

Everyone can achieve

Everyone can learn

Everyone belongs

Air Balloon Hill Primary School

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Newsletter 11

26th November 2021

In this week's newsletter:

- * Message from Mr Browse
- * Christmas Cards
- * Congratulations...
- * Inset Days
- * Covid - 19
- * Lates
- * FAB News
- * Lost Property
- * Masks
- * Foodbank Christmas Appeal
- * Wanted
- * Employment Opportunities at Air Balloon Hill Primary

Dear parents,

We are quietly starting to talk about (whisper it) Christmas. And, whereas we won't be able to put on the full Air Balloon Christmas experience, we still have plenty of festive plans up our sleeves.

Firstly, we are very sad to say that there won't be a Winter Fayre this year. FAB (Friends of Air Balloon) and I have met and we were both really hoping that we would be able to stage an event this year but after reviewing it this will not be possible. FAB are creating special craft bags available for children to purchase and they are running our winter discos. I also know that FAB are looking at putting on some whole school events further on in the school year.

In school, our Christmas Lunch is scheduled for 7th December and children are welcome to wear a festive jumper on this day if they wish. We are also planning on the children creating a special Christmassy surprise for parents and carers which will be shared with parents via our school YouTube channel. More information on this will follow and parents will have the option to opt out if they wish.

We will also be holding our 'stories around the Christmas tree' where children are invited back into school in the evening to listen to some Christmas stories read by members of staff. This will be held on 14th December at 6:00 - 6:30pm to book your child's place click [here](#).

That, combined with our annual 'Air Balloon's Got Talent' show and end of the term class parties, should mean that we finish this term in style. At the very least, we'll finish it and be in definite need of a holiday!

Enjoy your weekend,

Tim Browse

Christmas Cards

Children are welcome to send Christmas cards this year. In order to be environmentally minded, we do ask if children could send a 'class card' which can then be displayed in the classroom for everyone to enjoy. However, we do recognise that some children will want to send cards to individual children in their class and year group. Please note that all cards must be handed in to the class teacher who will arrange distribution at a time that is convenient and appropriate.



Congratulations...

To Mrs Watton and her husband who welcomed a baby girl, Evelyn, on 18th November. We send them all our love and look forward to meeting Evelyn in due course.



Inset Days

Please remember that next **Friday 3rd December** and **Monday 6th December** are Inset days and the school will be closed for children.

Inset Day

Covid - 19

Please remember that if your child has any symptoms which could be Covid, they **must** have a PCR test. Lateral flow tests are only suitable if no symptoms are present. Please report **any** symptoms of Covid to the school office so we can monitor for possible positive cases and remember that children with any Covid symptoms **must** not attend school until they have received a negative PCR result.



Lates

Over recent weeks, we have seen a significant increase in the number of children arriving late for school. Not only does this impact on their teaching and learning time, but it disrupts the class and teacher and means children miss out on key messages at the start of the day. Children who arrive late often feel embarrassed when walking into class and it can cause them unnecessary worry and anxiety. Please help us by ensuring your child arrives on time every day at the time allocated for their year group and use the correct entrance:

Year group	Entrance	Drop off/pick-up Location	Drop-off time	Pick-up time
Reception	Hill Side Gate	EYFS Playground	8:50am	3:20
Year 1	Hill Side Gate	Y1 Playground	8:45am	3:15
Year 2	Main Gate	Front playground	8:40am	3:15
Year 3	Hill Side Gate	Middle playground	8:40am	3:15
Year 4	Top Playground Gate	Top playground	8:40am	3:15
Year 5	Top Playground Gate	Top playground	8:45am	3:20
Year 6*	Main Gate	Y6 terrace	8:45am	3:20

*Year 6 children are encouraged to arrive at the main gates at 8:30am and wait on the terrace until 8:45am whereupon they can enter their classrooms for registration.

FAB News

Winter Discos

Reminder to book your disco tickets. To stick with our current year group bubbles, each year group will have their own disco:



Tuesday 7th December

Reception - 3.30-4.15

Year 2 - 4.30 - 5.15

Year 4 - 5.30-6.15

Year 6 - 6.30-7.30

Thursday 9th December

Year 1 - 3.30-4.15

Year 3 - 4.30-5.15

Year 5 - 5.30-6.30

All tickets must be booked and paid for by Thursday 2nd December. Bookings can be made using this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/g6uCcYsFct> Tickets are £2.50 per pupil. Payment should be made with the correct money in an envelope marked with your **Child's Name, Class, and "DISCO"** and handed in to the school office.

Fancy dress or festive outfits are optional (no masks). Entry to and exit from the discos will be via a one-way system (more details nearer the time).

Lost Property

Louis in Sun class has lost two sweatshirts. If found, please hand into the school office to be returned to class.



Masks

Please can we remind parents/carers that masks **must** be worn when you are on the school site, even in the playgrounds, as social distancing cannot always be maintained and Covid cases are on the increase.



Foodbank Christmas Appeal

Every year, we have a Christmas appeal, to support the East Bristol Foodbank and this year we know that they need our help more than ever.



We will have boxes in the main foyer for donations and we will be making regular drop-offs to the foodbank throughout December. Their Christmas Wish List is:

- Christmas Puddings
- Christmas Cakes / Yule Log (or similar)
- Mince Pies (Please check expiry date)
- Crackers (to pull and eat)
- Tins/boxes of festive treats, festive biscuits,
- Cranberry Sauce
- Gravy Granules
- Chocolate Coins, Chocolate Boxes /Sweet selection boxes
- Stuffing Mix
- Tins of Salmon / Cured Ham

They would also welcome donations of gifts that they can give out for Christmas - so would welcome any children's gifts, books or colouring books and toiletry gifts for adults.

This wish list is in addition to the items that they need all year round, so donations of tea, coffee, toilet rolls, toiletry items (deodorant, shower gel, tooth paste etc) laundry products, baby supplies (nappies, wipes, food), cereal, soup, pasta, rice, tinned meat, veg and fruit, UHT milk and fruit juice are also needed.

If you can help by adding an extra item or two to your shopping over the coming weeks and dropping it off in the foyer, we know the team of volunteers at the Kingswood Foodbank and everyone who receives your donations will be extremely grateful.

Please remember they cannot accept items that need to be kept in a fridge or freezer.

Wanted

Does your business have spare offcuts or scrap paper that our youngest children could use for their mark making and role play activities?



If so, please hand in to the office or to our Reception Team.

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Employment Opportunities at Air Balloon Hill Primary School

Please visit the vacancies section of the school website to view our current job opportunities.

www.abhps.com/vacancies

<https://www.eteach.com/schools/air-balloon-hill-primary-school-24934>



Air Balloon Hill Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

An enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check is required for this position.

We particularly welcome applications from underrepresented groups including, ethnicity, gender, transgender, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion.