



4<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### Christmas news and events

#### Nativity services

Our Nativity service will be recorded this year and shared with parents of children in Barn Owls and Falcons using Google Classrooms. Every child has a log on for this system and these have now been shared with families.

**Please check you can log in as soon as possible.** The service will be recorded next week and we plan to make it available by the end of the week. You will receive a text to confirm when it is available.

#### Christmas cards

The post box will be put out in the back porch (just inside the brown door) ready for any Christmas cards on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December and Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December only**. It will then be put away for the rest of the week and cards sorted and distributed (using thoroughly cleaned hands) on Friday of each of those weeks. This is a similar system to that which we use for reading books, so we are confident that the risk of infection is very low.

If you and your child choose to send Christmas cards, we ask that the child's name and class name are clearly marked on the envelope.

#### Christingle services

Each year we celebrate with a Christingle service at the church and this year we are able to do the same. On **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December**, the church will drop off sets of Christingle making equipment to the school and we will hold a service at the church in the afternoon. This will be available to children only, all of whom will be kept in their separate bubbles for the duration of the service.

There will be a separate Christingle service at the church in Iron Acton that all families are welcome to attend. This will take place on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm** outside the church with families staying in their own bubbles. Please wrap up warm!

#### Carol service

We are currently organising a mini carol service which we plan to share with all families during the final week of term on Google Classrooms. Each class will sing a carol and there will be readings. **Please do watch this at home when it is available and sing along!**

Details of all other church Christmas events are in the diary dates at the end of this newsletter. The attachment with this newsletter also sets out these dates.

### New arrival

Ms Bagnall gave birth to a healthy baby girl on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November. She has named her Eleanor Joy and she weighed 7lb 9oz.

Ms Bagnall would like to express her gratitude for the kind wishes, comments, cards and gifts received prior to her departure.

### Staffing news

We have recently welcomed Mrs Jane Riches to our lunch break supervisor team. Mrs Riches will work at Iron Acton every Wednesday.

### **Lunch break supervisor position**

We are looking for a lunch break supervisor to join our friendly team at school, working 11.55 – 13.10pm every day (fewer days will be considered).

If you enjoy working with children and can build positive relationships, helping them to eat healthily and enjoy a positive lunch break experience, please contact the school office, or find further details on

Eteach: <https://www.eteach.com/jobs/iron-acton-church-of-england-primary-school-jobs-25615/?oo=ag>

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and all appointments will be subject to appropriate vetting, including an enhanced DBS disclosure check.

### **Recent awards**

#### Tree of Light competition

Congratulations to Silvana in Year 5 who was runner up in a recent Christmas art competition that children in Year 5 and 6 took part in with the Yate Rotary Club. The winning entry (from another local school) gets to help with the switching on the Christmas tree lights in Yate town centre. For more information:

<https://myyate.co.uk/yate/e/41191/tree-of-light-to-shine-through>

#### Woodland Trust Award

Before Ms Bagnall left, she submitted an application to the Woodland Trust for a Green Tree Schools Award; we have been awarded with a bronze! The aim is to reward schools for doing environmental projects such as tree planting, reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and visiting woods. You can find out more about this on the Trust's website:

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/support-us/act/your-school/green-tree-schools-award/>

### **Fundraising**

Thank you to all for your support with recent fundraising efforts. It makes a huge difference to the school and the charities we support. We have recently raised the following amounts with your support:

Children in Need (non-uniform day) - £113.97

Bag 2 School (for Friends PTA) - £126

Blue Cross (Talent Show) - £27.06

Poppy appeal (in conjunction with Hawkesbury) - £181.13

### **Keyboard lessons**

We have a space for one or two children to learn to play the keyboard. This is with a highly experienced visiting teacher from the local Music Hub. Lessons take place during school time once each week for 30 minutes. Prices and duration will be confirmed by Music Hub. If your child receives pupil premium funding (eligibility tested free schools meals), we can look to cover the costs for you. Please let the school office know if you are interested in this opportunity.

### **Hair bands and accessories**

We would like to clarify the school's position on arrangements for children with long hair. Firstly, all children with hair, which is longer than shoulder length, must keep it completely tied back for the duration of the school day. This is partly for health and safety reasons but also to stop hair getting in the way whilst children are working. Secondly, if a child needs to wear a headband, these must be plain and not have additional features such as ears or antlers. As well as this, any bows should be small; we are unable to allow children to wear large bows, which may get in the way and are more likely to fall off, get lost or accidentally damaged.

We ask that children hold off from wearing anything festive in their hair in school until the final week of term (week commencing 14<sup>th</sup> December). Thank you for your understanding and support with this.

### Lunchtime clothing

We are keen to continue to use the field throughout the winter which we know may cause additional washing. Children in KS2 are strongly encouraged to bring in an additional pair of named trousers in a bag which they can change into or wear over the top of their school trousers for lunch, particularly if they choose to play football.

### Blonde Angels shoebox appeal

Reminder: any shoebox donations can be brought to school by Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Please see message below which was shared at the beginning of Term 2.

We are supporting the Bristol based Blonde Angels homeless project once again this year. Please see the picture below for a screen shot of their Facebook page appeal with suggested items you can donate. You can provide the items suggested in either a shoebox or a bag. These must be brought **to school by Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December** when one of our parents will collect them and take them to the drop off point; there will be a collection point outside the school front door. If you need any more information please speak to Rachael Green (parent to Megan and Oscar in Falcons Class). You can also visit the Facebook page by typing Blonde Angel Street Team in the search bar to find out more.

Sharing  
**Christmas Spirit**  
*& cheer for the homeless!*

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS  
BAGS / SHOEBOXES

CROCS	SCARF
SWEETS	GLOVES
WARM SOCKS	SMALL TORCH
BOXERS	BATTERIES
CARD	DECORATION

PLEASE LABEL MALE OR FEMALE

DROP OFF DATES  
DECEMBER 11TH / 12TH / 13TH

DROP OFF POINTS  
YATE / BRADLEY STOKE & BRISTOL

BLONDE ANGEL  
STREET TEAM

HOPE

f y t

## Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas jumper day will take place on the last day of term, Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Friends would like to hold a 'swap shop' event prior to this event via Facebook – see the message below from Friends:

*There will be a Facebook post added to the 'Friends of Iron Acton school' Facebook page that will encourage people who have old Christmas jumpers that they no longer need to pledge them to others. If you would like to join the page, please send a request to be authorised.*

### Dates for your diary

Event	Date and time	Information
Christmas lunch	09.12.20	You can sign your child up for this using Parent Pay in the normal way.
Nativity	N/A	Recorded with the aim of being shared by 11.12.20.
Blonde Angel homeless project deadline	10.12.20	All donations to be brought to school by this date.
Christingle service	11.12.20, 2.00pm	Unfortunately families will not be able to join us.
Church Christingle service	13.12.20, 4.00pm	Details attached to newsletter. All are welcome.
Class Christmas parties	16.12.20, pm	Children may bring a change of clothes into school to change into at lunchtime.
Christmas jumper day	18.12.20	
Final day of Term 2	18.12.20, 3.15pm	
Church carol services	20.12.20, 6.30pm	Details attached to newsletter. All are welcome.
Church crib service	24.12.20, 4.00pm	Details attached to newsletter. All are welcome.
First day of Term 3	04.01.20, 8.55am	

**Please note: these dates may be changed or cancelled if necessary. We will try to provide as much notice as possible if this is the case.**