

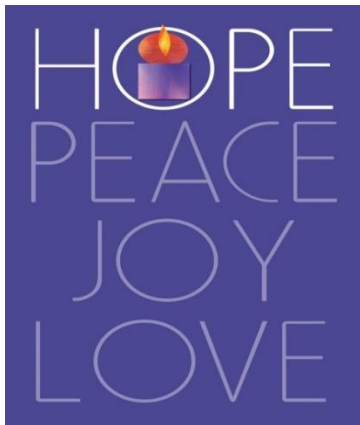
# The Pinner Park Post



Learning • Character • Community

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## Advent - A Time of Preparation and Expectation



This Sunday, Christian churches around the country will celebrated the first Sunday in Advent. It will be a different sort of celebration this year, of course, with many church services now online.

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. On Christmas Day, a fifth, central candle is lit.

Christmas is a significant festival in the United Kingdom and the holiday is appreciated and celebrated by millions of families, not just those who attend churches. On Tuesday, 1 December, our classes will celebrate Advent – preparing the school for the festive season. You may spot the Christmas decorations which will appear around the school this week (or you may notice your child covered in glitter at home time!).

During these uncertain times, and challenging circumstances, our wish for all our families is that the month of December is filled with hope, love, peace and joy.

We hope you have a great weekend!

Best wishes,

Headteacher

## Office Closed - Parent Information Point Open!

As you know, our office is currently closed to visitors at the beginning and end of the school day. It is open at other times for essential use only.

At the start and end of the school day we have our outdoor parent information point – this is our outdoor office! It is located in the upper school playground. Please do come to the information point if you have any questions or if you need to pass a message to any member of staff.



## Christmas at Pinner Park

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### Christmas Jumper Day – Friday 11 December

We're supporting Save the Children this year by taking part in Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 11 December.



Save the Children  
**CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER DAY**

Children, and staff, will be invited to wear their own choice of clothing on that day 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.

It would be fabulous to see lots of Christmas Jumpers on that day but please don't worry if you don't have one – just wear something else!

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

### Christmas Cards



We want to enjoy the giving and receiving of Christmas cards, but we also want to continue to do everything we can to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission.

If your child would like to, please help him or her to write one card to their class, rather than individual cards. The cards can be brought into class and each class teacher 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.

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'.

### Other Christmas Activities

The staff team have plans to help the children enjoy a wonderful Christmas season at Pinner Park. Some of those plans remain 'under wraps' but will include special Christmas / Winter areas in school, decorations, displays, Christmas Trees and fun activities.



## Tier 2 – High Alert

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**TIER 2**  
**HIGH ALERT**

From 2 December, we will be placed into Tier 2 restrictions. The guidelines are attached to this newsletter.

Thank you to everyone, children and families, who are supporting all our safety measures in school. Let's get through this together!

## Playtime Resources

We are transforming playtimes at Pinner Park and we need your help with resources. If you or your friends and family have any of the following items to donate, please do let us know:

- Bread / grocery / bottle crates
- Pipes/ guttering
- Pallets
- Scaffolding planks (or other planks of wood)
- Lego
- Rope
- Hoses/ flexible piping/ ducting, such as Hoover hoses

We're also creating some special areas with a winter / Christmas theme. If you've upgraded your Christmas tree and want to donate your old one (any size) then please bring it in!

If you know of any businesses who have any of the above items, please ask them to get in touch.





## Annual Flu Vaccinations – Have you completed the form yet?

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The immunisation team will be in school on Tuesday 8 December. The flu vaccination is recommended to help protect your child against flu and this year is being offered to all children in primary school (Reception to Year 6). Nursery aged children can have the vaccination through their GP.

[Click here](#) to view a leaflet explaining the vaccination programme – it includes details about the small number of children for whom the nasal vaccine is not appropriate.

This year the consent process is electronic. In order to access the online consent form, please click on the following link <https://clchschoollimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu> You will need to enter the unique code for Pinner Park Primary School. The code is: **CL102207**

If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, please complete the consent form giving the reason. This will save us having to chase you up!

## Diary Date – End of term

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The last day of this term is Friday 18 December. In 'normal' times we would usually finish the school day a little earlier at the end of term. However, in order to maintain our staggered timings, school will close at the same time as usual on this day. Thanks for your continued support with our staggered start and finish times.



## Headlice – an irritating pest – please keep checking!

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Headlice is a problem that affects all of us. This troublesome pest is a widespread and unpleasant infection, especially among school age children. A common misconception is that they are a symptom of poor hair hygiene - rest assured this is not true. Lice are equally likely to be found on clean or dirty hair!

Head lice cannot jump, hop or fly. Children can get head lice from sustained head to head contact when playing together, whispering, hugging or when they are in close contact. At any one time, most schools will have a few children with active living head lice. This can be between 2 - 5%. It is rarely higher than this.

The only way to eradicate the problem is if every single one of us is vigilant. Please check your children's hair this weekend with a fine toothed inspection comb. The recommended method is to 'wet-comb' conditioned hair. If you are concerned, please contact your local pharmacist who will offer advice.

Please check your children's hair regularly (at least weekly) and ensure that all long hair is tied back. You may also wish to brush your child's hair each afternoon when he or she returns from school – this will prevent any louse which has wandered onto your child's head during the day from laying eggs and becoming a more significant problem.

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## PTA Christmas Raffle

Well done to our wonderful PTA who, despite the Covid restrictions, have organised a super Christmas raffle with some wonderful prizes! The raffle will be drawn at 10.30am on Friday 11 December so next week will be the best time to buy your tickets!



The tickets will be available through Classlist so there has never been a better time to make sure you have signed up – it's a free app which is used at Pinner Park for parent-to-parent communication.

To join Classlist, please use the information in the emails we have sent from Classlist – the link in the email enables you to join as a 'pre-approved' parent. If you didn't receive the email, you are welcome to use the following link: <https://classlist.page.link/abfmXP9VbndyLcWM9>

## All About Reading and Phonics – Reception and Year 1

Thanks to all the Reception parents who were able to join us for our presentation yesterday. We hope you found it useful. We will send the presentation slides and an information pack to all Reception parents today.

We have our presentation for Year 1 parents coming up soon. This will be an opportunity to focus on phonics and reading. You will hear all about how we teach reading and phonics in Year 1.



Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the event will be online, through Microsoft Teams. The presentation takes place on Thursday 3 December at 6pm.

Learn all about phonemes, graphemes, blending and segmenting, sound buttons, reading levels, phonics games, reading schemes, real books and tricky words... in a fun, relaxed environment!

These briefings are for parents – children do not need to attend.

We will send the link to the meeting and a guide to Microsoft Teams through School Ping.



**We must keep on  
protecting each other.**



**HANDS**



**FACE**



**SPACE**

**STAY ALERT • CONTROL THE VIRUS • SAVE LIVES**



HM Government

**TIER 2**

# HIGH ALERT

**FROM 2 DEC****MEETING FRIENDS  
AND FAMILY**

No mixing of households indoors, apart from support bubbles. Maximum of six outdoors.

**BARS, PUBS AND  
RESTAURANTS**

Pubs and bars must close, unless operating as restaurants. Hospitality venues can only serve alcohol with substantial meals. Venues must stop taking orders at 10pm and must close by 11pm.

**RETAIL**

Open.

**WORK AND  
BUSINESS**

Everyone who can work from home should do so.

**EDUCATION**

Early years settings, schools, colleges and universities open. Childcare, other supervised activities for children, and childcare bubbles permitted.

**INDOOR  
LEISURE**

Open.

**ACCOMMODATION**

Open.

**PERSONAL  
CARE**

Open.

**OVERNIGHT  
STAYS**

Permitted with household or support bubble.

**WEDDINGS  
AND FUNERALS**

15 guests for weddings, civil partnerships, wedding receptions and wakes; 30 for funerals.

**ENTERTAINMENT**

Open.

**PLACES OF  
WORSHIP**

Open, but cannot interact with anyone outside household or support bubble.

**TRAVELLING**

Reduce the number of journeys you make and walk or cycle if possible. Avoid busy times and routes on public transport. Avoid car sharing with those outside of your household or support bubble. Avoid entering a Tier 3 area, other than where necessary such as for work or education. Further exemptions apply.

**EXERCISE**

Classes and organised adult sport can take place outdoors, but cannot take place indoors if there is any interaction between people from different households. Organised activities for elite athletes, under-18s and disabled people can continue.

**RESIDENTIAL  
CARE**

COVID-secure arrangements such as substantial screens, visiting pods, and window visits. Outdoor/airtight visits only (rollout of rapid testing will enable indoor visits including contact).

**LARGE  
EVENTS**

Sport, live performances and business meetings limited to 50% capacity or 2000 people outdoors (whichever is lower) and 50% capacity or 1000 people indoors (whichever is lower)

## Find out what support you can get

For example, if you're out of work, need to get food, or want to take care of your mental health.

[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)

## If you have any coronavirus symptoms:

A high temperature • A new, continuous cough  
A loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste.

**Get a test and stay at home**

For more information and detailed guidance visit:  
**[gov.uk/coronavirus](https://gov.uk/coronavirus)**



HANDS



FACE



SPACE