



# Happy Diwali



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 14: Freedom of Thought, Belief and Religion







Reception celebrated Diwali on Tuesday with a special party for the children and their families.



# Happy Diwali



Everybody enjoyed activities such as designing rangoli patterns and making diva lamps. There were also lots of





Here are some of the children showing off beautiful mehndi designs on their hands.



# Happy Diwali



# Watercolour Art




On Wednesday, pupils worked with professional watercolour artist Claire Robinson.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education





Children learnt different watercolour techniques before painting autumn foliage.

# Watercolour Art

They had to observe carefully, mix and blend colours and use their paint brush in the correct way in order to achieve a good result. We were very impressed by





On Friday, Second City Brass Ensemble performed a live concert to pupils in Key Stage Two. As our Y5 classes are all learning to play a brass instrument, this was an exciting event.



# Live Music

The quintet consisted of two trumpeters, a trombonist, a French horn player and a tuba player. The group played a range of musical styles from jazz to Disney songs and everyone enjoyed the performance.



**Convention on the Rights of the Child**  
**Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture**



On Wednesday, Y1 enjoyed a visit from The Black Hole Planetarium. The planetarium is a portable dome that creates a unique learning environment from which to experience the wonders of space. Pupils enjoyed a presentation inside the dome about the Solar System and enjoyed an imaginary journey through space to each of the planets.



# Planetarium

This was an immersive and inspiring way to grow the children's understanding.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



Here are Y2 Puffins waiting to go into the planetarium to watch their presentation.



# Planetarium



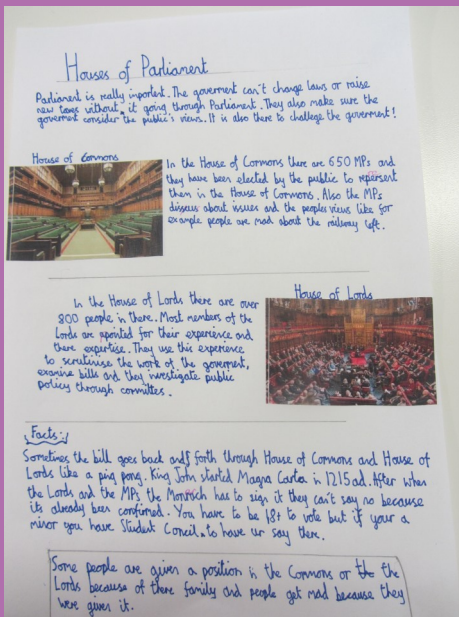
**Convention on the Rights of the Child**

**Article 29: Goals of Education**



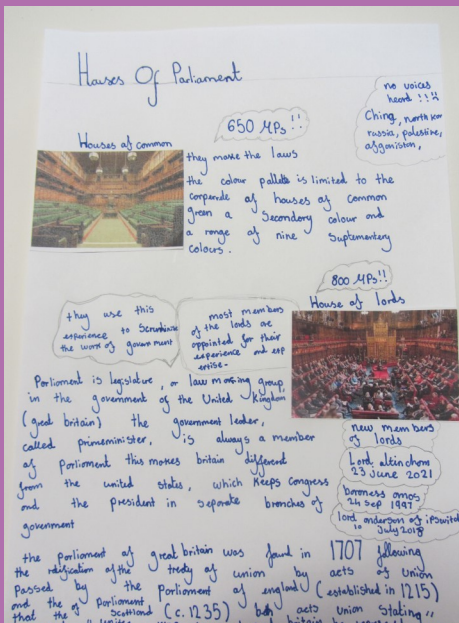
**UK  
PARLIAMENT  
WEEK**  
6-12 NOV 2023

# Democracy



Throughout the week, Y6 pupils have participated in UK Parliament Week. As part of their studies, they have learnt about the importance of democracy and how parliament establishes rule of law.

Pupils particularly enjoyed learning about the Houses of Parliament and the roles that the Commons and the Lords play in decision making. Another highlight was receiving a video message from our local MP, Matt Western.



These fact sheets were created by Ravleen and Rajbinnd.

Thanks to Matt Western for the video message.



**Convention on the Rights of the Child**  
**Article 42: Knowledge of Rights**



At school this week, we have been thinking about remembrance. Pupils in Y3 created these beautiful paintings of poppies in response to this theme.

# Remembrance







# Remembrance



Before beginning their paintings, pupils learnt about Remembrance Day and why we try not to forget the suffering that armed conflict inflicts.

You may have noticed that the poppies on the grass at the front of our school building have undergone a makeover in time for Remembrance Day. They are now restored to their former glory but remain fragile so please treat them with care and respect.



**Convention on the Rights of the Child**

**Article 38: War and armed conflict**









# Celebrating Reading



As we know, reading is one of the most important skills we can teach our children.

Children in Reception spent time in the half term holidays reading in their favourite places.

**Fantastic!**



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education



# Reading is my

# SUPER POWER!

## October Half Term Reading Challenge

It was amazing to see so many children arriving at school wearing their very special reading capes on Monday, and I have been inundated with designs on paper too. Thank you so much to all of the families that took part in this reading initiative - **What a brilliant start to this half term!**



Wow!



Winners of the special t-shirts will be announced in next week's newsletter.



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Article 29: Goals of Education





**POW!**



Following the special assembly, Robins class returned to the classroom for their phonics session. Miss Knight posed the question "Why do you think we learn phonics?" and Dua replied: "**Because reading makes us POWERFUL!**"



How right she is!

Happy reading, everyone! Miss Challand



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child  
Article 29: Goals of Education





# Karate Kid

Well done to Tommy for receiving his purple belt in karate. Tommy has worked so hard and we're really proud of him.



# Theatre Trips



# Cinderella

This wonderful rags-to-riches tale is guaranteed to delight all the family and bring a touch of magic and make-believe to your festive celebrations.

Join Cinderella on her quest to win the heart of the dashing Prince Charming, with a little help from her best friend Buttons and the enchanting Fairy Godmother. But with her evil Ugly Sisters determined to ruin her chances and the clock about to strike midnight, will Cinders manage to win the Prince's love before the spell runs out?

This year's panto will feature the spectacular sets, lavish costumes and sing-along-songs that make a trip to the Belgrade a truly unmissable Christmas treat for thousands of families every year. What's more, with not one but two dastardly dames in the shape of the Ugly Sisters, this year's show is set to be double the fun (and mayhem)!

So pick up a pumpkin, grab your glass slippers and join us for some sparkling festive fun at the Belgrade Theatre, where Coventry celebrates Christmas.

Hurry now, the clock is ticking...

**If your child is in Years 3 or 4, book now on ParentPay for our Christmas theatre trip to see Cinderella at The Belgrade on Thursday November 23rd 2023. The cost of the trip is £17.66.**



# Theatre Trips



# Box of Delights

A magically festive production for all the family in the Royal Shakespeare Theatre this winter. Orphaned schoolboy Kay Harker is caught up in a battle between two powerful magicians. Can he save Christmas?

***There are tricks...and then there's magic!***

After a seemingly chance encounter on a train, orphaned schoolboy Kay Harker finds himself the guardian of a small wooden box with powers beyond his wildest dreams. Caught up in a battle between two powerful magicians, Kay fights to save not just the people he loves but also the future of Christmas itself. **Can Kay Harker save Christmas now that the wolves are running?**

**If your child is in Years 5 or 6, book now on ParentPay for our Christmas theatre trip to see “The Box of Delights” at The Royal Shakespeare Theatre on Thursday November 16th 2023. The cost of the trip is £16.58. Pupils will be back in school at 4.30pm.**



# Theatre Trips

## THE GRUFFALO



A mouse took a stroll through the deep dark wood... Join Mouse on a daring adventure through the deep, dark wood in Tall Stories' magical, musical adaptation of the classic picture book by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

Searching for hazelnuts, Mouse meets the cunning Fox, the eccentric old Owl and the high-spirited Snake.

Will the story of the terrifying Gruffalo save Mouse from ending up as dinner for these hungry woodland creatures?

After all, there's no such thing as a Gruffalo—is there?

Songs, laughs and monstrous fun for children aged 3 and up and their grown-ups, in the much-loved show that's toured Britain and the world!



**If your child is in Reception, Year One or Year Two, book now on ParentPay for our Christmas theatre trip to see “The Gruffalo” at Warwick Arts’ Centre on Tuesday 11th December 2023. The cost of the trip is £16.75. Pupils will be back in school at 12.20pm.**



**Convention on the Rights of the Child  
Article 31: Leisure, Play and Culture**



# Christmas Lunch

We will be serving a traditional Christmas lunch on Monday 18th December. Alongside crackers and festive music, the menu will be:

**Turkey or Quorn fillet**

**Yorkshire pudding**

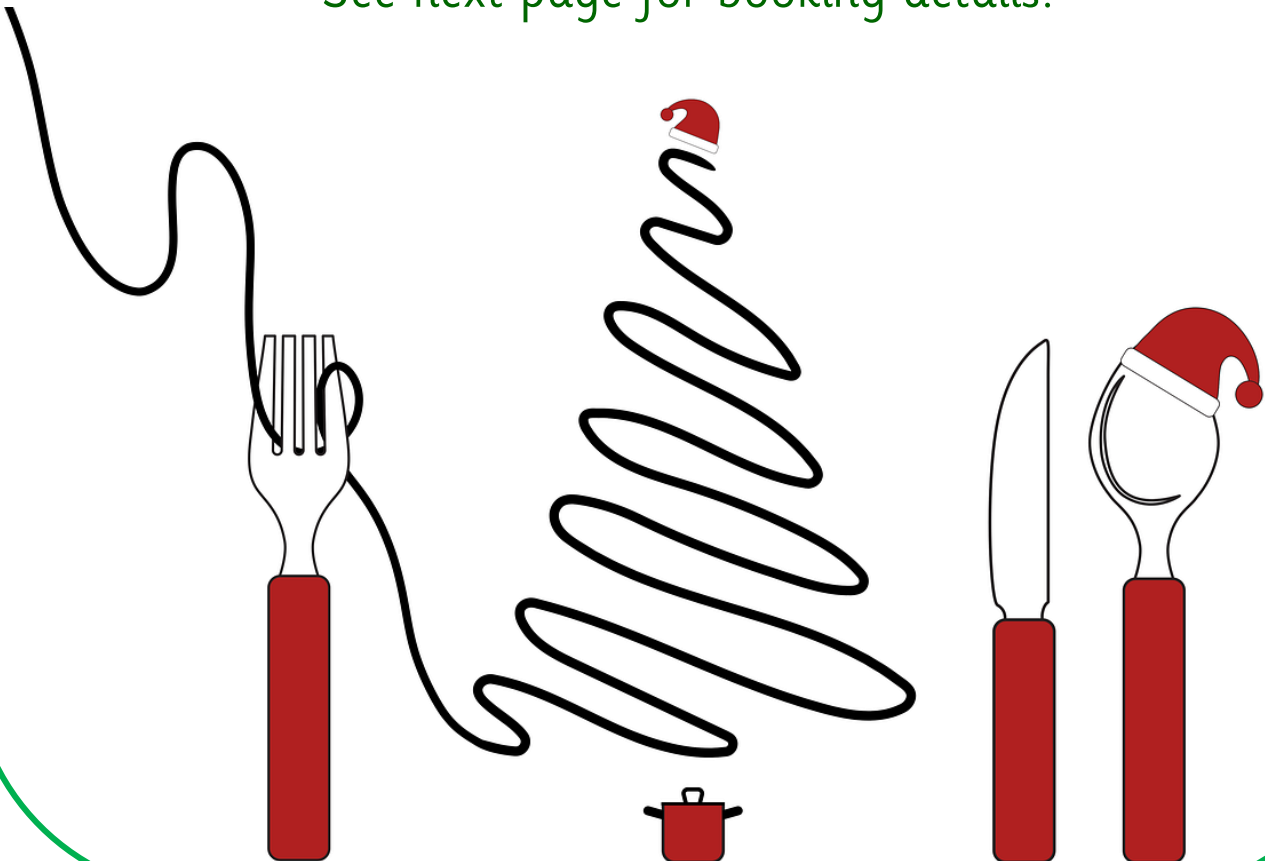
**Pigs-in-blankets**

**Seasonal vegetables**

**Gravy**

**Christmas Shortbread biscuit**

See next page for booking details.





# Christmas Lunch

We are delighted to inform you that Educaterers will be offering a Christmas dinner for our children on 18 December 2023. We will be purchasing Christmas crackers for all children (whether they are packed lunch or hot dinner) and there will be a festive atmosphere in the school hall for all the children to enjoy .

If you would like to book a Christmas dinner for your child, please log in to your parent pay account by 9.00 am on 1 December 2023. To make the booking, please access the payment item named "Christmas Dinner Booking 18 December 2023." This will show as free of charge as it is purely for you to book the meal.

**Please read the below carefully regarding payment:**

**Children in Reception, Year 1 or 2** - your child receives a free school meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meal scheme and no payment is due but we politely request you still book your meal in parent pay in order that we can order the correct amount of meals.

**Children in Year 3, 4, 5 or 6** - payment of £2.43 should be made to your parent pay account - payment item Dinner Money. However, if your child is in registered for a free school meal, no payment is due although we politely request you still book your meal in order that we can order the correct amount of meals .

# How to Book



# FREE Online Safety Workshop for Parents

ICTDS

This year, as part of your Digital Safeguarding subscription, you have access to the Warwickshire Online Safety Hub <https://warwickshire.onlinesafetyhub.uk/>

This website can be shared with staff, governors, and parents. We recommend sharing this link in your newsletters or other communications with parents as it provides them with a wealth of information about online safety.

## Online Safety Workshop for Parents

In addition, we are excited to announce that there will be a FREE Online Safety workshop for parents, presented by Katherine Howard from Smoothwall, on Wednesday 29th November from 7.30-8.30pm.

We have invited Kat to talk to your parents about how they can keep their children safe online. Kat has been working in, and with, schools for over 18 years to develop their understanding of Online Safety and support school leadership teams to implement and embed policies, procedures, training and committees. She is passionate about the importance of online safety in schools and the wider community and provides advice and support on a day-to-day basis.

During this workshop, Kat will give parents lots of practical hints, tips and activities to support your young people in this environment. She will also discuss how parents can keep their knowledge about this ever changing landscape current.

To get the Zoom link for this session, and an optional flyer to send out to parents, please fill in this form: <https://forms.office.com/e/VNF5rqn3xi>

You can then add the Zoom link to communications with parents, distributing it to them as you see fit.

Following the workshop, we will be distributing Parent Engagement Plans that have been put together by Smoothwall, which will give you guidance on communicating with parents about both the Online Safety Hub and other online safety matters.

Any Questions? Email us at [ictdsfeedback@welearn365.com](mailto:ictdsfeedback@welearn365.com)



# ATTENDANCE

Why is it important?



**100% – 96%**  
**Excellent**

**95% -90%**  
**Cause for concern**

**89% and below**  
**This will have a drastic effect  
on academic achievement**





# Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow





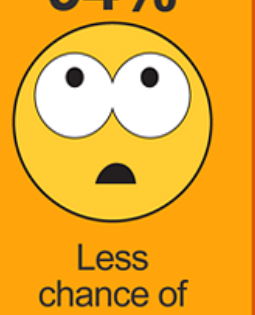


## Getting Your Child to School Really Matters



### Did You Know... ?

In a School Year, If Your Child is Late Every Day By...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
5 Minutes	3.5 Days from School	20 Lessons
10 Minutes	7 Days from School	41 Lessons
15 Minutes	10 Days from School	55 Lessons
20 Minutes	14.5 Days from School	82 Lessons
30 Minutes	22 Days from School	123 Lessons

Please Encourage Punctuality to Maintain Attendance

<p><b>190 DAYS</b> <b>100%</b></p>  <p>Very best chance of success</p>	<p><b>183 DAYS</b> <b>96%</b></p>  <p>Off to a flying start</p>	<p><b>179 DAYS</b> <b>94%</b></p>  <p>Less chance of success</p>	<p><b>175 DAYS</b> <b>92%</b></p>  <p>Harder to make progress</p>	<p>More than <b>18 days</b> absence less than <b>90%</b></p>  <p>Persistent Absentee (Not fair on your child)</p>
--	--	---	---	--

## ABSENCE = LOST OPPORTUNITY



### Did You Know... ?

If Your Child's Attendance During the School Year...	Your Child Would Have Lost Approximately...	or They Would Have Missed Approximately...
was 95%	9 Days from School	50 Lessons
was 90%	19 Days from School	100 Lessons
was 85%	29 Days from School	150 Lessons
was 80%	38 Days from School	200 Lessons
was 75%	48 Days from School	250 Lessons

Getting Your Child to School Really Matters





**RISE**



**MHST**

## Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST)

### Tips For Wellness:

## APPRECIATION

Showing appreciation not only has mental and physical benefits for the receiver, but also the person expressing gratitude. Therefore, appreciating the things and people around us can improve our wellbeing!

Benefits of showing appreciation include higher levels of happiness and optimism; improved sleep; less stress; improved ability to cope with difficulties; increased self-esteem; reduced depression; fewer physical problems; improved resilience.

#### Our tips for appreciation:

**1- Daily gratitude reflection** - at the end of the day, think of 3 things you are grateful for (no matter how big or small). You could share these with your family at the dinner table, or write them in a journal at bedtime. If you cannot think of 3 things, try just 1 to start with!

**2- Jar of appreciation** - whenever someone in your family appreciates something, write it down and put it in a jar. At the end of the week, sit down together and read what you are all grateful for in your life. This can help you connect and share appreciation!

**3- Random acts of kindness** - notice when you have been kind to others and celebrate this! Did you comfort a friend when they were feeling sad? Did you hold the door open for someone? You could write a card to a friend and tell them how much you appreciate them, bake cookies for your neighbour, or help your parent/carers at home to tidy the house!

**4- Say thank you** - using manners helps us to express our appreciation for others, which can also boost our own positive feelings.

#ThanksKids recognises the efforts and kindness of children and young people, and thanks them with personalised #NHSSStars certificates. If you know a child or young person that deserves recognition for going above and beyond, don't wait, nominate!

[thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk](mailto:thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk)

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays. Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.





# Christmas Donations

**WE ARE ONCE AGAIN AIMING TO HELP LOCAL FAMILIES THAT MAY BE STRUGGLING THIS CHRISTMAS AND ARE APPEALING FOR DONATIONS OF THE FOLLOWING:**



**NEW TEDDIES/SOFT TOYS**

**NEW GIFTS (ALL AGES)**

**PRE-LOVED GIFTS AND TOYS**

**ADVENT CALENDARS**

**CHRISTMAS SELECTION BOXES**

**CHRISTMAS FOOD ITEMS  
(NON PERISHABLE)**



*Please bring any donations  
before 8th December*



BHLC

BRUNSWICK HUB,  
98-100 SHRUBLAND STREET,  
LEAMINGTON SPA, CV31 3BD







The  
Children's  
Society



# Let's come together to celebrate Christingle

Christingle is a great way for communities everywhere to get together this Christmas to catch up, make some special memories, and have fun.

**Come and join us!**

**Location:** All Saints' Parish Church, Victoria Terrace,  
Leamington Spa, CV31 1AA

**Date:** Saturday 23 Dec      **Time:** 3.30pm

**To find out more, contact:**

parishoffice@allsaintschurchleamington.org.uk      01926 429169

[christingle.org](http://christingle.org)

© The Children's Society 2023. Charity Registration No. 221124. 2023468n/0723. XTC008D\_23

Scan the  
QR code  
to find  
out more.







**SYDNI**

# COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

## LUNCH

**WEDNESDAY**

**13TH**

**DEC**

**ARRIVE FROM 12 NOON  
LUNCH SERVED AFTER 12.30**

**TRADITIONAL TURKEY LUNCH WITH ALL  
THE TRIMMINGS  
CHRISTMAS PUDDING OR WINTER BERRY PAYLOVA**

Music, Quiz, Games, Carols.  
Christmas hats or jumpers optional

Call 01926 422071 to book your place

Cottage Square, Sydenham, Leamington Spa. CV31 1PT 01926 422071

[sydni.org](http://sydni.org)

Opening hours: Monday - Friday 9.00-6.00





# Save the Date

## SYDNI Winter Fayre

Saturday 25 November

11am - 4pm

Stalls, Cakes, Tombola,  
School Choir, Santa  
and lots more!





# Christmas Shoebox Appeal 2023

For the 9th year, we are now collecting for our Christmas shoebox appeal, with donations being given to the homeless and vulnerably housed adults in Leamington, Warwick and Kenilworth this Christmas.

The shoeboxes are always greatly received by our clients and always spread a little festive cheer.

Please fill a wrapped shoebox with any of the following items;

TOOTHBRUSH/TOOTHPASTE - HATS - HAIRBRUSH OR COMB -  
SCARVES - SOAP - GLOVES - FLANNEL - SOCKS - NOTEPAD/PEN  
- DEODORANT (no aerosols)- HANDWARMERS - POCKET GAMES  
- COFFEE AND MEAL VOUCHERS (can be purchased from  
Greggs/Costa ect) - SANITARY PRODUCTS - CHOCOLATES AND  
SWEETS - CLOTHES VOUCHERS (can be purchased from our  
lighthouse charity shop)

Please keep the lid separate and attached with an elastic band, clearly marked whether it's for a male or female

Last date to donate is Monday 4th December

Donation points The Lighthouse (Charity Shop), 12 Gloucester Street,  
Leamington CV31 1EE and 9a Althorpe Street (Head Office), Leamington CV31  
2AU

**FRIEND'S OF ST JOHN'S  
CHRISTMAS FAIR  
FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
3.15PM-4.30**

**STALLS • HOT CHOCOLATE • RAFFLE  
FESTIVE CHEER**





Merry Christmas



## Benn Partnership Centre

Railway Terrace, Rugby, CV21 3HR

Tel: 01788 553033

Email: [info@bennpartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@bennpartnership.org.uk)

Website: [www.bennpartnership.org.uk](http://www.bennpartnership.org.uk)



# Monday 25th December



## FREE CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

Each year Benn Partnership Centre offers a free Christmas Day Event for members of the community who would otherwise be alone.

Do you have family who will be working Christmas day?

Or will you struggle to cook a Christmas dinner?

If so, please call or email before Friday 1st December to book your place and advise us of your dietary requirements.

Arrive at 10:30am with dinner at 1:00 pm and stay until 4:00pm. Please note that the numbers are limited so it will be on first come first served basis.



Tel: 01788 553033

Email: [info@bennpartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@bennpartnership.org.uk)





# Diary Dates

Monday 13th November	Reception “Big Brush” at ASDA.
Tuesday 14th November	Y2 LM Swallows class assembly at 9.15am.
Thursday 16th November	Y5 and Y6 visit The Royal Shakespeare Theatre to watch “The Box of Delights.”
Tuesday 21st November	Y1 EL Kingfishers class assembly at 10.15am.
Wednesday 22nd November	YR Maths workshop for parents/carers at 2.30pm.
Thursday 23rd November	Y3 and Y4 visit The Belgrade theatre to watch “Cinderella.”
Thursday 23rd November	Y6 visit to Everyman cinema in Stratford to see “Puss in Boots.”
Friday 24th November	MUFTI (non-uniform) Day—bring 50p if your child wears their own choice of clothes to school.
Friday 24th November	Bake sale organised by Y6 in aid of Young People First.
Monday 27th—Thursday 30th November	Scholastic book fair, 3.30—4.00pm.
Tuesday 28th November	Y5 JE Kittiwakes class assembly at 9.15am.
Wednesday 29th November	Winter hoop decorations go up in the hall.
<b>Monday 4th December</b>	<b>School closed for staff training.</b>
Wednesday 6th December	Reception Nativity at 9.30am.
Monday 11th December	Reception, Y1 and Y2 visit Warwick Arts’ Centre to watch “The Gruffalo.”
Tuesday 12th December	Christmas crafts for Y1 and Y2 families.
Wednesday 13th December	Y1 and Y2 carol concert at 9.30am.
Thursday 14th December	Y3 and Y4 carol concert at 2.15pm.
Friday 15th December	Y5 and Y6 carol concert at 2.15pm.
Monday 18th December	School Christmas lunch.