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Headteacher: Mr. C. Gibson

12<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

As I mentioned last week, this is clearly the stage of the term which is referred to as the 'wind down'. Following your reading of this week's ramblings, I'll let you make your own mind up....!!

#### Reception Nativity

This is always the event which heralds the start of festivities in school with our most fantastic Reception children presenting their version of the Nativity story to the school, including their parents, carers and the rest of the children! It never ceases to impress me enormously in the way such confidence is displayed as well as the ability to remember words and actions throughout the performance. Well done to all concerned as well as a massive 'thank you' to the children and, of course, the staff who spend a lot of time and energy in helping the children prepare for this. Thanks also to Mrs Morton and Mrs Thom representing Friends of Belmont (FoB) for providing the refreshments.

#### Christmas Service and Choir Festival

We were involved in a couple of visits to St Nicholas' Church this week.

Firstly, the choir participated in the 'Choir Festival' on Monday, supported by Mrs Brown and Mrs Fawkes. As you would expect, the children (and, I'm sure, the staff) were fabulous in both their behaviour and their participation, something I have been told by numerous sources.

The following day, all of Key Stage Two attended our Christmas Service, managing to avoid the rain. For those of you who also attended, I am sure that you will agree it was a wonderful event and, once again, the children were terrific. Well done to all and thanks for all who were able to attend as well as to Mrs Brown and Mrs Fawkes who spend a great deal of time with the choir during their lunchtimes.

#### Mini Shoppers

It has been a real 'Supermarket Sweep' this week with Mrs Morton and other helpers from FoB helping the children select their gifts during the 'Mini Shopper' opening times! Thank you all so much for your fabulous donations and also to everybody who has helped 'on the tills' so to speak! We can't do it without you!

#### Discos

I have only received positive feedback about the discos held this week which I have to say were very well attended! Following previous comments, you will note that a DJ was reintroduced and hopefully this increased everybody's enjoyment even more. Thanks to all of the parents and carers who helped out, the staff who came along to also assist and to Mrs Fawkes for organising it all. We also have our office staff to thank too for all of their 'background organising' with setting up and monitoring the ParentPay system and managing the social media activity. We will be discussing dates for the next one very soon.....

#### Christmas Lunch (or, as I have no doubt I shall be told, 'dinner'. I'll stick with lunch!!!!!!)

Our tremendous kitchen staff once again pulled off the magnificent feat of 'feeding the five thousand' (well, over two hundred but that's still pretty impressive!). Many thanks to them for their hard work (and enthusiasm!) on Wednesday lunchtime and, indeed, every other day of the year! What a fabulous job those ladies do!

### Reindeer Run

Or maybe that should be 'Raindeer Run'. Even though the weather was NOT really on our side today, we did have many herds of reindeer trotting around the school this morning! Many thanks to everybody for supporting this event in aid of Teesside Hospice which obviously is reliant upon charitable donations.

### Christmas 'Singalong'

This coming Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December, you are all invited to our little 'singalong'. For the uninitiated, this is just a little get together on the playground to share some Christmas cheers (with refreshments being served). It would be fabulous to see as many of you as possible and we will hopefully have words projected onto a screen. We'd hate for you not to be able to join in with your angelic singing voices.....!!!

### Christmas Parties

By now you will have been informed about the Christmas Party arrangements for your child's class. As a reminder, they will be held on the following days:

Tuesday afternoon: Year Two

Wednesday morning: Year Four; afternoon: Year One and Year Three.

Thursday morning: Year Five; afternoon: Year Six and Reception.

### And Finally....

Yep, definitely a wind-down.....

Remember that we finish for the Christmas Break at the usual time, 3.10pm, next Friday 19<sup>th</sup>.

Have a great weekend!

Yours Sincerely

*C. Gibson*

Mr C Gibson