









Advent Countdown Calendar - Christmas 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
27 th Drumming assembly		29 th Costumes to be in school for KS2		1 st  Christmas jumper day Christmas craft morning Part of Y6 class climbing at Exeter Quay pm PTA Christmas Bazaar School Choir to sing at the Bazaar Costumes to be in school for FSU and KS1
4 th  Christmas cards for the community Topsham School - Christmas post boxes opens	5 th  Christmas cards for the community	6 th  Christmas cards for the Community Christmas Dinner	7 th  Christmas cards for the community 10.00 School choir to sing at Watermeadow Grange. 13.30-15.15 KS2 Rehearsal at the Church	8 th  Christmas cards for the community Community Christmas Party (Y6) School Choir to sing at the Community Christmas Party School Choir to sing on the playground after school
11 th 	12 th  KS2 Performance in the church 2pm and 6pm	13 th  KS1 Performance 2pm and 6pm	14 th  Christmas Parties Topsham School - Christmas post boxes close	15 th Merry Christmas! Break up for Christmas holidays - 2.30pm finish (Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm)

Wednesday 29th November (KS2) and Friday 1st December (FSU and KS1) - Costumes to be in school - Please can all costumes be in school by this date. Class teachers will be communicating with parents as to what is required. If there are any concerns or issues, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher.



**Christmas
Crafts**

Friday 1st December - Christmas Craft - Christmas kicks off with a fun filled craft morning. Children will be

working in mixed aged house groups to create a variety of Christmas crafts - glitter at the ready!

Friday 1st December - Christmas Jumper Day - Children can wear a Christmas jumper to school, in return for bringing an item for the chocolate tombola, which will be held during the Christmas Bazaar. Please do not go to the trouble of buying a Christmas jumper if you do not have one, adding tinsel to a coloured jumper for example or some other decoration is just as good.

Friday 1st December 3.45pm - 6.30pm - PTA Christmas Bazaar
Get into the mood with the PTA Bazaar, mulled wine, carols, Santa's grotto, games and stalls makes this a really festive occasion that helps get everyone in the Christmas mood! Keep an eye on the PTA section of the newsletter for more information about this event.



Friday 1st December - KS2 Choir singing at the Christmas Bazaar

KS2 choir will be performing a medley of Christmas songs at the Christmas Bazaar. Timings and more information to be shared with Choir members nearer the time.



Monday 4th December until Thursday 14th December - Topsham Christmas post boxes - Post boxes will be out in school from Monday 4th December. If you would like your child to post Christmas cards to their friends, could you please ensure that you have written the **full name and class** on the envelope. The School Leaders will deliver to the classes.

Monday 4th December until Friday 8th December - PTA Christmas cards for the community - The PTA would love the children to make a Christmas card at home for a member of the community. Then bring the card into school during this week. There will be a Community Christmas post box by the school office for the children to post their card in. The cards will be distributed by the Estuary League of Friends.



The card can have a Christmassy design, created by a computer or made by hand. Inside it should say Merry Christmas from everyone at Topsham School.



Wednesday 6th December - School Christmas lunch

Please make sure you have booked your child's Christmas dinner **online via Schoolcomms by Monday 27th November at the latest**. The ordering system is exactly the same as ordering lunch for any other day but you should be able to see the Christmas Dinner options for 6th December instead of the usual four choices. The only difference being that we will print a list on 27th November and these numbers will be submitted to the kitchen. We will be unable to fulfil requests for meals ordered after this

date. Please be aware that no refunds will be issued after the cut-off date as we have to submit these numbers to the kitchen in advance.

CHRISTMAS DINNER MENU:

Roast Turkey, Roast Potatoes,
Sausage (1,12), Stuffing (1),
Peas and Carrots and Gravy

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Veggie Wellington (1), Roast Potatoes
Veggie Sausage (1) Stuffing (1)
Peas and Carrots and Gravy

.....
Chocolate Fudge Cake (1, 6, 8)
Fruit salad
Yoghurts (6)

Allergens Codes:

- (1) Cereals containing Gluten - including wheat, rye, barley and oats (2) Celery
(3) Crustaceans - such as prawns, crabs and lobsters (4) Lupin (5) Fish (6) Milk
(7) Mustard (8) Eggs (9) Peanuts (10) Sesame Seeds (11) Soya Beans
(12) Sulphur Dioxide (13) Tree Nuts (14) Molluscs



Thursday 7th December - Choir to sing at Watermeadow Grange at 10.00am

Thursday 7th December - KS2 Rehearsal at the Church 1.30pm -3.15pm

Friday 8th December - School Community Party

Last year we were able to start back up our tradition of celebrating Christmas with members of the community; our way of celebrating the community we have, and saying a big thank you to those who help to make our school the wonderful place it is. Year 6 organise and lead this, and send invites to our neighbours and particular members of the community. This is held during the morning within school. Our school choir will be singing.



Friday 8th December - Choir singing on the playground - We would love everyone to join us at pick up time for mulled wine and mince pies, and join in singing Christmas Carols - raising funds for the choir.

Tuesday 12th December - KS2 Performance - 2.00pm and 6.00pm

We invite parents of children in Years 3 - 6 to join us for the Key Stage 2 Christmas Performance "Witnesses" which will take place at St Margaret's Church at 2.00pm and 6.00pm. Any costumes required will be communicated by the class teachers. Tickets are not required for this event. Parents **MUST** indicate their children's attendance at the evening

performance in order to assist with the allocation of parts, along with collection arrangements. We would appreciate as many children as possible attending the evening performance. Please confirm that your child is able to attend by clicking on the following link and completing a short **Google form** on the following link: <https://forms.gle/3DCGKN8dTAGvK1wV7>



Wednesday 13th December - KS1 Performance 2.00pm and 6.00pm in the school hall

Parents are invited to the Christmas production. Ticketed performances of the FSU and Key Stage 1 Christmas production, "It's a Party", will take place in the school hall at 2.00pm and 6.00pm.



Little Acorns will only take part in the 2.00pm performance. We invite the Little Acorns who do not normally attend on a Wednesday afternoon to join us at 1.30pm if they wish to.

Tickets: This year, as part of our aim to become a 'paperless' school, we will not be issuing physical paper tickets for these performances. There is a small charge of £1.00 per 'ticket' for this performance to cover costs which include a performance licence. To book your 'tickets' please login to your Schoolcomms account and select the option of order for the 2.00pm or 6.00pm performance from the payments section. Initially there will be a maximum of 2 'tickets' per family per show, as we have limited hall capacity. Ticket requests should be **completed by Monday 4th December at the latest**. Once initial allocations have been made, we will notify parents if there are any remaining tickets.

If your child is in Nursery (Little Acorns) please let us know if they will be attending the 2pm performance (all Little Acorns welcome, even if it is not their usual day) completing a short **Google form** by clicking on the link below:

<https://forms.gle/5Jro3DssqEz5tNrAA>

6.00pm Performance for Big Acorns/Year 1 and Year 2: Children need to be in school by 5.30pm at the latest. Please inform us if your child is able to attend the 6pm performance and the arrangements for collection by clicking on the following link and completing a short **Google form**: <https://forms.gle/4JdUhsg5pN5sq2Ys7>

Thursday 14th December - Christmas Parties

All children, from Little Acorns to Year 6, will be celebrating Christmas with a party during the afternoon of Thursday 14th December.



FSU and KS1 Party Information:

The children can come to school wearing their party clothes.

The children will not need lunch on this day. Instead, could they please bring in contributions of food for the party. Lists for this will be posted in the week before the parties. (No nuts or nut-based products please). If your child has any allergies or intolerances, we will speak with you directly.

If your child is in Nursery (Little Acorns) please let us know if they will be attending (all Little Acorns welcome, even if it is not their usual day) the FSU Christmas Party by completing a short **Google form by clicking on the link below:**
<https://forms.gle/5Jro3DssqEz5tNrAA> (this is the same form for indicating Little Acorn's attendance at the Christmas Party)

KS2 Party Information:

The children will play different Christmas party games throughout the afternoon. The children can bring a change of clothes for the parties and will have a chance to change at lunchtime. There will also be a small amount of party food to be shared, which we would like the children to bring in and share with their class. Information on what food is needed will come out to parents the week before the parties!

And Finally - Friday 15th December - please do not forget the end of term is at 2.30pm and Twiglets finishes at 4.30pm.

We hope this helps to give you a clear outline of arrangements for Christmas and helps you to plan ahead.

All the staff at Topsham Primary are looking forward to seeing you over the next few busy weeks.

Merry Christmas!