



### Introduction

This week has seen the final Christmas productions of the year – our annual KS2 Christmas Concert and the Foundation Stage Nativity both held at the Gateway Centre were very well supported as ever by parents, grandparents and other friends and relatives – it was so lovely to see you all there sharing our children's excellent performances.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support this term. We have so much to be proud of about our school and lots to look forward to in the new year.

On behalf of all of the staff, a very merry Christmas and a happy new year to you all.

### Upcoming Events

*January:*

7<sup>th</sup>: School Opens to all children

14<sup>th</sup>: Young Voices Concert for Y5

*February:*

21<sup>st</sup>: Crafternoon

22<sup>nd</sup>: School Closes for Half Term

All dates are available online at: [www.acombprimary.org.uk/parents/calendar-dates/](http://www.acombprimary.org.uk/parents/calendar-dates/)

### SASH

Thank you for all your donations at our Christmas concerts. An amazing £600 has been collected, to be donated to SASH, our school charity of the year. Many thanks also for the toiletries and chocolates, all of which will be given to SASH in time for Christmas.

### School Crossing Patrol

Malcolm is taking a well-earned holiday in the New Year. City of York Council is hoping to arrange cover while he is away. As the necessary clearance has not come through before the end of term, please be aware that there may not be a patrol on Acomb Road when we return to school.

### Friends Group

Please see the letter at the end of this newsletter about the Christmas Fair.

### Team Points

Yellow team were the winners this half term so will get a non-uniform day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Congratulations.

### Swimming

All the children in **classes ESH and RS** will be going swimming every Friday afternoon from Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> January until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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

### School Lunch Menu

Please find attached next term's lunch menu. Children who have special diets have been given a paper copy of their menu. Please note, w/c Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> only, Monday and Tuesday's menu will be swapped due to ordering constraints on the first day back. Pudding on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> will be ice cream for the same reason.

## For Year 5 Children only – Young Voices on 14<sup>th</sup> January

As you know the Year 5 children will be going to the Young Voices concert at the Motorpoint Arena in Sheffield on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> 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, 14<sup>th</sup> 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.**



## Christmas Fair – A Thank you from the Friends Group

Thanks to everyone who attended our Christmas Fair on the 30<sup>th</sup> November. We were, once again, overwhelmed by your wonderful donations and by your generosity on the day and we remain immensely grateful for all of your support.

We are delighted to announce that we raised just over **£2000 which is a record!** I am sure you will agree that this is a fantastic sum of money to have raised and it will be put to good use developing the outdoor space at Acomb in the New Year, improving the learning environment for our children and their teachers.

The fair was a great success and had a brilliant atmosphere. Our thanks go to businesses who donated to us, to cook Sarah and her kitchen team for supplying some delicious mince pies, to Mrs Forrest in the office for all her assistance pre, post and during the fair, to the school staff who helped during the fair and, of course, to the wonderful Father Christmas.

Our final, and most sincere thank you, goes out to the superb team of parent/carer volunteers who helped in the run up and on the day: the shoppers, the wrappers, the teddy and tombola ticketers, the hamper builders, the stall manners, the cash counters, the pricers, the people who set up and those who cleared up – everyone! The fundraising events that we put together are a **huge** undertaking in terms of time and effort and we cannot run them without help; your coming forward was, and is, truly appreciated.

We have a number of fundraising ideas in the pipeline for after the holidays and are looking for volunteers from each year group to help run a series of smaller events – we will be sure to keep you all posted and we welcome any input. In the meantime we wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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