

ST RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2021

Christmas is rapidly approaching and this is a special time in school. Our Advent and Christmas celebrations will be slightly different again this year in school as we follow local Covid-19 guidance.

We still have lots of activities planned and dates for your diary for the children on the run up to Christmas!



WILLOW WOOD: Each Advent we seek to undertake a charitable event or fundraise for a charitable cause. This year we have decided to support Willow Wood Hospice with a non-uniform day on Thursday 9th December with a suggested donation of £1.00. Thank you for support.



ADVENT REFLECTION: We will still be holding our special advent reflection sessions in School during Advent at which the children can take time to reflect and pray together. These will take place in the three weeks during December.

NON-UNIFORM DAYS: Christmas Dinner Day on Thursday 9th December and Christmas Party Day on Thursday 16th December will both be non-uniform days.

CHRISTMAS DINNER & PARTY DINNER: The Kitchen will be serving two festive meals with a Traditional Christmas Dinner on Thursday 9th December and a Party Dinner on Thursday 16th December. All children in school can have a meal on these days even if they normally have sandwiches. Each meal costs £2.40 for children in Nursery or Years 3 to 6, meals for children in Reception, 1 and 2 are free under the Universal Infant School Meal Initiative.



If your child does usually have sandwiches but would like a school meal on either or both of these days, please complete and return the slip below and make your payment online at www.tameside.gov.uk/schoolmeals (Nursery and Years 3 to 6 only) to school before 10.00am Friday 26th November 2021. Alternatively you can email admin@st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk. Please be aware that orders will not be accepted after this date due to kitchen deadlines.

CHRISTMAS TREAT AFTERNOON: On Thursday 9th December, after Christmas Dinner, the children will be taking part in a treat afternoon in class. The teaching staff in each class are busy preparing a fun afternoon of Christmas activities and experiences for the children which we are sure they will enjoy!



EYFS NATIVITY & KS1 PRODUCTION: Unfortunately, under local Covid -19 guidance we are still not able to invite an audience into school for the traditional performances for either the EYFS Nativity or the Year 1 and 2 Christmas production. Our Teachers are however still making arrangements for these special performances and we will be sharing these special events with families via YouTube, more information will follow.

PARTY DAY! Christmas Party Day is on Thursday 16th December. The children will have a day of Christmas fun including a visit from a very special guest - this is also an own clothes day too so get your party clothes on!



We will also be holding a school disco as part of our Christmas Celebrations!

CHRISTMAS DINNER & PARTY DINNER ORDER FORM FOR CHILDREN NOT ON SCHOOL DINNERS

**PLEASE RETURN THIS SLIP OR EMAIL ADMIN@ST-RAPHAELS.TAMESIDE.SCH.UK
BY 10.00am ON FRIDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2021**

My child _____ in Year _____ would like:

Christmas Dinner on Thursday 9th December 2021. Party Dinner on Thursday 16th December 2021.

All meals for children in Nursery and Years 3-6 are charged at £2.40 per meal. Payments for School Meals are collected online at www.tameside.gov.uk/schoolmeals and we ask that you pay £2.40 / £4.80 on return of this slip.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

CHRISTMAS DISCO RETURNS! Working in line with Covid-19 guidance we have made it possible for the children to have a Christmas Disco in school at the end of term and we hope this will provide a wonderful celebration for the children. To ensure we keep all the children and staff safe this will be slightly different to our previous Friends of St Raphael's discos. All sessions will be run by school staff and there will be 3 separate sessions as follows;



THURSDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2021

- EYFS - N&R** 1.30pm-3.00pm This will take place in the afternoon. All Nursery children are welcome to attend and children who go home at 11.45am can be brought back at 1.30pm.
- Years 1-3** 3.15pm-4.45pm The children will go straight to the Disco at the end of the day as the school day finishes, parents then collect at 4.45pm from the classroom doors.
- Years 4-6** 5.00pm-6.30pm Please bring the children to school through the main Reception entrance. At 6.30pm please collect your child from the following doors - Year 1 for Year 6, Year 2 for Year 5 and Year 3 for Year 4.

There will be a DJ, Party Games and Prizes and a Photobooth with unlimited photographs for the children to enjoy. Additionally, to ensure that the children don't need to bring any money on the day everyone will all be given a snack bag and have a turn at the lucky dip as part of their entrance fee. This is on the same day as the Party Day which is non-uniform therefore the children can wear their party clothes and will be ready for the disco! Children in Year 4-6 will also have time to go home before their disco starts.

If you would like your child to go to the Disco...

The cost per child for each Disco will be £5.00 with no extra costs once inside. This will be collected using SchoolMoney and all entrance fees must be paid before the 16th December - thank you for your support.

AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION: Children in Year 1-3 who normally attend after school provision will not be charged for this after school session if their child is joining the disco. Any children in N/R or Years 4-6 who still need after school provision on this date will be accommodated in a classroom, again there will be no charge for this session and we ask that parents collect their child from the main reception entrance. The only cost on this date will be to attend the disco.

**School closes at 3.15pm on Friday 17th December 2021
School opens at 8.55am on Tuesday 4th January 2022**

We wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas break and thank you for your continued support in 2021, we look forward to seeing you in the New Year!

NOVEMBER 2021		
Friday 26 th November	Last Day - Festive Dinner Orders	9.15am
DECEMBER 2021		
Thursday 9 th December	Non-Uniform Day Christmas Dinner Christmas Treat Afternoon	All Day Lunch PM
Thursday 16 th December	Non-Uniform Day - Party Day! Party Dinner St Raphael's Christmas Disco	All Day Lunch SEE ABOVE
Friday 17 th December	School Closes for Christmas	3.15pm

CHRISTMAS MEALS - ORDERING SLIP

DEADLINE: 10.00AM, FRIDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2021

RETURN THIS SLIP OR EMAIL ADMIN@ST-RAPHAELS.TAMESIDE.SCH.UK