

NEWSLETTER

‘Capturing the imagination of young minds.’

Issue 4—November 2023

Message from Mrs O’Hara

Next week is the first of our festive events and so I thought a newsletter focusing on activities and timings would be a great way to ensure we are all prepared for the glitter season.

Friday 1st December

Tree Day

This is a Poppleton Ousebank tradition and the children love it! On the first school day in December, children bring in an inexpensive, shatterproof bauble or decoration for the tree—we obviously discourage special or sentimental baubles in case they don’t make it back home. In our Upper School hall, we have an enormous tree where pupils hang their decoration in the morning. At the end of the day, we switch on the lights in our whole school assembly—this creates an enormous buzz—lots of awe and wonder!

We ask that all decorations are named so that pupils can reclaim them for the holidays. Charity leaders will remind pupils throughout next week, but should a child forget to bring one in, we do have spares in school.



Launch of our ‘Mental Elf Festive Fun Run’



Following the success of our Reindeer dash last year, we decided to do another sponsored event, but this time, our charity would be **York Mind**— a leading local provider of services supporting young people and adults recovering from mental ill-health. Our Mental Elf Festive Fun Run will be on Friday 15th December on our school field, and so from the launch date, we will be encouraging children to collect sponsors for taking part—we will provide sponsorship forms. Children can come dressed as an elf or wear elf ears/headband on the day, which I am sure will be great fun as well as ‘making a difference’ for a local group.

Secrets Room—7th to 13th December

This is a very special Christmas present shopping service that we provide for children— time with a personal shopper!

Secrets Room will take place from 7th to 13th December (Thursday, Friday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday). Your child will be taken to the Secrets Room with their class during school time and helped by one of our volunteer elves to make their selections and wrap their presents.

Please note that booking has now closed for this event.



Tuesday 5th December—Festive Film Night

Our annual film event is hugely popular with families! For a small cost, children in Years 1—6 can stay behind after school and watch a Christmas Film with friends. There is a choice of films to watch and refreshments are provided as part of the event. The cost of the evening is £3.00 and will end just after 5.00pm - collection will be from classroom doors as usual. Although the event is open for pupils in Year 1, please consider if your child will be comfortable staying after school until 5.00pm. Films to watch are:



Bookings for Festive Film Night are made on ParentPay

Pupils not attending can be collected at the usual time of 3.15pm.

(Years 5 and 6 only)

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Friday 8th December—Non-uniform tombola donation

On Friday 8th December, pupils are invited to come to school in non-uniform, in exchange for a chocolate or bottle donation for the tombola stall at the Christmas Fair. You can donate bars of chocolate, boxes of chocolate, bottles of pop, wine or even shampoo. These are always popular stalls, so think, what would your family like to win? This will give you some great ideas.



Friday 15th December

Mental Elf Fun Run



Week commencing 18th December—Christmas Concerts

Pupils in Lower school will perform songs for family enjoyment this year. Each year group will have a specific day to perform, and families will be able to book up to three places on School Cloud. Split families should contact the school office. The dates and times of performances are below:

Monday 18th December: 9.15—10.00 and 2.15—Reception

Tuesday 19th December: 9.15—10.00 and 2.15—Year 1

Wednesday 20th December: 9.15 - 9.45 Nursery

Thursday 21st December: 9.15—10.00 and 2.15—Year 2

Wednesday 20th December—Festive Day!

This is a non-uniform day and pupils are invited to wear their Christmas Jumpers or Christmas fancy dress. Christmas lunch will be on this day and should be booked on ParentPay. After school the **Young Voices Choir** will sing on the outside stage (weather permitting) and the **Christmas Fair** will begin in school.

Christmas Fair - each class will have created Christmas decorations and tasty treats and these will be available to purchase in classrooms. The Christmas café will be in the Upper School hall and there will be games and activities in the Lower School hall.

Entry is free and there are also free activities. Come along and join in the fun.

