Alderbrook School

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ALDERBROOM

1 December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we quickly approach the end of term, I'd like to start by thanking all students involved in our festive events this year. Whether singing to the public in Shirley tomorrow (please come along – the choir will be outside Wetherspoons at 3.30 pm!), performing in our Winter Wonderland Dance show this week or the Christmas Concert and 'A Christmas Carol' performance to come in the next three weeks, the students have been absolutely fantastic. Thank you for supporting all of these events.

End of Term Arrangements

A reminder that the last day of term is Friday 22 December and we have an earlier finish time of 12.30pm. The school buses are available from 1.00 pm to take students home and, at the end of period 3, (12.20 pm), all students will be asked to return to their form room to wait to be discharged at 12.30pm; any students waiting for the buses will be able to wait in one of the school halls.

Students who are in receipt of free school meals can collect a packed lunch from Cartwright Canteen at break time or at the end of the school day at 12.30pm. If your child is eligible for free school meals and you would like to order them a packed lunch, please complete the MS Form here. All students should come into school on the last day of term in full school uniform as usual.

We will be holding a Christmas Jumper non-uniform day before the end of term (date tbc) to raise money for UNICEF in the wake of the Israel-Hamas War.

Christmas meal

Innovate, the school's catering company, will be offering a Christmas meal to our students on Tuesday 12 December and the menus are attached with this letter. If your child would like a festive meal, please complete the MS Form here to give an idea of numbers. We will publicise this to our students through Form Notices and this will be payable as usual through their ParentPay account. There will be other food options available on this day, but this will be a smaller range than usual.



North Solihull Foodbank - helping local people in crisis

With the rising cost of living, many families locally have been affected. We are really pleased to be working in partnership with North Solihull Foodbank to ask our community to support this amazing charity and, if you can, spare some donations to support the work that the volunteers are doing to show families in need that there is somewhere to turn to and someone who cares. The Foodbank are currently short on supplies so would be incredibly grateful for any donations and we will be speaking to your children about this at Form Time and asking our staff to be involved as well. All donations are welcome but the Foodbank would particularly appreciate tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned soup, pasta, coffee and tea bags. There will be a box in the foyer area of the former Reception area and your child can drop in donations any time between Thursday 30th November and Friday 15th December. If everyone could bring in just one item, this would make a huge difference to the Foodbank and the people it serves. Thank you.

Stuck for Christmas present ideas?

How about a book?! A book that really strikes a chord can begin a lifelong love of reading – a subject we're passionate about at Alderbrook. Mrs Tierney, who is our Whole School Reading Lead, has sent us a suggested list of titles across all ages and tastes, <u>KS3 here</u> and <u>KS4 here</u>, for that bit of inspiration and who knows what journey it could take your child on!

I will be sending out our Christmas celebration newsletter in the last week of term which will be a lovely way to finish our Autumn term at school.

Best wishes

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Tom Beveridge Headteacher

