



Eccleston Mere Primary School

November Newsletter

Dear Parents / Carers,

Christmas is about to descend upon Eccleston Mere. We are looking forward to our nativity plays, the Christmas Fayre, pantomimes, and parties to celebrate the season!

Our newsletter is slightly shorter this month, as I have attached a newsletter created by the PTA, about the Christmas Fayre and Wreath Making Workshop.

I hope that the build up to the festive season is a happy one in your household. We look forward to welcoming families into school, during this magical time of year at the Mere.

Mr Mugan



Children in Need

We would like to extend our thanks to our families for contributions made on Friday, in support of Children in Need. As a result of your efforts, we were able to write a cheque for £240 for this fantastic cause.

Y5 Catalyst Museum

Year 5 pupils visited the Catalyst Museum and had a really rewarding and productive day. Children took part in the many different interactive exhibits, which looked a lot of fun. During workshop time, the class were also able to make a plastic keyring, which they kept as a keepsake. Staff at the Catalyst Museum were very complementary about the behaviour of our pupils.



KS2 Badminton

A group of pupils visited the Broadway Badminton Centre this week, to take part in a range of different activities and drills, building their skills in badminton. This was a fantastic opportunity for pupils, to participate in another type of sport. The children excelled and proved themselves more than capable on court!



Christmas Fayre

The PTA have created a newsletter (which is far more appealing and colourful than mine), about the Christmas Fayre. This is really informative and gives a taste of what is on offer at this event.

As a school, in order to collect chocolate and bottles for the event, we are holding two non-uniform days. They are as follows:

Friday 8th December (Chocolate donation)

Friday 15th December (Bottle donation)

Santa's Grotto

As mentioned in the PTA Newsletter, this year children are able to visit the grotto during the school day. This will reduce the queues during the fayre and will allow a greater number of pupils to see Father Christmas.

Places are bookable via our School Gateway app. During the day, children will be accompanied by their teacher / teaching assistant, whilst in the evening parents will be able to take their children to see Father Christmas. Places are limited, so early booking is essential to avoid disappointment.

Christmas Pantomimes

In response to parental feedback, we have booked a pantomime company to come into school this year, so reducing costs at this time of year. This year's pantomime is a version of the classic tale of Cinderella and will be differentiated in terms of content for younger and older children.

The pantomimes will take place on Monday 4th December. Years R,1,2 and 3 will watch the pantomime in the morning, whilst Y4,5 and 6 will watch the pantomime in the afternoon on that day. The cost of the pantomime is within a combined voluntary cost for the pantomime and party (£2.50 and £2.50 respectively, £5 in total). This is bookable on the School Gateway app.

Christmas Party Days

On the Christmas party days, pupils will need to come to school dressed in their party clothes. As mentioned above, there is a £2.50 charge for this year's party, within the £5 combined charge for the pantomime and party.

For this, children will receive snacks, a drink and party prizes, so parents do not need to provide anything further for this event. This also enables us to continue to monitor the types of snacks in school, so protecting any pupils with allergies.

Party dates are as follows:

Nursery Christmas Party	Monday 18 th December (AM)
Nursery Christmas Party	Monday 18 th December (PM)
Reception Christmas Party	Monday 18 th December (PM)
Year 1/2 Christmas Party	Tuesday 19 th December (PM)
Year 3/4 Christmas Party	Wednesday 20 th December (PM)
Year 5/6 Christmas Party	Thursday 21 st December (PM)

Christmas Performances

Tickets for performances are now available on the School Gateway app. The hall has a maximum occupancy of 120 and so for the KS1 nativity performance, tickets are limited to 2 per family **at either** of the two performances.

We ask that performances are not recorded using mobile phones, for safeguarding reasons. School have arranged for each performance to be recorded.

Christmas performance dates are as follows:

KS1 Nativity	Wednesday 6 th December	9:30am
	Thursday 7 th December	
Nursery AM and PM Christmas Performance	Wednesday 13 th December	9:30am
Reception Christmas Performance	Thursday 14 th December	9:30am

Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 15th December (the same day as the Christmas Fayre and non-uniform day), it is Christmas jumper day. There is no charge for this day, as children are already asked to bring a bottle donation. School will make a contribution to the 'Save the Children' charity, in recognition of the children's efforts.

Christmas Items

Last year, lots of children enjoyed the Christmas items that were on sale in December (bands, pens, rings, popcorn cones etc.). This year, to ensure that items are received promptly, we will be handing out any items purchased on the school app, each Friday in December (1st, 8th and 15th December).

Items are only tokens, and price has been considered. There is no pressure upon families to purchase any of these items, but proceeds go to school fund, supporting the effective financing of our school.