



Downham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Church Road, Ramsden Heath, Billericay, Essex CM11 1NU

Telephone: 01268 710387 Fax: 01268 711405

e-mail: admin@downham-ceap.essex.sch.uk

www.downhamschool.org

Headteachers: Mrs H. Craig B.Ed. (Hons). N.P.Q.H. Mrs S. Wilson B.Ed. (Hons). N.P.Q.H.

Christmas Arrangements 2011

Dear Parents

Christmas is a very busy time in school with lots of exciting events and activities going on. We would like to take this opportunity to outline the events that will be taking place along with the request slips for tickets to performances and relevant paper work.

Friday 25th November

Class CW and the lower school choir members will be singing at Barleylands at 5.50pm till 6.10pm. The children will be expected to arrive at 5.30pm. This event will be led by Miss Williams. Parents will have received a separate letter if their child is involved in this event. Parents are invited to attend as we start the lead up to Christmas.

Hamper creation

Our school will be creating a hamper for the OAP lunchtime lunch time club that is held in the village. Mrs Applewhite is coordinating this event. We would welcome any donations of canned or dried food towards this. Please send your donations into school from Monday 5th December until Monday 12th December

Friday 2nd December

School clubs finish for the term by today.

Monday 5th December

The Christmas post box will be now open. This is an opportunity for the children to post their Christmas cards. Please ensure the envelope has the full name and class of the child who is to receive it. The post will be sorted on a daily basis by Year 6. It will then be delivered to each class and distributed to the children.

Tuesday 6th December at 2.15pm and Wednesday 7th December at 2.15pm,

Key Stage One and Foundation Stage will be performing a nativity-'Born in a Barn'. This is classes JA, KN, LB, MM. It will be the same performance on both days. There will be some costume requirements and there will be a letter from Mrs May regarding this. Any special requests will be put in the homeschool diary. There will be a collection taken at each performance that will be divided between the House charities. As you will appreciate, we are very limited with space in the hall. We would encourage you to make alternative arrangements for preschool children and not bring them. Pushchairs will not be permitted in the school hall. The children will be trying hard to present to their parents and it would be unfair to them to be drowned out by a restless toddler or baby. The children in Key Stage Two will have the opportunity to see the Nativity during the school day. Tickets are free but you will need a ticket to attend. To allow every family the opportunity to attend a performance, tickets will be limited to **two** per family. We would ask you to complete the ticket request slip for your preferred performance day and return it to the school office by Thursday 30th November. The tickets will be sent home with your child. There will be a list in the school office if you wish to request any additional tickets if more become available. The additional tickets will not be issued until Monday 5th December.

Thursday 8th December

The whole school is going to the pantomime at the Civic Theatre in Chelmsford to see 'Sleeping Beauty'. The cost of the ticket and transport is paid for by PTA funds. We are very grateful for all their fund raising so this can be done. The PTA will also be providing a small packet of sweets for each child during the interval. Children return to school and will then have a later lunch which they have on their return to school. The children will need a packed lunch on this day. There will be no hot meal provision. For those children who are entitled to a free school meal the school kitchen will provide them with a packed lunch. Please indicate this on the request form.

In the afternoon on the children's return the PTA is running the Christmas bazaar. This is a very popular event and children will need to bring a small amount of money in a named purse and a carrier bag for their purchases. The PTA will be making requests for donations for the various stalls in the run up to Christmas. Please support them in any way you can. This event is always very popular with the children. Once you have collected your child after school, the bazaar will then be open to parents.

Monday 12th December

Mrs Perry and her team will be cooking Christmas dinner today. The cost is £1.92. Please complete the request form and send in the payment.

Monday 12th December at 6pm and Tuesday 13th December at 6pm.

The Year 6 children will lead the school carol service at St Margaret's Church Downham. The Year 6 from RP will be leading the service on Monday and the Year 6 from VB will be leading the service on Tuesday. Everyone, parents and grandparents are welcome to attend. The PTA will be providing homemade mulled wine and are requesting homemade cakes from parents for these events. Please bring any cake donations to the school office on Monday 12th December. We would also recommend you bring a torch as it is dark outside the church and to the car park area. They will then be divided between the two performances. Please complete the request slip for tickets to the carol service.

Wednesday 14th December 2.15pm Classes CW and GE

Thursday 15th December 2.15pm Classes ES and the Year 5 from VB and RP.

Children in Years 3, 4 and 5 will be performing a musical play called 'Nativity Nightmares'. There will be a collection taken at each performance that will be divided between the House charities. As you will appreciate, we are very limited with space in the hall. Please do not bring toddlers to the performances. Tickets are free but you will need a ticket to attend. To allow every family the opportunity to attend a performance, tickets will be limited to **two** per family initially. We would ask you to complete the ticket request slip and return it to the school office. Requests will need to be received by Friday 2nd December. The tickets will be sent home with your child. There will be a list in the school office if you wish to request any additional tickets if more become available. The additional tickets will not be issued until after Monday 5th December.

Friday 16th December

This is the last day of term. School finishes at the usual time.

The Spring term starts on Tuesday 3rd January 2011.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and members of the PTA who work very hard to make this a very special time for all our children.

We look forward to seeing you at some of the events.

Yours sincerely

Helen Craig /Sue Wilson

Headteachers

BORN IN A BARN PERFORMED BY CLASSES JA/KN/MM/LB

Please indicate which performance you would like to attend. **(2 tickets per family)**

Childs name.....Class.....

Tuesday 6th December 2.15 pm..... (No. of tickets required 1 or 2).....

or

Wednesday 7th December 2.15pm (No. of tickets required 1 or 2).....

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NATIVITY NIGHTMARES PERFORMED BY CLASSES CW/GE

Childs name.....Class.....

Wednesday 14th December 2.15pm..... (No. of tickets required 1 OR 2).....

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NATIVITY NIGHTMARES PERFORMED BY CLASSES ES/AND YEAR 5 FROM VB /RP

Childs name.....Class.....

Thursday 15th December 2.15pm..... (No. of tickets required 1 OR 2).....

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CAROL SERVICE – ST MARGARETS CHURCH – YEAR 6 CHILDREN LEADING THE SERVICE.

Please indicate which night you wish to attend **2 tickets per family** as we are limited to 100 places per evening.

Childs name.....Class.....

Monday 12th December 6 pm..... (No. of tickets required 1 or 2).....

Tuesday 13th December 6 pm..... (No. of tickets required 1 or 2).....

If any spare tickets please put me on the waiting list for Monday 12th Tuesday 13th (please tick) I would like number of tickets.

If you are willing to supply cakes to be brought into school on Monday 12th please tick

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PANTOMIME – SLEEPING BEAUTY - THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER

The PTA have kindly offered to give every child a small packet of sweets.

PLEASE PROVIDE A PACKED LUNCH FOR YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN AS THERE WILL BE NO HOT MEALS AVAILABLE ON THIS DAY.

I give permission for my childClass..... to attend the Pantomime

Signed Parent/Carer

I give permission for my child to have/have not sweets.

I wish my child to be provided with FREE PACKED LUNCH (PLEASE CIRCLE) if required.

Signed Parent/Carer.....

CHRISTMAS DINNER - MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER

I do/do not wish my child to have a Christmas Dinner and enclose the amount of £1.92

Childs name.....Class.....

Signed Parent/Carer.....