

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following on from the letter you have received from Mr Wilson regarding Christmas 2020, I am writing to you to inform you of the activities that all children of Bell Lane will be involved in.

We have carefully considered all events that are usually associated with schools during the Christmas period, alongside the restrictions set out by the government to ascertain what can go ahead and what significant adaptations can be made to ensure that all children have fun, enjoy and create memories.

Whilst we appreciate that some decisions that we have made may be disappointing for parents/carers, we can assure you that these have been made with the children's best interests at heart whilst taking into account safeguarding and GDPR requirements.

Given the context and spirit of 2020, we have worked very closely with other schools, companies and establishments across the community to support local charities and provide much needed gifts and funding to support people in need. Here are some of the wonderful activities that the children of Bell Lane have been involved in:

- A competition has been held in school to design a gift tag to be placed on gifts for elderly people within the community - the chosen design will be announced on Twitter shortly.
- A shoebox appeal has been organised in conjunction with the Pontefract Community Kitchen - please drop any donations at the school gates until Friday 27/11/2020.
- Pupils have taken part in a National Competition organised by 'Routes into Languages,' creating a Christmas card after researching different Christmas traditions.
- The Cooperative have very kindly donated Christmas cards to children across school to write a heartfelt message in; these cards will then be distributed to residents of care homes across the community.
- Two of our after school enrichment clubs (5/6P and 3P) have kindly volunteered to create some wonderful artistic pieces to donate alongside the Christmas cards to local care homes.
- A Reindeer run where all children from Reception to Year 6 will participate in a sponsored run to raise much needed funds for Wakefield Hospice - additional details regarding this will follow shortly.

*Watch out for updates on these on Twitter @OPA\_BL*

Please find below an outline of all of the Christmas activities that all children (Nursery - Year 6) and families will be involved in throughout the Christmas period:

Outwood Grange Academies Trust is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales (No. 06995649)  
Registered office: Potovens Lane, Outwood, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2PF

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- Christmas cards**

Children will be invited to bring Christmas cards in for their friends **in their class only**. Unfortunately, as always, we will not be able to provide a class list in order to comply with GDPR restrictions. We will quarantine the cards for 72 hours before they go home. So we ask that your child brings their cards for their friends in their class from the week commencing 30/11/2020 - these cards will be sent home on Monday 7th December. The second option is to bring them in the week commencing 07/12/2020 - these cards will be sent home on Monday 14th December.

**Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept Christmas cards after Monday 14th December.**
- The Great Christmas Bake Off**

We invite families to participate in a 'Great British Bake Off' and create sweet treats for the whole family to enjoy. If you would like to take part, please upload a photograph of your family showing off your creation onto your eldest child's Google Classroom - unfortunately, we won't be able to taste them!

All applications must be submitted by Monday 14th December.

Three winners will be selected from the photographs and prizes will be awarded.
- Christmas card to take home**

All children will create their own Christmas card for their parents/carers to cherish.
- Calendar to take home**

All children will create their own calendar for their parents/carers to cherish.
- Christmas Dinner**

On Wednesday 16th December, all children (apart from Nursery) are invited to enjoy our scrumptious Christmas dinner in school. Please complete this Google Form <https://forms.gle/3EfuDBXIMvv9pjyy8> by **08/12/2020** to notify us of whether your child/ren would like to participate in this so that we can make sure we order enough food! You can pre-order Christmas dinner using the online system or your child can order in school; if the meal is taken, payment of £2.25 will appear on your ParentPay account.
- Christmas Jumper**

On Wednesday 16th December, all children (Nursery to Year 6) are invited to wear a Christmas jumper or Christmas themed non-uniform outfit.
- Christmas Party**

On Wednesday 16th December, all children will be invited to participate in their class party. These will take place during a fun-filled afternoon, with plenty of games and quizzes. Some sweet treats, juice and prizes will be provided (all known allergies will be catered for - please contact the office to inform us of any updates). There will even be a virtual visit from a very special person!

*We will continue to keep you updated with all of our wonderful learning via our class  
Twitter accounts and our whole school account @OPA\_BL.*

As always, we thank you for your continued support and we wish you all the very  
best.

Mrs Hewitt  
Principal

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