

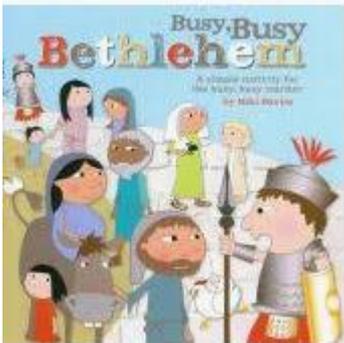


Dear Parents

What a great time we had at the Christmas Fair! Thank you to everyone who came to support and for all your generous donations on the Friday run up to the fair. A huge thank you to all of the PFA who organised all the activities and thank you to our wonderful choir who entertained us in the hall with their festive songs. We estimate to have made over £600 for our school.



We love our Christmas Tree that was kindly donated by Astbury Meadow Garden Centre.



The children have been busy rehearsing for the nativity in church on **Sunday 15th December at 11am.**

This is a whole school led service in the church where Class Noah act out the Nativity story and Classes Mary and Jacob support them by telling the story through the songs that accompany the script. Please make sure that you keep this date free as all children are involved.

Children in classes Mary and Jacob need to wear their school uniform.

Many thanks

Pip Blythe

Payment for school lunches

It is Parents' responsibility to regularly monitor their child's ParentPay account and ensure it remains in credit. School meals should be paid for in advance, be it weekly, monthly, half or full termly.

Please note, should your child go home after 9:30am you will be charged for any school meal ordered during morning registration.

In line with other schools in CDAT and our school meal payment system, after one week, if dinner money is still outstanding then we will no longer be able to offer your child a school meal. A packed lunch must then be provided from home until the debt is settled, only then can your child continue to receiving school meals. The debt must be repaid in full within two weeks of your notification that School will be ceasing to offer your child a school meal.

If you are unable to pay for your child's school meal in line with this policy, then please speak in confidence to Miss Blythe or Mrs Loomes. Each case will be looked at individually.

The decision has been reached by the Head Teacher in conjunction with the School Governors due to large amounts of dinner money outstanding and delays recouping these debts.

School holiday dates

Holiday dates 2020/21

Holiday period	School closes	School re-opens
Summer 2020	Closes to students Monday 20 th July	<i>Tuesday 1st September – Teacher INSET Day</i> School open to students Wednesday 2 nd September
Autumn Half Term 2020	Friday 23 rd October	<i>Monday 2nd November Teacher INSET Day</i> School open to students Tuesday 3 rd November
Christmas 2020/21	Friday 18th December	<i>Monday 4th January – Teacher INSET Day</i> School opens to students Tuesday 5 th January
Spring Half Term 2021	Friday 12 th February	Monday 22 nd February
Easter 2021	Thursday 1 st April	Monday 19 th April
May Day 2021	Monday 3 rd May	
Summer Half Term 2021	School closes to students Thursday 27 th May <i>Friday 28th May Teacher INSET Day</i>	Monday 7 th June
Summer 2021	Summer 2021 School closes to students Tuesday 20th July <i>Wednesday 21st July Teacher INSET Day</i>	

Job Vacancies

We currently have two job vacancies advertised. A Special Needs Teaching Assistant vacancy and a Pre-School Assistant vacancy. Please see the school website for information about these vacancies.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We are looking to appoint a parent governor at our school.

Governors play a key role in ensuring that the children of our community develop both academically and spiritually within a distinctive Christian ethos. We are looking for people who are able to support the school in its understanding and development of the Christian aspects of its work and are willing to commit time and effort to supporting the educational development of the children in the school. You do not have to be an educational expert as you will be given help in developing such skills, and training is available on all aspects of school governance. What is important, is a willingness to commit to the role and an ability to ask questions whilst working with others to ensure the best outcomes for the children by challenging and supporting school leaders in equal measure. School governance uses the experience of people from many walks of life and if you work in business, have an interest in finance or have experience of working in a variety of situations then you could make a valuable contribution to the work of the school governing body.

Governing body meetings take place once in the autumn term and once in the spring and summer terms with smaller subcommittees held every term. Membership of any committee will be based on your interests and experience.

If you feel that you could take on this very important role, then please see the application form at the end of the newsletter. The deadline for submitting your application is Tuesday 7th January 2020. Please return your application to the school office.

Christingle

Our Christingle service is in Astbury Church on Thursday 19th December at 9.15am.



All children need to make and bring their own Christingle to school on the morning of Thursday 19th December. We have candles and red tape in school that we can offer for a small donation to the Children's Society.

Your child will need an orange, 4 cocktail sticks and some sweets to attach to the cocktail sticks.

We look forward to welcoming as many parents and friends as possible joining us for our Christingle service.

Dane Valley Beavers/Scouts

Dane Valley Beavers and Scouts, Rope Walk, have places available for 6 year old (or nearly 6) girls and boys.

We do lots of activities, earn badges, make friends and have fun. Our sessions are on Thursdays 5pm-6.15pm and cost £3.00.

If you would like to join us please contact Debra Marshall at debra@cw124ts11.com

There is also a joining list to register those children who are not old enough to start just yet.

Alderley Edge School for Girls - Junior Photography Competition

Year 5 pupils are invited to take part in a Cheshire Schools' Photography Competition run by Alderley Edge School for Girls. The theme for the competition is "Our World".

Entries must be e mailed to competitions@aesg.co.uk by Friday 10th January 2020.

Name, School, and the Title of the photograph must be on the entry and the maximum size of emailed file is 25mb. If the file is larger then please contact AESG directly.

Following receipt of entries, 25 top entries will be selected and these children will be invited to attend an Art and Photography day at AESG. At the end of this day an overall winner will be announced.

From Chris Duke – Author of "Lucy's Blue Day"

I just wanted to say a massive thank you to you for being such a huge part of Lucy's Blue Day this year. 2019 has been an amazing year for us and getting Lucy's message across and by you inviting me to come and speak, it has made a huge difference to so many children throughout the UK this year.

*I had been wracking my brains to try and come up with a way to say thank you to all of the friends, children and parents that have helped us this year, and I thought, why not continue the original offer that I had done before I came to visit. So, I have set up a discount on our website for 20% off selected items if people use the code **THANKYOU**. I would love to see as many children as possible have Lucy's Blue Day this year, and because you guys were so nice to me when I came and visited, I wanted to extend the offer to you too.*

We will keep the offer open until Christmas. Also, any orders made before 16th December will be guaranteed to arrive by Christmas.

Thank you once again for being a HUGE part of Lucy's and our 2019 and here's to 2020.

Chris

Music for Life

Learning a musical instrument brings so many benefits to a child's overall development as well as developing a skill and interest that a child can have for life and a course of lessons may be an ideal Christmas gift. Music for Life is a not-for-profit music service working in partnership with

schools which currently arranges lessons for more than 4,000 young people across our area. The deadline for booking a new course to start after Christmas is **21st December**. (Please note that bookings are subject to a final confirmation from the tutor and from school that the extra course can be accommodated but more than 99% of people who request lessons will get a place.) You can find out much more and book online here: www.musicforlife.org.uk/apply-now.

Payment for courses can be made using almost any debit or credit card and can be spread over several months or paid in full in advance on booking if you wish. Financial support with the cost of lessons may be available in cases of hardship; please contact Music for Life before booking if you would like to discuss this.

All new courses enjoy a term "taster" period (around 12 weeks), so when you book you are only committed to a term of lessons to see how things go. After that time, a report on progress will be sent and you can then decide to continue with lessons, cancel further lessons or change the course.

Some other links you may find helpful in learning more about the work of Music for Life are:

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/Musicforlife1234

TWITTER: twitter.com/MusicforLifeSCH

VIDEOS: musicforlife.org.uk/videos

Best wishes,

Daniel Gooch-Peters (Head of MfL Operations)

dan.gooch@musicforlife.org.uk

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Messy Christmas

There is a free event from 3:30pm – 5pm this Saturday, 7th December at New Life Church. The Messy Christmas session will have craft activities, a Bible story and tea! Parents are to stay with the children. All welcome to come along and join in the Messy Christmas session!

Christmas Cracker – Cross Street Church

Cross Street Church will be holding a *Christmas Cracker* free event on Sunday 15th December from 4-5.30pm. There will be activities including crafts, cake decorating, singing and games. There will be fun for all the family and we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus and the Christmas Story.

Diary Dates

Thursday 5 th December	PFA Christmas film night 3:20 – 5:30pm
Wednesday 11 th December	School Christmas lunch for the whole school. Parents, Governors, all welcome.
Thursday 12 th December	Pantomime for the whole school. PFA event in school time.
Sunday 15 th December	Whole School nativity 11:00am in church
Monday 16 th December	Live Nativity in Astbury village
Tuesday 17 th December	Live Nativity in Astbury village
Thursday 19 th December	Whole School 9:15am in church – all welcome
Friday 20 th December	School closes for Christmas