park life

Buckingham Park Church of England School Newsletter

Christmas Trees

You may have spotted the super Christmas tree that stands in Jubilee Square. We have a smaller tree in our entrance area and others in our classrooms.

Prince Albert (the husband of Queen Victoria) brought from his own country of Germany the tradition of having a decorated Christmas tree and this tradition soon spread across the country.

One of the best-known Christmas trees stands in Trafalgar Square in London. Each year a huge fir tree is shipped over from Norway - a present from the Norwegian people, in gratitude for Britain's help during the Second World War.

It is thought that 500 years ago, Martin Luther (the German church reformer) was the first to put candles on a Christmas tree. He said that the lights would remind people of the stars that shone above Bethlehem on the night of the birth of Jesus…

"The Word became a human being and lived here with us. We saw his true glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father. From him all the kindness and all the truth of God have come down to us." (John 1 v 14)

Best wishes,

Nick Waldron

School Meals Update

The school which has the hub kitchen that provides our school meals has unexpectedly had to close due to building issues. It is expected to be closed for at least two weeks.

Hayley Jackson and the lunch team did a great job last week – providing meals from alternative local suppliers on two occasions.

For the next two weeks, we are asking you to provide a packed lunch for your child. We are thinking about how we can still provide a Christmas lunch because we don't want the children to miss out. We'll update you about that soon.

Thank you for your support in providing packed lunches. These circumstances are completely beyond our control and are most unfortunate.

Visits this Week

We have been invited to take a small group of Reception aged children to Waddesdon Manor this Thursday to take part in a recording for ITV's Daybreak programme. Our children will sing one of our Christmas songs.

Unfortunately, we can only take a maximum of 20 children so we have taken 'names from a hat' rather than turn down the offer. We are sorry that we cannot involve more children, and we know that the majority of children will be disappointed but we will be on the lookout for further such opportunities.

For those children not involved in filming, we have organised a visit to St. James' Church, Bierton, as part of our learning about places of worship, and celebrations. The children will travel by coach to St. James' on Thursday morning – accompanied by school staff. If any parent has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Christmas at St James the Great, Bierton

We really value the strong links that we have with St James' Church, and Revd Mark Ackford. All our Buckingham Park families are very welcome to attend the Christmas Services over the next few weeks:

Sunday 16th December, 11am	Family Service with Nativity
Sunday 16th December, 6pm	Nine lessons and Carols
Christmas Eve, 5.30pm	Christingle Service
Christmas Eve, 11.30pm	Midnight Eucharist
Christmas Day, 8am	Said Eucharist
Christmas Day, 10.30am	Christmas Family Service with Eucharist

Christmas Nativity Costumes

We're really grateful for your support with the costumes for our Nativity play. We are providing the majority of the costumes but we have asked for your help with some clothing to wear alongside the bought items.

Please could you send in your child's clothing this Wednesday so that we have everything ready for our dress rehearsal. If you are not sure what your child needs, or if you are having any difficulty getting hold of things, please speak to your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Mobile Library

The Buckinghamshire mobile library will be visiting Jubilee Square this week from 10.10am until 11.00am. You can use the mobile library if you are a member of any Buckinghamshire Library, or you can join on Friday. Your children can also become members.

Please make good use of this library service. If we make good use of it, the service will continue to make regular visits to Buckingham Park!