

5<sup>th</sup> December 2008

Dear Parents

I am writing to let you know about all of our Christmas arrangements in the last two weeks of term. Hopefully giving you all an overview of activities will help you plan ahead at this very busy time of year!

### **Christmas Fair:**

Our Christmas Fair takes place next **Friday, the 12<sup>th</sup> December**. It is being organised by our PTA and school staff. If any of you can help with stalls etc. we would be delighted to hear from you.

A letter has gone out from our PTA requesting donations of bottles, chocolates, cakes and unwanted gifts. Please try and support if you can!

This year we are running it from 2.30pm to 5pm. *The first hour from 2.30pm to 3.30pm will be for the children only* and parents, families and friends are welcome to join us from 3.30pm onwards. By doing it this way all children will have the opportunity to take part for at least an hour. All children should be collected as usual at 3.30pm. We will not take responsibility for children after this time. Due to these arrangements, you as parents may wish to send your child with a small amount of money to spend during that "child only" hour from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

It will also be an optional non uniform day with a charge of £1 to go towards PTA funds.

Can I remind you that the PTA are trying to raise money to take every child in school to the theatre, sometime in 2009.

### **KS1 Performances:**

The children in Years 1 and 2 will be performing "What's it all about?" on **Tuesday, the 16<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm**. The parents and families of children in these classes are welcome to attend either performance. We are this year, allowing up to 3 tickets per family in total. These tickets will be available from the school office from Monday and will issued on a first come first served basis, as an audience of only 80 is permitted for each performance due to fire regulations. If you are unable to collect your tickets direct from the office, please contact Mrs Vale and she will organise that you receive your tickets through your child. Please do not ask the class teacher for the tickets as they will not be able to help you.

Children under 4 will not be allowed in the performances so that everyone can enjoy the show and the children's hard work in learning lines etc. can be fully appreciated. To help you with this, there will be a crèche facility in our ICT suite, run by some of our members of staff.

### **Christmas Disco: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

The PTA are organising a Christmas Disco on the evening of Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. Entry is £1 per child. The disco for children in the younger years up to and including Year 3 will be from 5pm to 6.15pm. The disco for children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be from 6.30pm to 8pm.

### **Church Visit: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

Weather permitting, we will be taking the children to All Saints Church on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30 a.m. for our Christmas Carol Service. We would welcome any parents who wish to attend. As we asked for the Harvest festival, if anyone is available to walk up with the younger children then we would be most grateful of the help. We aim to leave school at around 9.15a.m.

### **Christmas Dinner:**

Can I remind you that the children's Christmas Dinner is on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. These have already been ordered for the children requesting one. Dinners will be served to the children by their staff to make it that little bit different, with the hall being decorated and Christmas music playing. Also all children regardless of whether they are dinners or sandwiches will get a Christmas cracker to pull with a friend. Unfortunately if you didn't order a dinner before the deadline, we can not now order any extras, so all other children will need to bring a packed lunch from home for this day.

### **Christmas Parties: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

The classroom Christmas Parties will take place during the afternoon of Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Each class will have a party with food and we would like each child to bring a plate of food which they will eat themselves. As you know your children's dietary preferences best we feel that this is the easiest way to tackle things. Food should be sent in on the morning of the 18<sup>th</sup>, with the child's name on it. We will provide the children with drinks.

***FOR THIS DAY ONLY CHILDREN WILL BE ALLOWED TO WEAR PARTY CLOTHES AND NOT UNIFORM. HOWEVER THE USUAL SCHOOL RULES ABOUT SENSIBLE FOOTWEAR AND JEWELLERY APPLY.***

### **Reception Performance: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

The children in Reception class are doing their own small performance of songs in their classroom at 3pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Families of children in Reception class are welcome to join us for this mini performance.

**Playground Carol Concert: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2008**

On the last day of term, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December, at 2.00 p.m. we would like to invite all parents/grandparents/friends of the school and local community members to join children and staff in a traditional Christmas Carol sing-a-long in our playground (weather permitting) Please dress your children in especially warm clothing for that day also. Mulled wine and minced pies will be served – please come along, and make sure you wrap up warm!

**Christmas Holidays:**

We break up at 3.30 p.m. on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December** and return to school on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2009** at 9.00 a.m. prompt.

Please also note that school will be closed for a staff training day on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January**.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff and governors of St Mary Magdalene School, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support to the school and to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely

**Mr. J Willetts**  
**Head Teacher**