Dear Parents and Carers,

A very big thank you to all the parents who came to talk about their jobs at our careers event on Friday afternoon. The children were fascinated by the wide variety of jobs you get up to while we’re here at school!

Planning and preparation for Christmas is well under way, children are learning songs and words for the Nativity Plays and the Carol Service, and our musicians are learning Christmas tunes. Thank you for the items that are coming in for the Christmas Fayre, and for your offers of help on stalls.

Please read on for information and dates in the Christmas period.

**Remembrance**

The School Poppy Appeal collection has been very well supported, thank you for your donations. We had a very moving and impeccably observed ceremony on Friday morning, with readings from Bel and Ralph, and Mr Carter playing the bugle. On Sunday, many of our children represented local organisations in the Shaftesbury remembrance event. Staff who were there said they were a great credit to you and the school.

**Children in Need – Friday 17th November, non uniform for £1**

Children can come in home clothes, spotty clothes or dressing up clothes for Children in Need on Friday. Donations of £1 are, as always, optional.

**Christmas Fayre – Friday 24th November, 3.10-4.30pm**

Please come along after picking up your children at the end of school. There will be lots of lovely things to buy as Christmas presents, along with games, refreshments and a visit from Santa. Please do a little time on your class stall, or offer to help with setting up or clearing up at the end. A few strong people to help at the end would be gratefully welcomed!

**Christmas Lights (and PTFA stall) – Monday 27th November**

We think the late night shopping event starts at 6pm, we will be there with the PTFA stall - do come and say hello.

**Christmas Nativity Plays**

**Year 1 and 2 – ‘Angel Express’ is on Tues 5th Dec at 2pm and Thurs 7th at 2pm**

**Reception – ‘A King is Born’  is on Tues 12th at 2pm**

Tickets for these wonderful productions will go on sale next Monday, 20th November, from the office for £1 each. For the first week, families will be restricted to four tickets. From Monday 27th November you will be able to buy additional tickets. If you could bring the right money, that would be great, as we don't have  a lot of change.

**Christmas Carol Service – St James Church, Monday 11th December at 2pm**

There will be 30 places for parents to join us for our Carol Service. Please email the office if you’d like some seats (only 1 or 2 places per family)

**Christmas Party – Thursday 14th December – Non Uniform, party clothes**

Save the date, more details to follow! There will be a party lunch, including sausage rolls (some meat, vegetarian and gluten-free) from Local Food Links, so no meal to order from them that day.

**Christmas Concert – School Hall – Wednesday 13th December from 6-7pm**

Miss Bastable is organising this concert which will feature the school choir and some of our  musicians. She will be in touch with those taking part.

**1pm finish on the last day**

After a long Autumn Term, please pick up children at 1pm if you can. Children will be looked after in school during the afternoon if needed.

**PTFA - Please order your Christmas Cards by  Monday 13th November**

Today is the last day to order your Christmas Cards. There is a PTFA meeting on Thursday at 7.30pm at Shaston Social Club, with a particular focus on the Christmas Fayre, all are welcome.

**Forest School – Wednesday afternoons**

Reception have their third Forest School session this week, Year 5 from 22nd November, Year 6 from 13th November, Year 2 from 17th January and Year 1 from 7th February.

Children need to have trousers and long sleeved tops, wellies and a waterproof coat (with over trousers if they have them). The Forest school philosophy is to wear the right clothing to go out in all weathers.

Michael Salisbury, Head teacher