



Tuesday 5th December 2017

Dear Parents,

Once again Coombe Bissett Primary School produced a fantastic display for last week's Lantern Parade – this year we made Father Christmas'. Everyone was in very good spirit as we walked through the streets of Salisbury from the Cathedral to the Market Square. This year there was an incredible display of acrobatics and fire to finish off the parade. Thank you to everyone who made this event possible: all the parents who helped with the workshop led by Mrs Tidmarsh (Archie and Barney's Mummy), Mrs Scutt (Harry, Tommy and Isobel's Mummy) and Mrs O'Boyle (Lucy's Mummy); the families and friends who joined us for the parade itself and the children for their enthusiasm and energy.

Coombe Bissett and Homington Express Christmas Illustrations

Last Thursday everyone gathered in our school hall at the end of the day to hear who had won the Coombe Bissett and Homington Express Christmas Illustration Competition. This year I was delighted to welcome Philip Alfry to present the prizes. Every year all the children in our school draw a Nativity picture which is entered into the competition with winners selected from each class. Congratulations to this year's winners:

Finley Bruins – Oak Class
Tehya Best – Elm Class
Naomi Davies – Fir Class
Julia van Leeuwen – Ash Class

The winning pictures are all published in this month's edition of the Coombe Bissett and Homington Express with Julia's chosen to be on the front cover.

100 Club

Congratulations to the winners of the November draw of our 100 Club:

1st prize. John Wheeler
2nd Prize. Anna Gabriel
3rd Prize. Annabelle Hepburn

Next month is the Christmas Draw with a first prize of £100 and second £50 and third £10. It is still possible to join the 100 Club and costs just £12 for the academic year – forms are available from Mrs McGuire (Hetty and Alice's Mummy) and the school office. If you get your form in by Friday 15th December you will be included in the Christmas Draw! The 100 Club supports activities such as Arts Week, the annual Pantomime, workshops with Wiltshire Wildlife.

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Christmas Tree Festival – St Thomas’ Church, Salisbury, Tuesday 5th December – Sunday 10th December

Mrs Vince (Freya and Eloise’s Mummy) has been busy putting the finishing touches to our school’s Christmas tree for the annual Christmas Tree Festival at St Thomas’ Church. Earlier this term Mrs Vince led a workshop for all the children making beautiful decorations and they will all be on display this week. There will be over 100 decorated Christmas trees to enjoy – including Coombe Bissett Primary Schools! Opening times are 10am – 6pm from Tuesday to Saturday and 12 noon – 5.30pm on Sunday.

Christmas Mini Fayre – THIS FRIDAY morning

Thank you to everyone who has already started to bring in gifts for the Christmas Mini-Fair. These can be donations of unwanted gifts or small new items such as soap, bars of chocolate, diaries, socks, pens, candles, hair accessories, key rings, books, stickers etc. So that the Friends can ensure a wide range of gifts they are asking for each class to bring items suitable for a specific group of people:

OAK CLASS - BROTHERS

ELM CLASS - MUMS, GRANS, AUNTS

FIR CLASS - DADS, GRANDADS, UNCLES

ASH CLASS - SISTERS

Any extra gifts outside of your category are very welcome!

Please bring donations to school and place in the box in your child’s classroom. The class reps will collect the gifts and store them until the fayre.

The Christmas Mini-Fair is always a very popular event with all the children having the opportunity to do some Christmas shopping. As you can imagine, ensuring all 101 children have the chance to choose presents and get them wrapped needs a lot of adult help. If you are able to help, please let the school office, Mrs Boydcamps (Cameron’s Mummy) or Ms Bailey (Finlay and Phoebe’s Mummy) know. **ON FRIDAY** please send your child(ren) to school with a **carrier bag** (to put their gifts into), **some money** and **gift labels** (we ask for a maximum of 5 to ensure that we have enough presents for everyone), each filled out with the **name of who the gift is for** and **who it is from**. The gifts on sale will range in price from 10p to £2 (wrapping service included).

Friends Christmas Film Night – THIS FRIDAY after Celebration Worship

This Friday the friends will be showing ‘Arthur Christmas’. Tickets for popcorn, drink and the raffle cost £2 – please return slips and payment to the school office or Friends’ post box outside Elm Classroom as soon as possible.

Christmas Post Box: Monday, 11th December – Wednesday 20th December

Our Christmas Post Box will be in our hall from next Monday. Daily deliveries will begin on Monday, 11th December and continue until the last day of term. Please ensure that envelopes have **children’s first name, surname and class** so they can be delivered to the right person!

Oak and Elm Class Nativity – Wednesday 13th December at 2pm in the Village Hall

Everyone in Oak and Elm Classes have been busy preparing for next week’s Nativity performance. This is always a very special Christmas tradition to which we invite families and friends. We have a dress rehearsal the day before (Tuesday 12th @ 2pm) and this year we are offering parents with younger siblings, who may find it difficult to sustain the whole performance, the opportunity to attend the dress rehearsal. If you would like to attend the dress rehearsal instead of the performance please let our school office know so we can ensure we have the correct number of chairs set out. It is important the main performance allows the children to be heard both saying their lines and singing. There will be refreshments at the Wednesday performance organised by the Friends and a raffle put together by the staff. The Cricket Field will be available for parking on the 13th December.

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Second Hand Uniform Sale – Friday 15th December after Celebration Worship

There will be an opportunity to buy second hand uniform after Celebration Worship on Friday 15th December.

Christingle: Monday 18th December

I hope as many families as possible will be able to join us for this lovely service when Church and School come together for a very special service. Every child will receive a Christingle at the service. All the children will wear school uniform and sit with their family. Please bring torches and ensure your children are in school uniform and at the Church **by 5:45pm**. Our neighbour Mr Bundy has kindly given permission for his field to be used for parking on the 18th and it can be accessed by driving along the lane past the entrance to the Church.

I also need parents to help make the Christingles in the afternoon on Monday 18th December from 2pm onwards. We would like to make 101 so we need as many parents as possible to help. Please let Mrs Fiander or Mrs Hatton know if you are able to help.

Christmas Parties: Tuesday 19th December

This year our Christmas Party Day will be on Tuesday 19th December. Children should come to school in their party clothes; please wear sensible shoes for dancing/playing party games, and also bring a coat as there will still be outside playtimes. The staff plan and organise the party games and there will also be a visit from Father Christmas. We will be having our Christmas lunch this day as well. Thank you to the Friends for funding this so that every child in our school can enjoy a special Christmas lunch.

Last Day of Term: Wednesday 20th December

We will be finishing our term with Christmas Carols in our school hall. This will begin at 1.30pm and we hope that families and friends will be able to join us. **School will finish at 2pm.**

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Cockrean

Headteacher

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Child's Name: _____

I wish to book _____ places for film night on the 8th December and include £ _____ for refreshments and raffle tickets.

(cheques payable to Friends of Coombe Bissett School)

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CLUB DATES

Tues (3.30pm-4.30pm)	KS2 Badminton Dec 5th
Tues (3.30pm-4.30pm)	KS1 Multiskills Dec 5th
Weds (3.30pm-4.30pm)	Martial Arts Dec 6th & Dec 13 th * this session is to make up for Nov 22nd
Weds (3.30pm-4.30pm)	School Choir Dec 6th
Thurs lunchtimes	Gardening Club Dec 7th
Thurs (3.30pm-4.30pm)	Football Dec 7th
Thurs (3.30-4.30pm)	Yoga Dec 7th

TERM DATES

December

8 th	Christmas Mini Fair Christmas Film Night
13 th	Nativity Play in Village Hall (2pm start) School Choir carol singing outside Coombe Bissett Stores (4pm start)
17 th	School Choir singing at St Thomas' Church, Salisbury at concert in aid of Cancer Research (2.45pm start)
18 th	Christingle 6pm
19 th	Christmas lunch
20 th	End of Term (School finishes at 2pm) School Disco (<i>details to follow</i>)

January

4 th	Term 3 Commences Pantomime – "Aladdin"
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