

SJB/DE
18th December 2023



Dear Parent/Carer

The time has come to once again write and wish you all a very merry Christmas and happy new year. How can it be this time already?

I do hope that you are all gearing yourselves up for some well-deserved family time and I hope that you are able to have some time off from work so that you can have some form of a rest. I know that after a very long term, we are all very much looking forward to recharging the batteries!

As I say every year, we would ideally be going into the holidays knowing that everyone could happily be ready for Christmas, but we know that this is not the case for some. As time has gone on, I realise that being there can be so much more valuable than any gift so, if you are finding things difficult do reach out to us and we will see if we can help. As you can see, we will once again be collecting for the Food Bank and whilst I wish this was not needed, I am once again filled with pride that our community will pull together to help out. Here are the arrangements for our Foodbank collection:



Please bring your food into Reception between Tuesday 19th December and Thursday 21st December (nothing perishable and a list of suggested items is at the bottom of this letter). Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Last week we were treated to some wonderful performances in Matilda. It was such a joy seeing the amazing acting, singing and dancing and we must thank all of the team involved in the production, as well as those parents who brought their daughter/son to rehearsals and all who came to watch. As we have now started our final week, I wanted to share the plans:



| | What is happening the last three days of term.... |
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| Tuesday - Thursday | Christmas jumpers can be worn by students instead of their DM jumper. All other uniform is the same and please do bring in donations for the food bank. |
| Tuesday | Christmas lunch is available from the hall. Please ensure that tickets have been purchased in advance as it is always a very special treat. |
| Wednesday | This is the last day of term at the Sixth Form and we wish them all the very best Christmas. School finishes at normal time on Wednesday. |
| Thursday | School starts at the normal time and at 11.00am we once again gather in the hall to celebrate the term. As well as finding out who is in the lead in the house cup, we will be giving it some welly in singing some amazing Christmas songs. There is also going to be a very special performance by one of our students! School finishes at 12.00 with the normal arrangements for buses (unless you are told otherwise) |

This year we will be saying a farewell to Mrs Fay Kibble. Mrs Kibble has been a part of our school community for so many years and so many students have been helped by her as she carries out her role as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant with such professionalism and dedication. We wish her well in her much deserved retirement!

As I bring this letter to a close, I have a very simple wish for everyone; be kind! You never know what is around the corner and you never know when your actions will come back to haunt you. Say nice things, give people complements and tell those that are dear to you just how much you love them.

Please remember that we will continue to check our 'safeguarding@' email, so if you do need us, we will respond and help.

On behalf of the staff, governors and students, please stay safe; enjoy a great festive break and a happy and healthy New Year! We look forward to seeing all students back in school and ready to learn on Monday 8th January 2023. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in all that we do at Dene Magna.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Brady
Headteacher

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| Tinned Potatoes | Sponge Pudding | Tinned Fish |
| Jam | Tinned Tomatoes | Toilet Rolls |
| Toothbrushes | Toothpaste | Rice Pudding |
| Coffee | Custard | Instant Mash |
| Tinned Vegetables | Biscuits | Washing Up Liquid |
| Washing Powder/Liquid | Festive Items | Diabetic Approved Food |