



## Headteacher Newsletter November 2024

**Dear pupils and parents,**

I hope that everyone has had a lovely half term. This term, as always, is a busy one with many exciting things planned over the next few weeks including a trip to the theatre, Christmas Party Day and the whole school Christmas concert in church.

### Diary Dates

Please see below dates and events planned for this academic year.

Wednesday 6th November	Severn Trent Assembly
Monday 11th November	Year 2 - Forest School
Monday 11th - 14th November	Parent Evenings - details to be issued nearer the time.
Monday 11th November	Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 13th November	Children in Need Day 9am Cake & drinks Social
Thursday 14th November	Class 1 - FUNdamentals - Hope Valley College
Monday 18th November	Year 2 - Forest School
Monday 25th November	Individual Photos
Monday 25th November	Year 2 - Forest School
Monday 2nd December	Christmas Jumper Wearing begins!
Monday 2nd December	Bikeability Year 6 - Road Session (Half of the year group)
Monday 2nd December	Year 2 - Forest School
Tuesday 3rd December	Bikeability Year 6 - Road Session (Half of the year group)
Monday 9th December	Panto at Buxton Opera House (morning showing)
Tuesday 10th December	Secret Santa
Monday 16th December	Year 2 - Forest School
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Dinner and Party Day
Friday 20th December	Nativity and Carol Concert 2pm St Helens Church
Friday 20th December	Last Day of term
Monday 6th January	First Day of term

### Future Inset Days

- Friday 14th February 2025
- Friday 23rd May 2025
- Thursday 24th July 2025

## Parents Update Autumn 2024

At the end of last half term the Governors put together a parent update newsletter that the children took home. We hope you found the information useful. The newsletter is available to view on our website using the link [gods-newsletter.pdf](#)

### Healthy Schools

Please send your child to school with a bottle of water (no juice please). Keeping hydrated is shown to have a positive effect on learning. All children in Class 1 are offered fruit snack for break times.

For those in Class 2 and 3 or who prefer to bring their own snack, please keep it healthy. No sweets, crisps or chocolate please.

### Children In Need Wednesday 13th November

We will be joining in with Children in Need on Wednesday 13th November. On this day we would encourage children to dress in anything yellow (even if it is a pair of socks!) or anything spotty. Please do not buy anything special.

In school the children will be taking part in a range of fun activities that will empower them to be the best they can be.

We would also like to invite parents to come into school for a drink and a piece of cake (the staff will be busy baking before the day!) from 9am. This will give you the chance to have a chat in the warm and the teachers will be wandering in and out so available for a catch up.

The children will then be performing a few songs for you to enjoy at 9.30am. Any donations will be towards Children in Need and can be made using this link [Donate to BBC Children in Need](#)

We hope you are able to join us!

### Pantomime Monday 9th December

We are pleased and excited to confirm that the Whole School will be attending Buxton Opera House on Monday 9th December to enjoy the pantomime Jack and The Beanstalk. We are attending the morning performance on that day which starts at 10am.

Pantomime is a traditional form of theatre, renowned for its engaging storytelling, vibrant costumes, and interactive elements. The visit to the pantomime also serves an educational purpose, enhancing understanding of narrative structure, character development and dramatic techniques. Engaging with a live performance fosters creative thinking and encourages children to explore the arts in a dynamic setting, which is essential in nurturing well-rounded individuals. Furthermore, it promotes social interaction and teamwork, as pupils will share this experience with peers, fostering a sense of community.

We will arrange transport to take the children to the venue which will leave school at 9am. **Please ensure that all children are in school for 8.50am.**

The children will be transported back to school at the end of the performance to have a late lunch in school. Children on school meals will be provided with a packed lunch and drink.

Children will be provided with an ice cream / ice lolly (taking into consideration dietary needs) in the interval.

Please ensure children have a water bottle to take with them.

Children need to be wearing their school uniforms and have a coat with them.

The cost of the trip has been fully supported by our wonderful PTFA, thank you so much!

**If you haven't already then please complete the form below to confirm your consent.**

<https://forms.gle/V1NHeTZZXRR4LmEE9>

### **Christmas Meal and Party Day**

This is booked for Thursday 19th December. All children on school meals on that day will have a traditional Christmas meal (dietary requirements will be catered for).

If your child is on packed lunches on that day or they are on dinners but would like to opt out of having a Christmas Dinner please complete the form below.

<https://forms.gle/uTdKFDs4eS8Ra3kBA>

### **Christmas Events (Yes - I know it's not even December!)**

Christmas officially starts in school on **Monday 2nd December 2024** and from this date until the end of term, children may wear Christmas jumpers / t-shirts as part of their uniform. This is of course optional. Any Christmassy headwear can be saved for our party day.

If you have any Christmas jumpers or t-shirts that no longer fit that you are happy to donate we would like to set up a Christmas jumper shop to support recycling. Please drop any donation off at the office. Thank you!

### **Secret Santa is back!**

Here is how it works

If you would like your child / children to take part in this special event you need to bring two or more gifts suitable for someone's parents / carers into school over the next few weeks.

Then on Tuesday 10th December children can visit Santa's shop and choose for themselves a gift or gifts that they would like to give to their parents / carers on Christmas morning. Santa's helpers will help them wrap it and then they can take it home to hide until it's time to share presents on Christmas Day!

If any parents are able to help on Tuesday 10th December at lunchtime to help wrap presents then please let us know.

There is a small charge of £1 per gift which we will need to bring with you on the day.

### **Gift Donation Ideas**

Toiletries

Chocolates

Gift biscuits

Books

Hats

Gloves

Scarves

Gift candles

Jams and chutneys

Picture frames

Mugs

Socks  
And anything Christmassy!!

**Please could donations be handed to staff or brought to the office.**

#### **Facebook**



Please do like and follow our Facebook page for Grindleford Primary School. Generic photos of exciting events and activities will be posted. Thank you!

<https://facebook.com/61560770514176>

#### **Sept 2025 Intake**

If you have a little one who is due to start school in Sept 2025 and you would like to visit then please contact the school office to book an appointment.

If you have friends or family with a child due to start school in Sept 2025, please let them know they are welcome to contact us to arrange a tour of our school.

Thank you all for your continued support,

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads 'KL Gemmell'.

Kate Gemmell (Executive Headteacher)