



THE ACORN NEWSLETTER

Issue 221
28/11/25



Mighty oaks from little acorns grow

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been delightful to hear the children singing and practising their Christmas performances. We look forward to sharing these with you soon. If you haven't already done so, please remember to request your seats for these performances in accordance with the letter sent by ParentMail.

As we are heading towards Christmas we are also looking forward to many other special events in school including our trip to the pantomime, Christmas lunch and jumper day, our Christingle event and party day.

At this time of year, we are aware of the rising costs involved for families. We wanted to remind families that the government are once again providing supermarket vouchers for the Christmas break to support children who are eligible for free school meals. If you think that you may be eligible, please click on the link and complete the application. The vouchers for the Christmas holiday are £30 per eligible child.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals>

In addition, if you feel that a gift from the salvation Toy Appeal would be helpful, please let the school office know. The Salvation Army have asked us if any families at the school would benefit from this opportunity to receive a gift for their child. If you are in need of any items of school uniform for your child, please ask at the office as we have lots of items of pre-loved uniform available.

Thank you for your continued support.
Kind regards, Holly Marchand, Headteacher

Staff Update

Mrs Warnes is due to return from maternity leave in December, and will be taking on the SENDCo role until Mrs Jennings returns. She will be working as part of the SEND team along with Miss Pearce and Mrs Marchand. Mrs Warnes can be contacted via the school office.

Salvation Army Toy Appeal

Thank you to all our families who so generously supported the Salvation Army toy appeal by donating new toys and games for Christmas.



Year 6 Visit to Crucial Crew

On Thursday 20th November, our Year 6 pupils went to Crucial Crew, where they learnt all about how to keep themselves safe. They took part in 8 activities, relating to different aspects of life. These included; drug and alcohol awareness with Turning Point (Lowestoft); Beach Safety with Lowestoft Lifeguard Volunteers; What Would You Do? with St John's Ambulance; Money Matters with the illegal money lending team; River and water safety with Oulton Broad Watersports Centre; Online safety with Suffolk Constabulary; Fire Safety with the Suffolk Fire Service; and finally keeping ourselves safe with the NSPCC. The children had a great time whilst learning about safety, and were a credit to our school with their engagement and behaviour.



Year 1/2 Social Literacy Festival



Sixteen of our Y1 and 2 children had a fantastic time, at Water Lane sports centre in Lowestoft, with over 120 children from other schools in the Waveney area. They were put into 5 different mixed school teams and competed in multiple activities. The activities ranged from balloon tennis and tag rugby to football, basket-ball and learning a dance routine. The idea behind the afternoon's activities was to encourage children to work together, talk about tactics, make new friends and chat, which they all did with lots of smiles, laughter and perspiration! We eventually headed back to school exhausted, but happy.

Year 4 Basketball Tournament



On Tuesday 18th November, a group of Y4 children completed different basketball skills and played a mini match at the Sir John Leman High School. The children worked hard all afternoon and were a credit to the school. Well done everyone.



Squirrels After School Club

Please note that on the last day of term, Friday 19th December, the Squirrels after school club will close at 4.00pm.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL



NOV. 28th - 30th
HUNGATE CHURCH, BECCLES

FRIDAY 10.00 am – 12 noon
and 4.00 pm – 9.00 pm

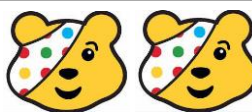
SATURDAY 9.30 am – 4.30 pm

SUNDAY 12.30 pm – 4.30 pm

ENTRANCE £2

Accompanied children free entry

We would love you to visit the Hungate Christmas Tree festival between 28th and 30th November, and vote for our amazing tree. The decorations have been made by all our pupils. Thank you to the Friends of School for organising this.



Children in Need

Thank you for your donations towards the Children in Need appeal. Our non-uniform donations raised a fantastic £240.

Walk to Church

We will be walking to the church for our Christmas Open the Book service on Friday 19th December.

Please ensure your child has a warm coat.



Christmas Calendar

Tue 2 nd Dec	EYFS Hot Chocolate Evening
Wed 3 rd Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Wed 3 rd Dec	Christmas Lunch
Mon 8 th Dec	Y3/4 Christmas Production – 2.00/5.30
Tue 9 th Dec	Y1/2 Christmas Production – 2.00/5.30
Wed 10 th Dec	EYFS Christmas Production – 10.00/2.00
Thu 11 th Dec	Y5/6 Christmas Production – 10.00/2.00/5.30
Fri 12 th Dec	Christmas Foodbank Collection
Tue 16 th Dec	Pantomime – Whole School
Wed 17 th Dec	Christingle Service
Thu 18 th Dec	Christmas Party Day
Fri 19 th Dec	Last day of Autumn term / Walk to Church
Tue 6 th Jan	First day of Spring term

Christmas Reminders



Christmas Foodbank

We are all aware that recent months have been a really tough time for all of us, and some more so than others. We will be holding a Christmas Foodbank Collection on Friday 12th December.

The Foodbank are asking for donations of:

Tinned vegetables, tinned meats (e.g. corned beef, tinned ham), tinned tomatoes, microwave puddings, bags of sweets for the children or any other long life products.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



The Children's Society

On Wednesday 17th December, we will be holding our own Christingle service in school for pupils. If you have any spare change (pennies, etc) which your child could bring in to donate, we will forward this on to the Children's Society, who have kindly provided some of the resources for us.

Christmas Performances

We have sent out letters this week inviting you to reserve seats for the following performances.

Please submit your seating request by 1st December.

Monday 8th December – Y3/4 Performance 2.00pm

Monday 8th December – Y3/4 Performance 5.30pm

Tuesday 9th December – Y1/2 Performance 2.00pm

Tuesday 9th December – Y1/2 Performance 5.30pm

Wednesday 10th December – EYFS Performance 10.00am

Wednesday 10th December – EYFS Performance 2.00pm

Thursday 11th December – Y5/6 Performance 10.00am

Thursday 11th December – Y5/6 Performance 2.00pm

Thursday 11th December – Y5/6 Performance 5.30pm



Christmas Dinner Menu



On Wednesday 3rd December, the children are invited to enjoy a Christmas dinner, comprising:

*Roast Turkey with Stuffing
Chipolata Sausage, Yorkshire
Pudding & Gravy*

*Or Roasted Quorn Grill & Gravy
Served with Roast Potatoes,
Carrots, Sprouts and Peas*

Festive Chocolate Cake

Please note on this day there will be no jacket potato/picnic option - there will be Christmas dinner or packed lunch from home only. There will also be no tuck shop on this day.

PANTOMIME

We are delighted to be taking the whole school to the Snow White Pantomime at Beccles Public Hall, on Tuesday 16th December. There will be a lower school and then an upper school visit.

The Friends of School have generously agreed to subsidise this visit by paying £10 out of the total cost of £16 for each pupil. Further details can be found in the email sent home on 15th October.

If you haven't already done so, please give your consent and make your payment on ParentMail as soon as possible.

Christmas Party Day and Party Menu

The children are invited to come to school in non-uniform for their party day on Thursday 18th December. At lunchtime the kitchen will serve:

*Selection of Sandwiches
Mini Cocktail Sausages
Sausage Rolls
Cheese Puff (Veggie)
Carrot/Cucumber Sticks
Festive Biscuit*



Christmas Post Box

From Friday 5th December, the children will be able to post cards in our Christmas post box.

The last day of posting will be Monday 15th December. After that the post box will be closed. Please make sure envelopes are clearly marked with the recipient's full name and class!



**Save the Children
CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY**

We are holding a Christmas jumper/clothing day on Wednesday 3rd December in exchange for a suggested donation of £1 per child. All the money raised will go to the Save the Children charity.