

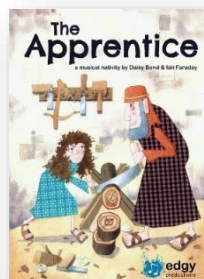
## Friday Flyer – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parent,

We are in the last three week of our Autumn term and as learning continues, we also take on the build up to our Christmas performances and celebrations. Please take note of timings for events coming up during the next few weeks.

### Foodbank

The cost of living has affected us all in one way or another and for some of the families in our community the thought of Christmas brings with it worry that they won't be able to provide some of the basic things the vast majority of us take for granted at this time of year. This year, I am hoping that as a school **crew community**, we can collect items to make up **Christmas hampers** for those who need them. Over the next three weeks, please could you consider dropping an extra selection box, box of mince pies, a small toy, gloves, hats and any long life tinned products into school? Our Y6 Crew will then make up hampers that we will distribute in the last week of term.



### The Apprentice & The Christmas Story

We are busy preparing our Christmas concerts for this year. KS1 (Oak, Beech and Ash Crews) will be presenting **'The Apprentice'**; a **musical nativity** on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December**. There will be two performances – one at **2pm** and one at **4.30pm**. KS2 (Maple, Elm, Willow & Cedar Crews) will lead our **'Christmas Story' community carol concert** around the tree on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** starting at **5pm**. PTA will be selling hot chocolate, non-alcoholic mulled wine and mince pies after the event. More details about these events will be sent in the coming weeks.

### Christmas Cards

Our Christmas post box is now out and ready to receive cards for those that wish to send them. Please ensure that the recipient's **name and year group** is clearly marked on the front. Y6 Elves will sort and distribute the cards.



### Storyhouse & Camp Curiosity

Wednesdays	Lottie - STORYHOUSE				Tuesdays	Gemma – CAMP CURIOSITY	
	9:15 – 10:30	10:45-11:45	1:15 – 2:00	2:00 – 3:00		Morning	Afternoon
29 <sup>th</sup> November	6	5	4	3	28 <sup>th</sup> November	2	Reception
6 <sup>th</sup> December	6	5	4	3	5 <sup>th</sup> December	1	Reception
13 <sup>th</sup> December	N	R	1	2	12 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery	Reception

# WE ARE KELSALL CREW

No passengers • No one left behind

## Attendance Matters

Attendance at school is **important** both academically and for social/emotional reasons. Whilst we understand that pupils will be absent from time to time due to illness; absence from school for other reasons should only be for exceptional circumstances. As a school we look at each request for leave from school on a case by case basis.

**Holidays taken in term time will be subject to a fine.** Where **attendance** falls below **90%** for any pupil, **we will contact you** to discuss this and put in any additional support needed. Persistent absence can also result in a fixed fine.

Each academic year has **190 school days**, this leaves **175 non-school days** for family time, holidays, visits and appointments. If a pupil is absent for just **1 day** each term that equals **6 days or 39 hours** a year of lost learning.

Please ensure you are **on time too** – school starts at **8.40am** – it is important that children are here on time so that they **start the day well and can engage with their crew**. Gates will shut promptly at **8.50am** after the half term break.

Attendance at school enables us all to build a strong crew and to strengthen our learning powers. Our overall attendance for whole school is currently **96%** which is **1% above** the national figure and **1%** above other North West schools – let's all work on keeping this figure above **97%**. Latest week – **96.8%**

	Kelsall	North West
Oak Crew (Reception)	97%	93.9%
Beech Crew (Year 1)	95.9%	94.6%
Ash Crew (Year 2)	96.3%	95.1%
Maple Crew (Year 3)	94.5%	95.2%
Elm Crew (Year 4)	97.6%	95.1%
Willow Crew (Year 5)	94.6%	95%
Cedar Crew (Year 6)	95.8%	94.8%



## Music for Life

*"The opportunity to learn an instrument offers something very special that can last a lifetime"*

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Awards for Young Musicians

**Bookings are now being taken for children who wish to start learning a musical instrument after Christmas, with the deadline for booking being the 21st December** subject to a final confirmation from tutors that they can accommodate everyone. Should we find we are unable to accommodate anyone, we would of course keep parents fully informed.

New courses would start in the New Year and a course of instrument lessons may be an excellent idea for a Christmas gift! Individual/group lessons start week of the 8th January. Please e-mail [admin@musicforlife.org.uk](mailto:admin@musicforlife.org.uk) to make a booking.

More information here; [Music for Life](https://www.musicforlife.org.uk)

## Renovations

Due to some damp being discovered in the flooring of the extension in the KS2 classes (2,3,4 & 5), we are having the whole flooring ripped out and replaced. This is to ensure that the flooring area is safe for all who use it. A temporary stud wall in each class will be installed next weekend that will ensure that any work being carried out is of minimal impact. The project will be complete and ready to use when we return for the new year 2024. Bags and coats will be stored in units in the main corridor whilst the extended area is out of use.

## E-Safety – PEGI Rating

As Christmas approaches, many children may be asking for a games console like a Playstation 5 or Xbox or Nintendo Switch. When used appropriately, these consoles are great fun but there are pitfalls and dangers to look out for.

Understanding that risks such as grooming, cyberbullying and inappropriate content all apply to the online gaming environment is extremely important. Historical messages such as stranger danger, knowing who you are talking to or being able to block someone are all important messages, but what about the content itself?



Within the UK, we use a system called PEGI (Pan European Game Information) as a game content rating system. In a similar structure to that used for movies, PEGI uses 5 distinct age categories ranging from 3 through to 18. In addition, PEGI also uses 'content descriptors' which give information about what content the game contains across 7 categories such as whether the game contains violence, bad language, fear, sex, gambling, drugs and discrimination.

Many pupils will express a desire to buy, be gifted and play games that are above their PEGI (Pan European Game Information) Rating. Despite what some children may have us believe (!), the age ratings given to individual games do not relate to skill level or the difficulty of the game but, to its suitability for a given age. **Some example age ratings for popular games include those shown in the illustration below:**



Please ensure that you consider the important PEGI rating and use this website to check the content and themes of games your child might want to purchase and play; [Pegi Public Site](#) There is also a wealth of information on our E-Safety Padlet; [E-Safety \(padlet.com\)](#)





## Christmas Tree

Thanks to Woodside Christmas Trees who have donated us a tree this year. Please support local business and consider getting your tree from them this year - [About – Woodside Christmas Trees](#)



*Woodside Christmas Trees*

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Find out more:  
woodsidechristmastrees.co.uk

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**AVAILABLE FROM LATE NOVEMBER**  
*Don't miss out!*

## Diary Dates – 2023-2024


Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 23	<del>Curriculum Information Session for Parents</del> Cancelled – new date TBC – new year.
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 23	Digital Wizards Assembly – KS2
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 23	Nursery Carols and Crafts 2pm in the school hall
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 23	Year 2 Hope Journey
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 23	Crib Service @ St Phillips Church (Acorns, Saplings, Oak and Beech)
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 23	Share the Learning Afternoon – 2:00pm to 3:00pm
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 23	Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 23	KS1 Nativity ( <b>2pm &amp; 4.30pm</b> )
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 23	KS2 Carols round the Christmas Tree ( <b>5pm</b> )
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 23	Y1-6 Santa Breakfast and Reindeer Dash (PTA)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 23	Nursery & Reception to Shire Horse Centre – Santa's Grotto
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> December 23	Christmas Jumper Days £1 donation to Foodbank.
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 23	Reception and Nursery Reindeer Dash (PTA)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 23	School Closes for <b>CHRISTMAS</b>
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 24	<b>INSET DAY – STAFF ONLY</b>
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 24	<b>CHILDREN START SCHOOL</b>

**Be Curious, Creative & Kind**

**Mr Wearing, Mrs White and the Kelsall Crew**

Follow us on Twitter.  
@KelsallSchool



Has someone done something online that has made you or a child or young person you know, feel worried or unsafe? Click on the link to the left

