



The Abbey CE VA Primary School

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25th November 2016

Dear Parents

Advent Eucharist

The Advent Eucharist will be **Wednesday 30th November** from 9.15-10.15am in the Crossing at the Abbey. The following day, Thursday 1st December, there will be the weekly act of Collective Worship as per normal.

School Orchestra

The school orchestra do not perform in the Advent Eucharist service. Orchestra is now finished for this term.

School Christmas Tree and Decorations

Our school Christmas tree is being donated by Aylett Nurseries again this year on Monday 28th November and our children will decorate the Christmas tree in a morning assembly on **Tuesday 29th November**.

Any new children (such as the Reception class or new starters this academic year) who joined the school since last December are invited to bring in one decoration from home to hang on the tree. This decoration remains in school and is not returned home. This Abbey School tradition is fun for the children, but if your child is unable to find a decoration, or forgets, we will make sure he or she can choose a decoration from our box.

Christmas Fundraising at the Christmas Fair Saturday 3rd December 12-3pm

Our Christmas Fair promises to be a festive fun day for all the family! Please do come along and look out for our Year 6 Young Apprentices and of course Santa Claus is coming to town!

To tempt your taste buds there will be a variety of tasty treats to buy. All of the money raised at the Christmas Fair will go towards the Friend's Association fund raising target to upgrade our school facilities for the children.

Non-Uniform Day – Friday 2nd December

In preparation for the Fair, children can wear non-uniform to school on Friday 2nd December in return for a donation of a bottle of wine or similar for the bottle tombola or a smart box of sweets/chocolates for tombola prizes.

Christmas Fair reminders from Shirley Anderson, Chair of the Friends':

- **Raffle tickets** have been sent home with your child please deposit any monies in a sealed envelope and post into the Friends post box in the school entrance. CHEQUE payments are welcome - cheques made out to "**Friends of Abbey JMI School**". Please return any unsold tickets to the Friends box.
- **Hamper contributions** - money donations by Friday 2nd December in an envelope in Friends post box or luxury Christmas food item or new toy.
- **Donations of books and pre-owned toys** especially dressing up/dolls and accessories/action men/transformers.





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- **Cake Sale** - please bring your cakes or mince pies to the library on Friday 2nd December.
- Class reps will be signing up volunteers - **please help!! We need you! Your partner! Your parents!**

Thank you for all your efforts, the fairs are our biggest fundraisers and none of this would be possible with you. Don't forget to sign up to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abbeycofejmi/ for all your online Christmas shopping and earn the school money.

St Albans Abbey Christingle Service - Sunday 4th December

All are welcome to this enjoyable candlelit service at 3pm at the Cathedral. This traditional service is loved by children and adults alike, as we look forward to the coming of Christ, Light of the world. A collection will be taken for the Children's Society.

Key Stage 1 Nativity

Tickets for Key Stage 1 families to see 'Sparkle' have been sent home via the children. Each Key Stage 1 family has been issued with two tickets for the evening performance on the Tuesday and two tickets for the matinee performance on the Wednesday. Parents are free to exchange their allocated tickets amongst themselves and return any unwanted tickets to the School Office ASAP. The School Office has no spare tickets, but the returned tickets will be given out on a first come first served basis to names on the request list that we hold in the School Office.

Key stage 1 Nativity DVD

A DVD recording will be made of the Key Stage 1 nativity 'Sparkle'. DVD's have always been a big hit and have proved to be a lovely memento. This year's production will be filmed by Black Cat Video, which has an excellent reputation for producing quality DVD recordings for schools and filmed the last Key Stage 2 summer production.

The DVDs are priced at £15 each. If you would like to place an order, please login to your Schoolcomms Gateway account to make your payment. Please ensure that payment has been made **by Monday 12th December at the very latest** in order to guarantee for all DVD orders to be sent home with the children before the end of the Autumn Term. Thank you.

Christmas Treeasy

You should have received an email this week from your class reps giving you details of a new scheme we have been invited to join by Christmas Treeasy. Christmas Treeasy is an established company that delivers Christmas trees to your door and will even collect them after Christmas for recycling and for every tree that is ordered by an Abbey School parent, relative or friend, they will donate £3 to £5 to our school. They have been working with other schools in the area for a few years and we are delighted to be able to sign up to this initiative. Please consider using this service this year and tell your friends about it. Just remember to quote Abbey School on every order. Any questions about this initiative can be addressed to Alita Benson, a year five class rep (alitabenson@hotmail.co.uk).

Christmas Dates for Your Diary

We have attached a summary of important Christmas diary dates for you in the run up to the end of term.

Kind regards

Miss Emma Fenn
Headteacher