



Introduction

Happy New Year and welcome back. I hope you all enjoyed the festive season. It's lovely to see everyone back in school again and to also welcome some new children into school.

It's also a pleasure to start the term with some good news – see the boxes below for two announcements.

Upcoming Events

January:

14th: Young Voices Concert for Y5 (see details at the end of this newsletter)

February:

21st: Crafternoon

22nd: School Closes for Half Term

All dates are available online at: www.acombprimary.org.uk/parents/calendar-dates/

Good News

I am delighted to announce that Miss Downing, who works in Mr Dennis' class in Year Two, is expecting her first child later this year. We are all thrilled for her and I am sure you will join me in extending congratulations and best wishes.

More Good News

It is also a pleasure to pass on the news that Miss Peggs is now engaged. We wish her and Mr Taylor all the happiness and best wishes that such exciting news brings.

School Crossing Patrol

Malcolm is taking a well-earned holiday at the moment. Many of you will recognise Mr Moody and Mr Howlett who have stepped in to cover him while he is away. A big thank you to them for volunteering to do this important job. On the subject of road safety, please can we ask drivers **not to park immediately outside the green gates where the children cross West Bank**. We regularly receive reports of near misses with children and/or parents with prams/buggies. Please park with everyone's safety in mind. Thank you.

Milk

Payment for milk is now due for the Spring Term up to 12th April. If your child would like milk, please pay £13 via ParentPay by **3pm on Friday, 11th January**. Children who are entitled to free meals (due to family income) do not pay for milk and parents should email office@acomb.pmat.academy if he/she would like milk. Thank you, C. Forrest

Swimming

All the children in **classes ESH and RS** will be going swimming every Friday afternoon from Friday, 11th January until Friday 22nd February (7 sessions). The lessons take place at Energise (Better) and the children travel there and back by bus. Swimming is a compulsory part of the curriculum and children can only be excused for medical reasons. Please ensure that your child arrives at school with appropriate swimwear and a towel. A contribution of £20 per child would be greatly appreciated to help cover the costs involved. For this the children receive time in the pool, the services of three qualified swimming teachers, a lifeguard and transport to and from the pool. **Please pay online using ParentPay**. Thank you

Clubs

Mr Shimmin still has places at his Clubs. Please see <https://www.ignitesportscoaching.co.uk/> for details of Football, Multiskills and Dodgeball clubs.

YCFC Foundation also have places for Year 3/4 children at Football club, commencing 15th January. Details from the school office.

Year 3/4

Next week, as part of their study of the Greeks, the children in years 3 and 4 (classes ESH, RS and KJSW) will be making Greek bread and tasting lots of Greek dips including hummus.

For Year 5 Children only – Young Voices on 14th January

As you know the Year 5 children will be going to the Young Voices concert at the Motorpoint Arena in Sheffield on Monday, 14th January. (Those children **not** going will spend Monday afternoon with a year 4 class and should come to school as normal at 8.45am the following morning).

Arrangements for the day are as follows:

- The children should come to school at the normal time on the day (Monday, 14th January).
- They should wear normal school uniform and have a coat with them. A tee-shirt will be provided to wear for the performance.
- They will **all** need a packed meal for **tea at the arena**. Normal school hot dinners will be served at school before they leave. If your child has packed lunches he/she will need **2** pack ups. As usual on school trips, no nuts, nut products, fizzy drinks or glass bottles please – glass bottles are not allowed in the arena.
- We will leave school at around midday and travel to Sheffield by coach. We have a rehearsal in the Arena in the afternoon. The children get a break from 5.00-6.00pm to eat their tea.
- The concert starts at 7.00pm and ends at 9.15pm.
- For those of you who are coming, we will have a large banner so that you can see where we are sitting when you arrive at the Arena. You are allowed to take photographs before the concert starts but video cameras aren't allowed. There is a DVD on sale afterwards, but it isn't cheap and there will be some video posted on Youtube a few days after the concert.
- From experience, it will take some time to get out of the Arena and set off home. The coaches will probably get out before those of you who come by car – it has taken me at least half an hour to exit the Arena car park in the past. For those of you coming to the concert, it will **not** be possible to collect your child from the Arena.
- It should take around an hour to get back to school. If you aren't going to the Concert, please be at School around 10pm to collect your child, otherwise please come directly to school from the Arena. You can also follow our progress on Twitter @acombprimary.
- Children are NOT allowed to bring mobile phones to school on this day.
- Children do NOT need any money.
- The staff/adults going with the children are: Miss Johnson, Ms Jackson, Mr White, Mr Bradley, Mrs Wilkinson and myself.

As the children will be late home and tired we are happy for them to come to school later on Tuesday morning. They should either arrive at 8.45am as normal or at 10.30am (via the main entrance to be signed in by Mrs Forrest). The Nursery Drive gate will not be open. **Please do not send them to school between these times. This arrangement is only for Year 5 children who have been to the concert. Siblings should arrive at the normal start time.**