



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

NEWSLETTER – December 2024

As we are now well into the Christmas festivities in and around school, it is a time of awe and wonder for your children. I sincerely hope you all enjoyed our recent Christmas Fayre, and of course the Christmas performances which are ongoing this week. As a school we always look forward to ensuring your child gets a wonderful Christmas experience, both in and out of the classroom.

I thank all parents and carers who attended our recent parents' evenings. I hope you got a good and thorough overview of your child's achievements. I am also grateful to any parent and carer who filled in a survey. The results of these are overwhelmingly positive about school, which is always pleasing. However, there one or two concerns regarding how after school clubs are signed up for and informing parents of what their children are learning. Regarding this, as a reminder, all the learning your children will be accessing this term can be found on the class pages section of our website and clicking 'curriculum theme' [here](#). If you are unable to access this, please ask your child's teacher for a paper copy of the curriculum newsletter.

We are changing the way we report your child's progress to you this year. Instead of one large report sent to parents and carers in July, we are now sending three shorter reports in January, April and July. This will give parents and carers more up-to-date progress information as well as discussions at parents' evenings. Once these are in place, we would appreciate any feedback you have on them.

All that remains for me to say is enjoy your children's performances, enjoy Christmas with loved ones and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous 2025.

Mr Pease
Principal

Dates for your diary:

Christmas Performances

KS1 – 9 and 10 December
2024

KS2 – 11 and 12 December
2024

Christmas Lunch & Jumper Day

12 December 2024

Christmas Parties

Y2 and Y3 – 16 December
2024

Y1 and Y4 – 17 December
2024

F1 and Y5 – 18 December
2024

F2 and Y6 – 19 December
2024

St Bartholemew's Church Visit – KS2

20 December 2024

[Upcoming events](#)

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Attendance for our Academy currently stands at 95.5% for the autumn term. Regarding term-time holidays, I would like to again remind all parents and carers of the changes in the way fixed penalty notices are given within the Rotherham Local Authority Area for any term-time holidays taken from September 2024.

A communication was sent to all parents and carers explaining this in the summer term and can be found [here](#). More information on these changes can be found on Rotherham Council's school attendance page [here](#).

We strongly discourage term-time holidays, but if any parents and carers are considering one, it is imperative you read the documents in these links as penalty charges have increased.

MRS MOORE'S UPDATE

It has been fantastic to see so many exceptional experiences for the children in school these last few weeks. Year 4, 5 and 6 enjoyed their VR headset day where each year group was immersed into their topic theme; Year 5 stargazed when the star-dome visited; Year 4 tried some Greek food as part of their Ancient Greece topic; our youngest children in foundation stage and Year 1 watched a fantastic pantomime show and it has been wonderful to have so many parents and carers in school to work alongside their children in our new workshops/activity afternoons.



FRIENDS OF LILLY HALL

Thank you all for supporting our last few events which made them a huge success.

We sincerely hope your children enjoyed the Halloween Discos last month. The costumes were incredibly creative, and prizes were given for the ones Mr Pease thought were the best!

Our stall at the Christmas Fayre was well attended and we thank all parents and carers for their generosity. Friends of Lilly Hall always contribute financially towards the Fayre, so thank you.

We will be sharing more up and coming events soon, including the Neon discos and bingo nights.

SCHOOL PARKING

We'd like to remind parents and carers that parking on the zig-zags at the front of school is prohibited, even if this is dropping off children for breakfast club. This is dangerous as children cross at these points and cars can block the line of sight from vehicles coming in or out of the school drive on the Cliff Hill gate. I have also had reports of parents blocking the gate to drop children off, which is wholly unacceptable.

Double parking on Lilly Hall Road when there is adequate space further along to park properly is still ongoing. As mentioned, the road is not ideal for the number of cars that collect and drop children off, but this is something we cannot change. However, we can ask that parents and carers park in a more responsible manner by finding appropriate space further along the road.



UNIFORM UPDATE

Please be aware, no children will be allowed to carry out PE unless they remove their earrings. This is a safety requirement. Please do not send children to school in earrings on their PE days if they are unable to remove them. Our uniform exchange scheme is still in operation, if this is of use to any parent or carer, please contact school on 01709 812148. Please ensure your child has the correct school uniform on every day, including PE kit – our school uniform details can be found on our website [here](#). If your child is not in correct uniform, this will be provided for them to change into on arrival.

SOCIAL MEDIA & SEESAW - Please see our Facebook profile [here](#). Your child's Seesaw feed will also provide up-to-date photos and commentary on your child's learning.

