
Whole School Trip to the Pantomime	Thursday 19th December 2019, 1.30pm
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 20th December 2019
Holiday Sports Camp – Active Learning Sports	Monday 23rd December 2019 Tuesday 24th December 2019 Thursday 2nd January 2020 Friday 3rd January 2020

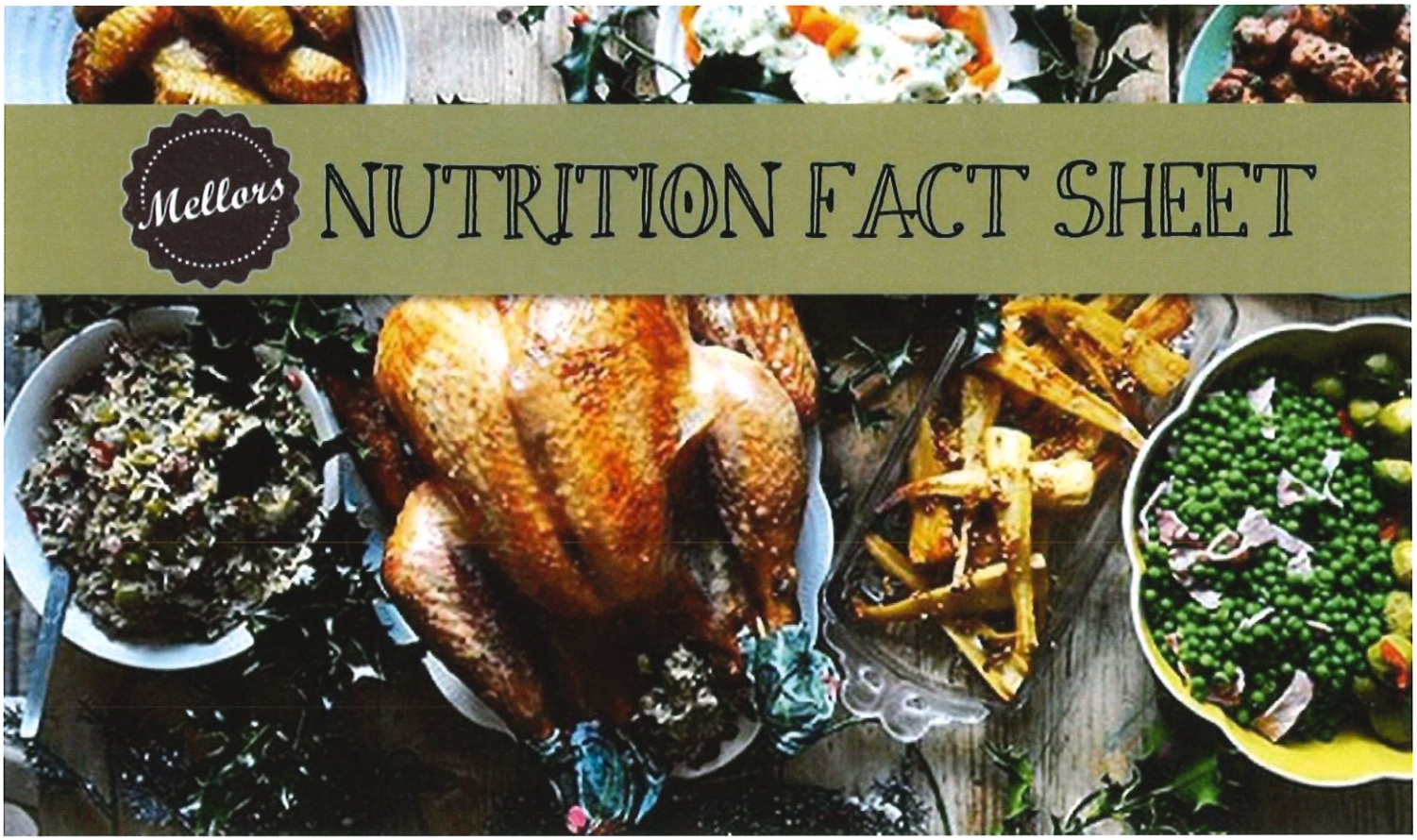
Spring Term Diary Dates

Event	**Date/Time**
School Opens to Pupils	Tuesday 7th January 2020
Swimming Commences – Year 5	Wednesday 8th January 2020
Young Voices	Friday 17th January 2020
Parents' Evening	Monday 10th February 2020 Wednesday 12th February 2020
School Closes for Half Term	Friday 14th February 2020
World Book Day	Thursday 5th March 2020
KS2 SATS Meeting for Parents	Tuesday 10th March 2019
KS1 SATs Meeting for Parents	Thursday 12th March 2020
Mother's Day Lunches – Reception	Monday 16th March 2020
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 1	Tuesday 17th March 2020

Mother's Day Lunches – Year 2	Wednesday 18th March 2020
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 3	Thursday 19th March 2020
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 4	Friday 20th March 2020
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 5	Monday 23rd March 2020
Mother's Day Lunches – Year 6	Tuesday 24th March 2020
Easter Service @ St. Aidan's Church	Monday 30th March 2020
PFA Easter Bingo	Wednesday 1st April 2020
School Closes for Easter	Friday 3rd April 2020
School Opens for Summer Term	Monday 20th April 2020

Other Significant Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
KS2 SATS	Monday 11th May 2020 to Thursday 14th May Inclusive
Music Share Concert – Disney	Tuesday 16th June 2020
Sports Day	Monday 22nd June 2020
Reserve Sports Day	Wednesday 24th June 2020
Brewhouse Performance – Year 4, 5 and 6	Thursday 2nd July 2020



NUTRITION FACT SHEET

Merry Christmas the Mellors Way!

It's Christmas which means it's time to celebrate and have lots of fun. Christmas is one of the tastiest times of the year! It's not Christmas without great food and here at Mellors we offer Christmas lunch in schools every year using fresh locally sourced ingredients.

Brussels sprouts – love them or hate them?

Brussels sprouts are like marmite, you either love them or hate them. These little cabbages are in season in December which is one of the reasons why they are such a big part of your Christmas lunch. If you don't love sprouts, there are many ways to make them a bit more exciting and flavoursome. You can add things like bacon, stuffing or chestnuts.

Why not try our Brussel Sprouts recipe:

Crispy Brussels Sprouts with Bacon and Garlic

Makes 3-4 servings

Ingredients

10-15 small Brussels sprouts
2 bacon rashers, diced
2 garlic cloves, peeled and thinly sliced

Instructions

- Peel off any bad leaves from the Brussels sprouts.
- Bring a pan of water to the boil and add the sprouts. Cook for 4 minutes then drain and refresh under cold running water.
- Cut the sprouts in half lengthways.
- Heat a separate pan and add the bacon. Dry fry for 1 minute.
- Add the sprouts and fry until they start to brown around the edges and the bacon crisps.
- Add the garlic slices and fry for 1 minute until softened.

ook out for the Mellors Christmas Menu. There will be lots of seasonal treats to help get you into the festive spirit!