
LANGTREE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Fore Street

LANGTREE

Torrington

Devon EX38 8NF

T : (01805) 601354**E** : admin@langtree.devon.sch.uk**W** : www.langtree.devon.sch.uk



LOTTERY FUNDED

02 December 2016

Dear Families

As we approach the end of this busy and exciting term, I will apologise in advance for the length of this Newsletter but we have lots of festive events planned, and have included below more information about each one to help you enjoy them too. Just ahead of launching into lots of festive details, I would like to pass on to you the news that our long-serving member of staff, Diane Daniel, will be hanging-up her MTA knife and fork at the end of this term to enjoy more time with her family. Di has been with the school for over 18 years, and played an important part of the lunchtime team so will be greatly missed. In recognition of all her hard work, and dedication to the school, we would like to present her with an 'almost-retirement' gift from everyone here. If this is something to which you would like to add a donation, please hand any amount in at the School Office before Monday 12 December for it to be included. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Here are our festive events, to which we look forward to welcoming lots of families, and people connected with our school:

The Class F Christmas Production is due to take place on Tuesday 06 December in Langtree Parish Hall, at 9.30am. This is a special production primarily for our youngest children and their families, with all relatives and friends invited to come along to watch the children perform a very special interpretation of the Christmas Story and stay behind, to join performers and staff, for festive refreshments. All Class F families are warmly invited.

PTA News, from Clare Heard Our next fundraising event is the **Christmas Fair** which is on **Friday 9th December 3pm - 5pm** in the Parish Hall. You are invited to pick up your children from their classes at 3pm to attend the fair. *(All children are to be accompanied by an adult please)*. There will be games to play, competitions to enter, a Hamper raffle *(which will be drawn at the evening performance of the Christmas Play)*, refreshments and of course Father Christmas will be attending. Thank you to everyone who has donated for the Fair already. We are still on the lookout for bubbly bottles (alcohol, bathroom smellies, soft drinks etc.) for our adult game, unwanted and in good condition soft toys and sweet and savoury food for the refreshments. If this is anything you can help with please pass your donations into the school office and thank you in advance.



This year we have worked with the staff at school to create a Langtree School Tea towel which will be on sale at the School Christmas Fair for £4 each - a lovely keepsake and gift for Christmas. Look out for samples around school.

Thank you to everyone who has recently signed up to our online shopping scheme - 'Easyfundraising'. We now have 22 supporters and have raised just over £200 simply by logging onto 'easyfundraising'

before shopping online. If this is something that you would like to help us fundraise with please visit [www. easyfundraising.org.uk/langtreecommunityschool](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/langtreecommunityschool) and add Langtree Community School as your cause.

The money raised this term will be used to pay for Class One's digeridoo session and a camera for each class to be used in their everyday work. Thank you for your continued support.

Main School Christmas Play

"The Fisherman's Tale": Langtree Parish Hall: Monday 12 December: 2pm & 5.45pm I am pleased to let you know that tickets for both performances of our main school production will be flying out of the Office at a cost of £2 each from Monday 05 December. We are able to seat almost 200 festive spectators at each performance, so do not anticipate that we will have any problem with availability and are happy for small children to be seated on adult laps, just as long as you let us know how many you are likely to bring - the 2pm performance being more appropriate for younger children. As always, if you have any special access or seating requirements please let us know and we will always do our best to help.

Here are the last few details and requests for that day: doors will open 15 minutes before the start of each performance so please don't start queuing too early, especially if the weather is bad. We shall change the children out of their costumes after each performance.

2pm Performance: We expect the afternoon show to finish at approximately 3pm. So, if you are coming along to watch, you are welcome to take your children home with you when you leave but, if you don't, please collect your children any time after 3.10pm from the main school. School transport will run as normal on that day - please let us know if your child will **not need** to use it, as we are able to cancel the service if there are no passengers.

5.45pm Performance: Our evening performance will start at a slightly earlier time this year to accommodate other Hall users. We need to make sure we have finished our production, and cleared-up, by no later than 7pm. In the evening, we would be grateful if children could be returned to us in the Parish Hall no later than **5.30pm** to give them time to change. Please note that, during both performances, some parents may take photographs but we ask that this is strictly on the understanding that these are for family use only and will not be published on social networking sites without the express permission of everyone included in the picture. Can we also please request that any older brothers or sisters sit with their families? Thank you.

After all the excitement of the two performances, you are welcome to let your child have a lie-in the following morning, with Registration extended until 10.45am on Tuesday 13 December to allow for this. To help with school meal planning, please let us know your child's lunch arrangements in advance, especially if they prefer a vegetarian or jacket potato option.

Finally, but no less importantly, we are very grateful to the Parish Hall and Committee, as without this amazing facility just on our doorstep, our Christmas events could not take place with such a warm festive flourish.

Carrier Bag Appeal: we are aware that many shops now charge for providing carrier bags but if you have any spare at home which you could donate for us to use to store costumes or children's uniforms (while they are performing) we would be extremely grateful.

Christmas Dinner Wednesday 14 December A final reminder that for the usual cost of a school meal (£2.20), your child can enjoy roast turkey with a sausage and bacon roll plus all the usual festive trimmings, followed by Christmas Pudding and custard or jelly and ice-cream, or fresh fruit salad on Wednesday 14 December when we enjoy our Christmas Dinner. The vegetarian alternative for that day will be a quorn fillet, plus of course roast potatoes and all the festive vegetables. On this day,

there will be no jacket potato option. We will assume that everyone will choose the roast turkey option, UNLESS we hear from you that your child would prefer the vegetarian choice. Please use the reply slip at the end of this Newsletter if you this is something your child would prefer and make sure it's completed and returned to the school office no later than FRIDAY 02 DECEMBER for the order to be included. If, for whatever reason, your child will bring a packed lunch into school that day, please also let us know using the slip at the end of this letter, to help make sure we peel, chop and slice just the right amounts! Thank you in advance for your menu-planning help. **Nursery families** please note there will be **no Lunch Club** running on this day.

Christmas Dinner this year will be followed by our traditional **Carol Service** - in Langtree Methodist Chapel, at 2.30pm. We are grateful for the use of the Chapel that afternoon and hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us and sit together as a family. If you are planning to join us, please collect your children from school from 2.15pm onwards to give you chance to walk down to the Chapel together and find seats. The Service is planned to last for approximately 40 minutes, after which you are welcome to make your way home, taking your children with you. Please let class teachers know that you have them with you as you leave, to keep our headcounts accurate! Unaccompanied children can be collected from school as usual, at 3.30pm, with school transport running as normal.

Class Parties and Non-Uniform Day Thursday 15 December All classes will be having their Christmas Parties on the afternoon of Thursday 15 December. We plan for Reception children to spend the morning in Class 1 and move into Class F for the Christmas Party during the afternoon. Everyone is welcome to come to school in party clothes ready for the afternoon's fun and games, with no donations expected. **For that day only, there will be no morning session for Nursery children, who are invited to join us at 1.15pm for their party instead.** Please note the school day will finish at the usual time of 3.30pm on that day.

Last Day of Term: Non-Uniform Day Two There will be a second Non-Uniform Day on the last day of term (16 December) when you can, if you choose, support the Save the Children Fund's Christmas Jumper Day by joining with us to wear a festive jumper in exchange for a £1 or more donation to that Fund. As with all Non-Uniform Days, your children might prefer to wear clothes from home or Christmas-themed costumes instead, or you can tinsel-up a school jumper or get creative with sequins and snowflakes.



Christmas Post Box Our Christmas Post Box will be in place, ready for everyone to post their cards, from Monday 05 December in the main entrance porch. We are grateful to our Class Three Post Delivery Team who will be providing a daily sorting and delivery service to each class (and the Staff Room) for the next two weeks.

Primary Admissions 2017: Important Reminder Families with children born between 01 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 need to be sure they have applied for a Reception place for their child in the main school before **15 January 2017**. This can be either online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissions or by completing a paper form which we are happy to supply. If you wish to apply for a place and require any advice at all, please speak to Mrs Cook, Mrs Heard or myself.

School Diary Dates

- Mon 05/12** Main School Christmas Play: tickets on sale
Christmas Post Box in operation.
- Tues 06/12 Class F Christmas Play: Langtree Parish Hall: 9.30am plus refreshments
Boots the Chemist: 'Flu Vaccinations: Years 1, 2 & 3 children.
- Fri 09/12 PTA Christmas Fair 3-5pm
- Mon 12/12 Main School: Christmas Play: afternoon and evening performances.
- Weds 14/12 Christmas Dinner followed by Carol Service **Christmas Dinner and Carol Service** in Langtree Methodist Chapel: please note, because of the different arrangements on this day, Nursery Lunch Club will **not** be running on this day.
- Thurs 15/12 Class Christmas Parties: **NURSERY PARENTS** please note that, on this day, our Nursery session will run from 1.15pm to 3.30pm instead of during the morning. Nursery Lunch Club **WILL** operate as usual this day, starting at 12noon for exactly the same cost: £3.00/session (packed lunch from home), or £5.20/session with lunch.
- Fri 16/12 Last day of Autumn Term.
- Weds 04 Jan 2017 Happy New Year!: **First day of Spring Term: Non-Pupil Day:**
staff working and training in school.
- Thurs 05 Jan 2017 Everyone back in school today please.

Community News



The December 2016 Langtree Parish Magazine is now available online:

www.langtree.net/magazine/December%202016%20Magazine.pdf

Community Garden and Allotments : WHAT'S GOING ON?

During the Craft Fair on **Saturday 10th December** in the village hall, members of the committee will be in the foyer from **10am-2pm**. No decisions have been made yet - we would like to hear your suggestions. **Do come along and have your say.**



Sue Leach (Chair): 01805 601348

Pat Chappell: patchappell@btinternet.com

Yours sincerely

Helen Mellody,
Head Teacher

LANGTREE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 14 December 2016

My child..... would prefer the vegetarian option (Quorn fillet) for their Christmas Dinner on the above date.

My child will bring a packed lunch to eat on the above day.

Signed: **Parent/Carer/Guardian**