



CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

Together, through **friendship**, in **peace** and with **courage**, we reach for the stars.

Colossians 3:12: '**clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.**'

This is a busy time of year and so this term, we are sending home an additional newsletter to help you stay organised in the lead up to Christmas.

Every Friday, we put information for the week ahead in our playground noticeboard and dates for the term are on the school calendar section of our website. Please check these to keep up-to-date with what is happening in school.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Sutton Veny Village Hall

Saturday 9th December, 10:00am to 12:00pm. Friends of School are busy planning our Christmas Fayre, which will take place in the village hall. There will be lots of Christmas games, stalls and refreshments. Elliston Class will be running their own Christmas games and there will also be a group of children singing at 11.00am. This year, we are pleased to announce the return of Santa's Grotto! FOS are currently selling tickets for this experience and there are two slots to choose from. We look forward to seeing you there and all the funds raised will ensure that the whole school can enjoy a pantomime in January.

ELLISTON CLASS REQUEST ... PLEASE CAN YOU HELP US WITH CHOCOLATE, SWEETS & PRIZES?

At the Christmas Fayre, Elliston Class will be running a range of festive games and stalls in Darwin Classroom. The class are kindly asking for donations of chocolate for their Christmas tombola and sweets for prizes for their games. Please can you send in any donations by **Wednesday 6th December**. Thank you in advance for your support with this.



DIARY DATES

December 2023	
Fri 1st	Christmas Posada: Mary and Joseph start their journey around our families' homes.
Mon 4th	Christmas Post Box opens in school School clubs end this week
Thurs 7th	Choir singing at St Lawrence Chapel at 6.00pm
Fri 8th	FOS Christmas Disco 5.00 – 5.45pm for KS1 6.00 – 6.45pm for KS2
Sat 9th	Sutton Veny Christmas Fayre 10.00am – 12.00 noon
Tues 12th	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day - children are welcome to wear a festive hat, headband, jumper or badge – if they wish.
Wed 13th	Christmas Performance Dress Rehearsals (am)
Thurs 14th	Auckland, Brisbane and Canberra Nativity in the village hall at 9:30am and 1:45pm Darwin, Elliston, Geraldton and Nelson Christingle Service in the church, at 1:45pm and 6pm
Fri 15th	Last day to post Christmas cards – Christmas post box closes
Tues 19th	Mrs Barnard's farewell assembly 2.30pm
Wed 20th	Carol Sing-Along 9.15am Term ends at 2.00pm



CHRISTMAS POST BOX

The Christmas card post service will be available from **Monday 4th December** for the children to send Christmas cards to each other. It will be outside Mr Lewis's office. Please may you help the children to carefully address each envelope; they need to write the recipient's name and the class name on the front, so they can be delivered throughout the school. Thank you. The last date for posting will be on **Friday 15th December.**



CHRISTMAS LUNCH & CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

We are all looking forward to the school Christmas Lunch on **Tuesday 12th December.** If you have yet to order a lunch, and you'd like one, please do so via our Parent Pay platform. All of the children are welcome to wear a festive hat, headband, jumper or badge to school on this day. Please note that this date is different to the one on the school calendar as our hot meal provider can only deliver Christmas lunch during this week.



KS2 CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

This year, Key Stage Two are holding a traditional Christingle Service in the church. It's now over 50 years since Children's Society held the first Christingle service in this country. We hope that you will be able to join Darwin, Elliston, Geraldton and Nelson Class, in the church, for this service on **Thursday 14th of December at 1:45pm or 6pm.** A separate letter will be sent home with further information and arrangements. The children need to return **to the school at 5:45pm** for the evening performance (no earlier please) on this date. The children will meet in their classroom and then walk over to the church together.



NATIVITY

Auckland, Brisbane and Canberra are busy rehearsing for their Nativity performance of 'The Angel Express', and a separate letter has been sent home with information about costumes and lines. We would like to invite you to watch on **Thursday 14th December at 9:30am or 1:45pm,** in the village hall. As space in the hall is extremely limited, we have allowed for two guests, per child, per performance and ask that you please observe this limit. Please can all nativity costumes be in school by **Monday 11th December** - thank you.



CAROL SINGING

Good luck to our choirs of children who have been busy rehearsing for performances this year. We look forward to hearing them singing at St. Lawrence Chapel on **Thursday 7th December.** We are also hopeful that a group of children may be able to visit a local nursing home to sing as well. Separate information will be sent out about this once arrangements are confirmed.



CHRISTMAS POSADAS

Mrs Bell has arranged for a Christmas Posada to journey around our families' homes during the month of December. We have a traditional Christmas Posada, made up of a knitted Mary, Joseph and a donkey. Please contact the school office if you are able to provide a home for Mary and Joseph for one night. Please note that there are limited number of slots to sign-up to take the Posada home for an evening. These will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. The Posada will need to be returned to school the following day, so that it can go home with the next family. Thank you.

FAREWELL MRS BARNARD

We are holding a special assembly on **Tuesday 19th December** at 2.30pm to say a fond farewell to Mrs Barnard as we mark her retirement, with the children and the staff. You are very welcome to join us should you wish to do so.

CHRISTMAS SHEPHERD TREASURE HUNT

The School Council have been busy planning a special Christmas treasure hunt. They have decided to set-up a Shepherd Hunt around the village. From **Monday 4th December**, you will be able to search around the village for hidden shepherds. Thank you to Mr Richard Jackman, our foundation governor, for helping to support with this exciting challenge. There will be a treasure hunt sheet, sent out via eSchools, with all the relevant details. There will be prizes for the winners and we do hope that you will join in.

CAROL SING-A-LONG

We are holding our traditional Christmas Carol Sing-along on the last day of term. We look forward to you joining us in the church at 9.15am on **Wednesday 20th December**. We will also be celebrating holiday birthdays and presenting the final 8-stamp certificates of the year.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

The last week of after-school clubs will be the week beginning **Monday 4th December**. There will be no after school clubs taking place after this week due to the busy Christmas programme.

ST LAWRENCE CHAPEL DECORATIONS

Some of the classes in school have made decorations to go on the Christmas Tree outside St. Lawrence Chapel, which is situated in Warminster town centre. The children may want to try and spot their decorations next time they pass the chapel!



On behalf of everyone at Sutton Veny School, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Amazon Smile Fundraising

If you are shopping online in the run up to Christmas, please remember us and use Amazon Smile as they will make a donation to our charity every time you spend.

For Amazon Smile: Please copy the below address into your browser or go to Amazon Smile and select Friends of Sutton Veny School as your charity of choice. Thank you.
<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/290388-0>



CHRISTMAS COLOURING COMPETITION

Friends of School will be running a Christmas colouring competition at the start of December. You will be able to enter by purchasing the colouring sheet for £1. These will be on sale from **Monday 4th December** in the playground after school. There will be a prize per class, and there is also a pre-school category. Entries will need to be in by **Friday 15th December**.



LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY

Term 3 starts on **Friday 5th January 2024**; please note that School is closed on Thursday 4th of January 2024 for staff training.

January 2024	
Thurs 4 th	School closed for Staff Training
Fri 5 th	Term 3 Starts Whole School Pantomime