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Friday 16th December 2022

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a great final week of term, and hope that you all have a fantastic Christmas and New Year. It has been a great term and we look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday January 4th!

I am still awaiting final numbers but... I am told that we made a huge amount of money at our recent Christmas Fair - Over £1000!! Thank you so much to all of you who helped, attended and worked so hard with it. Special thanks to Dawn O'Hanlon, our new PTFA Chair and the whole committee.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

This week's Platinum awards have been awarded to:

Isaiah Smith	Ada Holliday
Lydia Wilson	Anya Tomsha
Sam Henstock	Tom Young
Matthew Roberts	

Dates for your diary

Jan 3rd INSET day

Jan 4th - Back to School day

May 17th - 19th 2023 - Y5&6 residential trip

July 6th & 7th 2023 - Y3&4 residential trip

Bags 2 School Day - Monday 12th December

Thank you for bringing your donations even when it snowed! We raised £20 which is amazing considering the circumstances!

Christmas Lunch Day

On Wednesday 14th we enjoyed our Christmas Lunch in school. The children made party hats, pulled crackers and then enjoyed Christmas activities in their classes. It was lovely to see them having so much fun. Thank you to our Governors, Mr Parry-Jones, Mr Horsfall and Mrs Healey for helping out. It really is much appreciated.

PE and swimming next term

Due to y2,3,and 4 swimming there will be some slight changes to PE days for some year groups.

Swimming (years 2,3 and 4) will start on **Friday 13th January**. Please can children come in PE kit for swimming as it is warm and easier for changing purposes.

Rabbits, Squirrels and Hedgehogs should come in PE kit on Friday 6th January.

Mondays - Rabbits PE

Tuesdays - Hedgehogs PE and Y1 PE

Wednesdays - Owls PE

Thursdays - Foxes PE

Fridays - Y2,3 and 4 swimming, Y5 PE, Rabbits PE and Squirrels PE

Christmas Cake design competition

So many children entered the 'design a cake' competition - congratulations to Jacob Ross whose design was chosen by Mrs Farley to be made into a real cake. Here is Jacob with his cake.



Christingle Service

This year's Christingle will be held on 24th December 2022 at 5.00pm at St Mary Magdalene Church. If you are at home this Christmas and have friends and family staying, come along on Christmas Eve and help raise funds for those children who are less fortunate. It really is a fantastic way to start Christmas.

Although the Children's Society are acknowledging that we don't carry much cash these days, and are moving towards more online donations, I have been up in the loft and have managed to find enough left-over candles to send home with the children today. Please take your candle home and fill it (as much as you are able) and bring it with you to this year's Christingle. If you are unable to attend the service, please hand your candle back to the school office. Thank you. Lorna Herold

Christmas Raffle

The tickets were drawn by our school governors on Wednesday and the winners were... Andrew Parry-Jones, Andrew Robinson, Mike Siddall, Vicky Walker, Linda Golde, Lou Healey, Britt Brewster, Kate Taylor, Zoe Jaques, Flynn Yates, Gemma Wilcox, Emily Sekulic, Teresa Thomas, Kim Henstock and Lottie Dorkings. Well done to you all!

Safeguarding

We recently surveyed all children in the school about their online experiences and we were pleased with the level of understanding that our pupils demonstrated about keeping themselves safe online. Here is a great resource for you to look at with your children to help them stay safe online further: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Swimming lesson helpers plea

As you know, swimming lessons start in January for years 2,3 and 4. We have had a few offers of help and our thanks go to those of you who have offered. We do still

need a few more volunteers to help us with getting them changed before and after their lessons, and on the swimming bus. If you are interested in helping us on a rota basis, please can you see Mrs Bowen or email admin@twyning.gloucs.sch.uk as we will need to DBS any parents who do not already have one (at no cost to you). Many thanks.

Snowflake competition - Tewkesbury Fields Nursing Home
Congratulations to Ewan Macdonald who was chosen as the overall winner of the snowflake competition that the nursing home ran. Here he is with his snowflake and prize. Well done Ewan.



Next term's menus

We have uploaded the new menus for next term onto our website, including the dairy-free and gluten-free menus. Please click this link to view and download them..

<https://www.twyningschool.co.uk/news/lunch-menu/70836>

Milk at School

As most of you will know, once children reach the age of 5, they are no longer entitled to free school milk. If you still wish your child/children to have milk at school, and they are now 5 or over, visit the Coolmilk website to register safely online; simply visit [Cool Milk - the UK's leading school and nursery milk supplier](#) and select 'register my child for school milk'. Children over (or approaching) age 5 can still enjoy their school milk for around £16 a term once their free entitlement ends.

Before and After School Wraparound Care

I have launched a survey on School Spider today in order to get feedback about our Wraparound Care now that it has been running for the whole term. Many thanks to those of you who have already completed it.

Foodbank:

We have been advised of the Christmas opening hours for Tewkesbury foodbank, which are as follows:



Christmas Opening

Monday 19th – Thursday 22nd December: open as usual

Friday 23rd December – Monday 2nd January: closed

(There will be emergency cover on Thursday 29th and Friday 30th December. Please call 01684 296824.)

Tuesday 3rd – Friday 6th January: open as usual

Parentpay accounts

Please keep an eye on your children's parent pay balances and top up when necessary. If you think your family meets the criteria for Free School Meals please click on this link to apply. School dinners are now £2.36 each - a small rise from the old price of £2.34 per meal.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Easy fundraising

If you still have any Christmas Shopping to do, please consider using the Easy fundraising link to send any commission to our PTFA. Your ongoing support is much appreciated.



Contact

Please feel free to make contact with me via email head@twyning.gloucs.sch.uk should you need to speak to me. During evenings and weekends, I may not be able to respond to you straight away but I will make contact with you during normal working hours as soon as I can. Many thanks for all of your support.

Kindest regards

Mrs Lucy Halling, Head Teacher

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