



Dear Parents/Carers,



We are fast approaching the end of term. We are really looking forward to all the Christmas presentations this week. This year our

collection will be going to the Hospice of St Francis. As part of our Christmas celebrations, Year 2 from Victoria school will be joining us to watch one of the dress rehearsals for Year 2. We hope to make a return visit next week for Year 2 to make Christingles.

Carol service



Don't forget our Christmas carol service on Monday 15th December at 2 p.m at St Peters Church. We would love you to help us sing Christmas carols as our small children have small singing voices. We look forward to seeing you. St Peters are holding two Christmas Crib Services on Christmas Eve at 4pm and 5.15pm.

Christmas parties



Children may bring a change of clothing for their parties on the afternoon of Thursday 18th

December. It needs to be brought to school in a **named** carrier bag and hung in the class cloakrooms. The children may change after lunchtime.

Friends of Swing Gate Christmas shop is back!



On Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th December all children will have the chance to buy affordable presents for their family. These have been purchased by

FOSG and will come ready wrapped and cost £1.25 each. Please put any money in an envelope, clearly named and give to the class teacher on the mornings of present buying. We hope you enjoy the outcomes!

SAVE THE CHILDREN - CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY 12th DECEMBER



All children may bring a pound to support Save the Children and wear a **CHRISTMAS JUMPER** on Friday 12th December. Parents

can join in if they wish. We look forward to seeing a sea of Christmas jumpers. These don't need to be shop bought, they can be any plain jumper with some Christmas decoration attached. A drawing of a Christmas tree or pudding would be great. Plus don't forget the Government has pledged to match all money raised.

School library



Mrs Howe is working very hard going through our existing library, weeding out books that would be

better suited to older children and books that have been well used and are rather worn. Once we have gone through the books, we will be thinking about the design of the new library to make it more user friendly for infants. Thank you to the Friends of Swing Gate and all parents for raising the money to refurbish and equip the library.



The Friends of Swing Gate are also buying a scooter rack in the new year in order to store even more scooters.



Travel forum rep



Thank you to Mrs Greenland for stepping forward as Travel forum representative for Swing Gate. Mrs Greenland will be attending the forum along with parents and reps from other Berkhamsted schools. This complements the work put in by local Heads with safer routes to schools etc. We continue to assess daily, the number of children walking, scootering and cycling to school. The children receive badges monthly according to the number of times they walk to school, or use alternative environmentally friendly methods.

School council Rep

Nicki di Guiseppe has volunteered to be the parent rep on the Swing Gate School / Eco council. The children invite the parent rep to join them once per half term. At the moment, the school council is considering the traffic implications of any building works that may take place. They are also monitoring fuel consumption within school and look at how we use our recycling bins.

After school clubs

A letter detailing ASC for next term will be going out in book bags on Wednesday 10th December. Please look out for it.

School meals



If you would like to change your child's school meal pattern please let the office know by Monday 15th December. Thank you. Also, there has been a change to the menu in

week 3, instead of Lentil Korma on Thursday the green choice will be a jacket potato.

Inset Day

The school will be closed on Monday 5th January for an In-service Training Day for staff. We look forward to seeing the children from Reception to Year 2 back on **Tuesday 6th January 2015!**

Nursery

Children starting Nursery in January (New Starters) will be receiving their home visits on Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th January 2015. **Therefore current Nursery children will return to school on Thursday 8th January 2015 at the normal time.**

Foundation Stage Panto

The whole Foundation stage really enjoyed Red Riding Hood "oh no they didn't, oh yes they did".... For many, it was their first experience of a performance. They had great fun.

A huge big thank you



Thank you to all those parents who have supported us this term from volunteering to hearing readers in school, dressing up on Roman day and

Castle day, supporting workshops to running Friends of Swing Gate. Thank you



I wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year. We look forward to seeing everyone back in January.

