

Beacon View Primary News



Dear Beacon View families

Welcome to December and the start of the busiest two weeks of the school year. In between the Christmas/Winter activities, we will be continuing to teach right up to and including Friday 15th December.

Please read the newsletter thoroughly for all the key information.

Have a lovely weekend and I might see you at you at the Paulsgrove Christmas Light switch on.

Kind regards
Sally Hodgson

Winter food vouchers

This winter Portsmouth City Council (PCC) has committed to provide a supermarket voucher to all families of children, in reception through to year 11, eligible for benefits-related free school meals (FSM). Families will receive an £80 voucher for every eligible child attending school in Portsmouth. Please contact us now if you think you might be eligible or check online – it isn't too late to get these vouchers! Check here - <https://portsmouth.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/SynergyWeb/FSM.aspx>

Attendance on the Arbor app

You will all be aware that attendance is a key focus for the school and we appreciate everything you are doing to ensure that your child is in school every day. If you have already downloaded the Arbor app it is really easy for you to be able to see your child's attendance strategy, however we know it is helpful for you to see how this compares to others in their class. Therefore, below are the average attendance percentages by class up to Monday 27th November. The average primary school attendance to date across the country was 95.2%. If we can do anything to help increase your child/ren's attendance, please get in touch and have a conversation with us.



Registration Form	Average attendance
N2N	95.3%
Castle Class - Year R	94.4%
Guildhall Class - Year 1	94.0%
Garrison Class - Year 1/2	93.6%
Landport Class - Year 2/3	92.0%
Valiant Class - Year 3	95.0%
Talent Class - Year 4	94.9%
Triumph Class - Year 4	93.3%
Victorious - Year 5	92.5%
Defender Class - Year 5	94.9%
Astute Class - Year 6	95.3%
Alliance Class - Year 6	91.7%
Artful Class - Year 6	95.6%

The Community Christmas Lunch is back – Friday 22nd December 12 noon and 1.30 pm

We are so excited to be able to host our Community Christmas Lunch again this year. This event is for everyone; children, adults, families, local residents etc. Last year we had a fantastic day with lots of different people mixing and celebrating the festive season together. [Click here to book](#). We hope to serve 300 Christmas lunches as well as enjoy a few festive surprises. Children will have the chance to volunteer again this year on Thursday between 10 and 12 noon and on Friday from 11.30 – 3 pm, more information will be out about this soon.



Afterschool Club Christmas Fun.

We are getting in to the festive spirit making a 3D Christmas wreath and melted snowmen.



Personal items

Please can we ensure that children don't bring items from home to school unless these have been agreed for SEND reasons. We have had a few teddies and other toys appearing in school. These can be distracting and can also cause issues between children if they are touched, moved etc.



Aladdin Pantomime at Castle View

We are very excited that Year 3 and 4 have been invited to visit Castle View on Tuesday 12th December for the school's pantomime. This will take place during the school day and children will walk to and from Castle View with members of staff from the school. As this is during the normal school day, we will not be asking for specific permission. If you do not want your child to attend this trip, which is free, please let your child's class teacher know or contact the office.



Christmas Discos

Please go to Trips on the Arbor app to book. **Bookings close at 5:00pm Monday, children without a booking will not be able to attend.**

Children in Year R to 2, or attending wraparound, are welcome to bring in a change of clothes for the disco to school and go straight to there. Please collect children in Year R to 2 from their usual classrooms.

Christmas Discos Wednesday 6th December

Year R to 2 - 3:15pm - 4:00pm
Year 3 & 4 - 4:15pm - 5:15pm
Year 5 & 6 - 5:30pm - 6:30pm

£1 per child.
Price includes squash and biscuits. Please book and pay on the Arbor App by Monday 4th December. No booking - no entry.

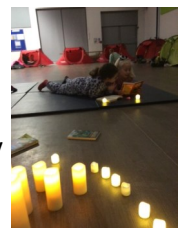
Please contact the school office if you need any assistance on the Arbor App.

Bedtime stories



Another fantastic Bedtime Stories section last week where Mrs. Campbell read to a captivated audience.

Thank you to the parents and children who attended, it was really lovely to see you all.



Meet The Author

Years 1, 2 and 3 were very excited to meet Ross Montgomery and listen to his energetic storytelling of one of his books, 10 Delicious Teachers. Children then had chance to buy a book and have it signed. Ross spoke about how important it is to write stories that come into your head - please bring them in to share with your teachers, we'd love to read them!



Attendance Statistics

We aim for all children to be in school every day. Each week a certificate for the best class attendance will be given out.

Congratulations to Talent Class who achieved 95.6%

TO REPORT AN ABSENCE PLEASE CALL

02392 375302

OPTION 1

Big Christmas Swap Shop

Please donate any old Christmas jumpers you have as the Eco team are really excited to run this. Reusing or repurposing is a hot topic on our environmental review this year! All sizes welcome thank you in advance .



Big Christmas Jumper Swap

As part of their work for this year, the school eco team are organising a big Christmas Jumper Swap. As usual the children are all invited to wear their Christmas jumpers on the final Wednesday of term and to support this the children are asking you to donate any Christmas jumpers that are too small for children in your house. They will look after them until the week before the Christmas jumper day and will then make them available for any children who would like a new to them jumper.



WONDERFUL WINTER

HAF FUN POMPEY

16-23 December
Throughout Portsmouth

**YUMMY FOOD AND FANTASTIC ACTIVITIES
FREE AND PAY-AS-YOU-GO SPACES AVAILABLE**

- Go to www.pycportsmouth.co.uk/haffunpompey to book
- Follow **Family Life Pompey** for updates
- Email HAF@portsmouthcc.gov.uk if you have any problems

HAF Christmas events

Whilst we won't be holding any HAF activities at Beacon View over the Christmas break. There are free, funded activities for benefits related free school meal families. To see a full list of HAF funded activities please go to the [HAF Fun Pompey Eegu page](#). We hope to deliver further sessions during the Easter and Summer breaks.

Please be advised during the winter holidays some of the HAF providers offer pay as you go spaces throughout the city. These include sports, Santa visits, theatre, storytelling, laser tag, art workshops, day camps, and much more. More information is available here: <https://www.pycportsmouth.co.uk/haffunpompey/haf-pay-as-you-go/>



Arbor

Thank you to everyone using the Arbor App - **78%** of families so far!

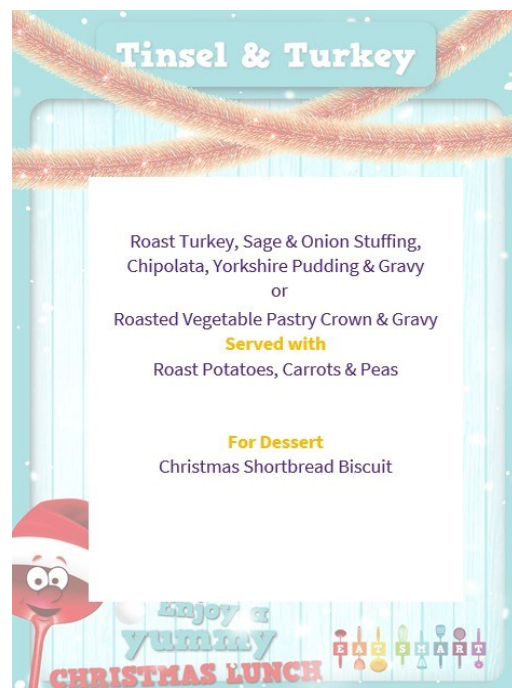
We promised a prize draw last week for those using the app, and our winner has been drawn.
Congratulations to Sarah

We are committed to our green promise and moving away from paper communications. As part of this we are increasing the use of Arbor.

Please contact the school office if you need any assistance with accessing the app.

Christmas Lunch

Please see the menu below for the whole school Christmas lunch on Wednesday 13th December . If you do not wish for your child to have Christmas Lunch, please provide a packed lunch.



Tinsel & Turkey

Roast Turkey, Sage & Onion Stuffing, Chipolata, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy
or
Roasted Vegetable Pastry Crown & Gravy

Served with
Roast Potatoes, Carrots & Peas

For Dessert
Christmas Shortbread Biscuit

Enjoy a Yummy CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Important dates for the last two weeks of term

Date	During the school day	Afterschool
Wednesday 6th December		No afterschool clubs Christmas Discos YR, Y1, Y2 from 3.15 – 4 pm Y3, Y4 from 4.15 – 5.15 pm Y5, Y6 from 5.30 – 6.30 pm
Thursday 7th December		
Friday 8th December		
Monday 11th December	Nativity Dress Rehearsal (School only)	
Tuesday 12th December	EYFS/KS1 Nativity 10.15 am Aladdin Pantomime at Castle View—Year 3 & 4	EYFS/KS1 Nativity 2 pm
Wednesday 13th December	No afterschool clubs Christmas Jumper Day for all UKS2 Carol Service 10.30 am at St Michael's Christmas Lunch - free for all	
Thursday 14th December		No afterschool clubs Winter Fayre 3.15 – 4pm
Friday 15th December	Last day of term	
Thursday 21st December	Community Christmas Lunch Volunteer sessions from 10.30 am – 12.30 pm	
Friday 22nd December	Community Christmas Lunch Sitting 1 – 12 noon Sitting 2 – 1.30 pm Volunteers from 11.30 am	