

The Pinner Park Post



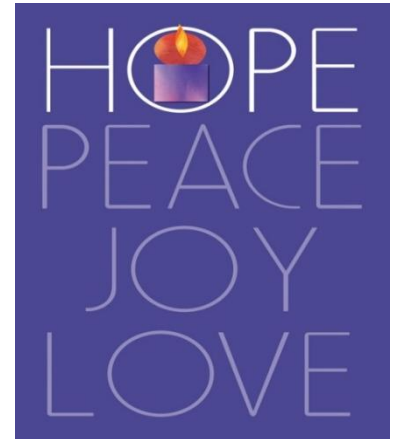
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Why are we waiting?

This weekend, Christian churches around the country will celebrate the first Sunday in Advent. The word Advent comes from the Latin word 'Adventus' which means 'arrival'. Advent is the beginning of the New Year for the Christian Church, and a time when everyone prepares for Christmas.

In Christian Churches, a candle is lit for each of the four Sundays in advent. The candles represent the themes of hope, love, peace and joy. Whatever our faith or cultural background, these are important themes for humanity.

Our hope is that our entire school community will have great fun as we prepare for Christmas – but that we wouldn't forget the reason for the season.



Our school is a diverse community of families from different faith, cultural and language backgrounds. Enjoying learning about each other's customs is a wonderful part of our school tradition.

Have a great weekend!

Best wishes,

Nick Waldron

Headteacher

Christmas Jumper Day 2019

We're supporting Save the Children this year by taking part in Christmas Jumper Day. We're choosing to do this on Wednesday 18 December to tie in with Christmas Lunch day,

Children, and staff, will be invited to wear a Christmas Jumper instead of their Pinner Park sweatshirt in return for donating £1 to the 'Save the Children' charity. Please send the £1 in to school with your child – class teachers will collect the money at registration.



By taking part, you're supporting the charity to help children build a better future. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Lunch – Wednesday 18 December

Our Christmas Lunch will be on Wednesday 18 December. We may have a much bigger take-up of school meals on that day, so we need to plan in advance and place a larger order with Chartwells.

If you would like your child to have Christmas Lunch on 18 December, you will need to [log into ParentPay](#) and pay for your child's school meal. If your child is entitled to a free school meal, please log in to ParentPay and choose your child's meal. The allergen information for this meal can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

If you have already ordered a meal for Wednesday 18 December, you may need to log in and check your order as the menu has now been updated to reflect the special meal.



CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU

WEDNESDAY 18 DECEMBER

MAIN
Roast Turkey with Sausage or Quorn Roast with Quorn Sausage

SIDES
Roast Potatoes, Brussel Sprouts, Diced Carrots

DESSERT
Christmas Tree Cookies, Snowman Ice-Cream, Satsumas

ORDER BY FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER!

Please could all orders be processed by Friday 13 December so that we can prepare for this special meal.

Attention Nursery Parents – Application for a School Place



If your child was born between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016, you need to apply for a reception place.

Please apply online at www.eadmissions.org.uk

The closing date for applications is Wednesday, 15 January 2020.

Applying online. Is easy and you get an instant acknowledgement that your application has been received. You will also receive an email with the outcome of your application on offer day. For details go to www.harrow.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

Please note that you will need to apply for a school place even if your child already attends our Nursery. There is no automatic transfer into our Reception classes.

Well Done to the Children of Pinner Park!

A number of our instrumentalists took part in the Harrow Brass Festival on Wednesday. They contributed to a wonderful performance and we're really proud of them.

Our Year 2 Choir performed at the Pinner Pantomime yesterday evening. This was a super event which was enhanced by their fabulous singing. Well done!



Christmas Performances

Some of our year groups are preparing performances for Christmas – from a few Christmas Songs through to nativity plays. We'll give you further details nearer the time but, for now, here is a reminder of the dates and times (and which classes are performing on each day):

Reception Christmas Singing

Monday, 16 December, 2.30pm	R Chestnut and R Oak
Tuesday, 17 December, 2.30pm	R Birch and R Willow

Year 1 Nativity

Monday, 9 December, 2.00pm	1 Willow and 1 Birch
Tuesday, 10 December, 9.15am	1 Oak and 1 Chestnut

Year 2 Christmas Singing

Wednesday, 11 December, 2.30pm	2 Oak and 2 Willow
Wednesday, 18 December, 2.30pm	2 Birch and 2 Chestnut

Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Music Performance

Tuesday, 10 December, 2.00pm	All Years 3 and 4
Wednesday, 11 December, 9.15am	All Years 3 and 4

If you are unable to arrange care for younger siblings at these times, please be prepared to take them out of the hall if they become restless or noisy. I know this is difficult but some of our children have tiny voices (compared to the somewhat louder voices of a crying baby or unsettled infant!) Thank you for your support with this.

We are happy for you to take photographs of your child, but please do not share these online in any way (including social media). Thank you for respecting this.



Christmas Cards – Remember, One Card for the Class!



Our Christmas Post Boxes will open on Monday, with a last delivery on Wednesday, 18 December.

All cards intended for classes or staff at the school should be distributed in this way.

We ask that children write one card to their class, rather than individual cards. We will reserve some time each day to open the cards, read them out, and then hang them up in the classroom for everyone to see. Please do not send in cards for individual students as we will be unable to distribute them.

This will not only relieve some pressure on busy families, but will also reduce the amount of paper and cards used at this time of year. By setting aside a short time each day to open and read the cards together, we will ensure that the spirit of card-giving at Christmas is honoured and valued. The staff team will be doing likewise, and making a donation to charity in place of purchasing hundreds of cards.

Please address your card(s), "To everyone in ..." (for example, 'to everyone in 3-Birch'). We'll also have a display of cards in the staff rooms for any cards addressed, 'To all the staff'.

Years 3 – 6: Please Bring a Fruit Snack Each Day



We provide all our children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 with a piece of fruit or vegetable each day.

Children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 are asked to bring in a fruit or vegetable snack to eat at playtime. We have noticed that a number of children do not have a snack and this does cause them to feel very hungry in the period leading up to lunch. We've also noticed that some children are bringing in items which are not permitted as a playtime snack.

Children may bring in any fruit or vegetable snack. It is helpful to prepare the food to make it more manageable (for instance, providing slices of apple rather than a whole apple).

The following foods are ideal (but feel free to be more adventurous!):

bananas	apples or pears	easy-peel citrus fruits, such as satsumas
carrots	tomatoes	melon or pineapple slices

We do not permit any alternatives to fruit or vegetable (for example; biscuits, crisps, Frubes or Fruit flakes).

Help Pinner Park School – Additional Funding!

Some of our children are entitled to free school meals. In addition to providing a free school meal, the government also gives the school additional funding for every eligible pupil. Therefore, please let us know if your child is eligible even if they do not need a free school meal. We use this additional money to obtain additional staff and resources that help improve the quality of education. We can also use the funds to support your child to access school visits, trips, clubs and instrumental tuition.



To find out whether your child qualifies for free school meals, and hence whether the school would receive additional funding, please fill in the details requested on the [Free School Meals Eligibility Checker](#).

If you would prefer, we can check eligibility on your behalf. Please ask our school office team if you would like us to run the check for you.

A Certificate of Eligibility is available through [the website](#) for any child eligible for a free school meal that is attending a school in England. The Certificate of Eligibility should be brought into school.

It is important to run the check even if your child already has a free meal (because they are in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2) or if your child prefers a packed lunch because we will not receive the additional funding unless the check is made.