



## Weekly Update: 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Dates for your diary

<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	Christmas Fair
<b>W/B 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Assessment Week
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Pippin Class Christmas Craft Morning
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 5pm</b>	Year 6 Parents SATs information evening
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christingle Making (Fundraising for The Children's Society)
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 3.45pm</b>	Choir at Langport Tescos
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 7-9pm</b>	PTA Wreath Making
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Jumper day (Fundraising for Save the Children)
	PTA Elfridges Shop (In school day)
<b>Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	'The Reindeer Games' 2023 – Inter-House Competition
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2pm</b>	Afternoon Nativity performance to Year R,1 & 2 parents
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Dinner
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Panto, gifted by the PTA followed by Noodles Ice Creams
	Evening Nativity performance to Year R,1 & 2 parents (6pm)
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 9.15am</b>	Carol Service at St Andrew's Church
	PTA Raffle Draw
	Last Day of term
<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	First day of the spring term
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Day of European Languages (Spanish Day)
<b>Spring term</b>	2 January- 28 March 2024
<b>Spring INSET Days</b>	2 January and 9 February 2024
<b>Spring Half Term</b>	10 February-18 February 2024
<b>Summer term</b>	15 April- 24 July 2024
<b>Summer INSET Day</b>	15 April 2024
<b>Summer Half Term</b>	25 May- 2 June 2023

Our school worship table now has a purple cloth, representing 'Advent' and the children have seen our beautiful Advent Wreath which holds five candles: four around the edge and one in the middle. On the four Sundays during Advent, one of the four outer candles is lit. The candles represent hope, joy, love and peace. Then, on Christmas Day, the central candle is lit. (Here at school we will light all the candles over the next two weeks!) Christmas is an incredibly busy time in schools, churches and households. The busyness of preparation can sometimes appear to conflict with the Christmas theme of 'peace and goodwill'. I know that we all try to find time to notice and appreciate moments of peace over the coming weeks, even in the midst of activity and preparation. After all, at Christmas, we are remembering Jesus who comes to us as the Prince of Peace.

A big thank you to Mr Eavis, of Greenshutters Garden Centre, who kindly donated our Christmas tree which decorates our school lobby.

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## Christmas Cards

Our Curry Rivel Primary School Postal System will open on Monday. The postbox is in the school lobby, and children can now post their Christmas cards. Our Year 6 elves will sort them into classes, and all cards will be delivered on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Please can children write names and class names on envelopes to help cards find the correct destination.

## Maigold's Live lesson- Manta Rays

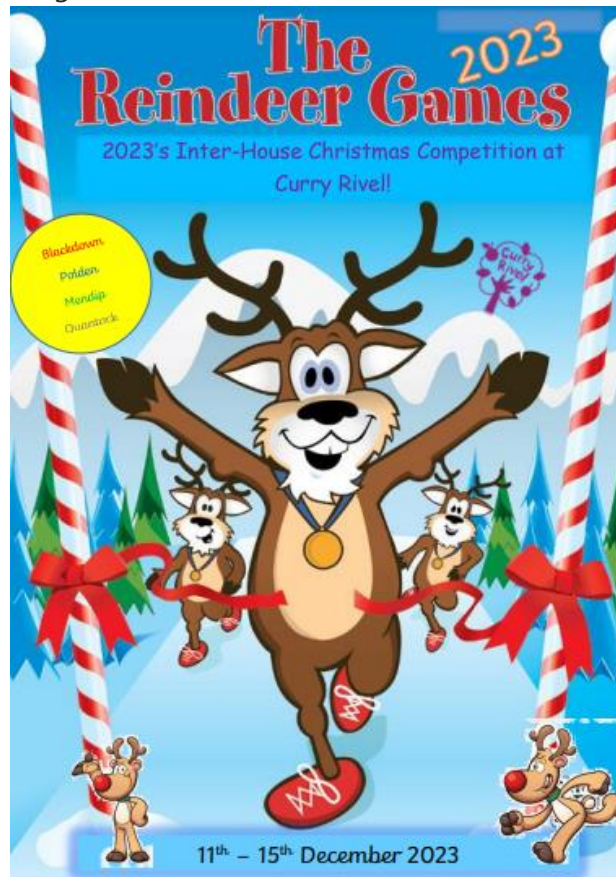
Kate, a marine biologist from the Manta Ray Trust did a live lesson with Maigold, as part of their science unit. The children learnt all about Manta Rays, their habitat and how the Manta Ray Trust look after them and protect them. The children learnt what 'endangered' means and got to see pictures of Kate and her team with the Manta Rays. Maigold class were so involved and enthusiastic, with lots of brilliant questions.

## Wellington Maths Challenge- Message form Mr Bridgeman

Well done to Harry, Joseph, Casper and William in Year 6, who represented our school at the Wellington Maths Challenge last Saturday. The challenge consisted of 25 high-level reasoning and problem-solving questions, which the children had to work collaboratively to solve over the course of an hour. Our team scored a fantastic 10 points, and gave up their time at the weekend to represent our school and challenge themselves.

## 'The Reindeer Games' 2023 – Inter-House Competition

During the last week of term, the children will take part in a range of Festive-themed activities and races in one of their PE slots. These activities have been organised by Mr Bridgeman and the Year 6 Sports Captains. The children will be representing their house, with the scores of each class added together to make one house the 'Reindeer Games' Champions. The children will be given a bib in their house colours, so they do **not** need to attend school wearing clothes of a certain colour.



## Stand Up to Violence: Year 6

Stand Up to Violence is a charity which works in communities throughout the UK to give people a chance to live in a world without violence. The charity was established in 2005 in response to the murder of 17-year-old Lloyd Fouracre, who was beaten to death by a group of drunken youths.

George, from the charity said, *'It was an absolute pleasure to work with your Year 6 class yesterday. Thank you for inviting SAV into school once again to share Lloyd's story and be part of their journey as they progress into the final stages of Primary school. Some fantastic participation and engagement - well done Year 6!'*

90% pupils found it useful, and 100% would recommend the session to other schools. The pupils said they learned:

- *That bullying can hurt*
- *What may start as a joke can leave deep scars.*
- *To talk to people and not bottle up feelings*
- *That violence has loads of effects on people also the new law about if your friends have done something illegal and you were a bit involved you will be imprisoned.*
- *To let emotions out by talking about them instead of clogging them out*
- *That violence doesn't solve anything and to tell people your problems so your actions don't result in violence.*
- *I learnt more how county lines work*
- *I learnt about Lloyd's story and to forgive someone even if they did something*
- *I learnt that to be great at things you have to fail (first attempt in learning)*
- *That violence is never the answer to anything and if you are struggling at home talk to someone and don't hurt for satisfaction.*



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## Message from Wells Cathedral

### ***CHRISTMAS CRAFTS - family holiday activities at Wells Cathedral this December!***

***Find kings and shepherds, stars and angels on our Christmas trail around the Cathedral – then get creative and make a festive decoration to take home.***

#### ***Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December: A Host of Angels***

*Make an adorable angel decoration to hang on your Christmas tree.*

#### ***Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December: Colourful Candlelight***

*Transform a jam jar into a beautiful candle holder, inspired by the Cathedral's stained glass.*

#### ***Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December: Festive Foliage***

*Use natural materials to make a festive centrepiece to adorn your table this Christmas.*

***Book online at [wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays](http://wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays) or drop in on the day (subject to availability).***

***Sessions at 10am, 11:15am and 2pm.***

***£2.15 per child / £1.10 if eligible for free school meals.***

***Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.***

## Message from the PTA

### **Christmas Fair - 2nd December. Grotto - 30th November-2nd December**

The PTA are in full organising swing setting up for the grotto and the fair. There are still a few spaces in the grotto so do book to avoid disappointment. Visit our website to book.

**Sponsors**  
WIZARD  
MILKSHAKE  
Coca-Cola

**Santa's Grotto**

**Curry Rivel School Christmas Fair**

**30th Nov to 2nd Dec  
Curry Rivel School**

Story with Santa and a gift.  
Hot food, drinks and milkshakes  
will be on sale on all days.

**Book now** →

Thursday and Friday enter via school back gate.  
Saturday come through the fair using the front gate

**2nd December  
11am - 2pm**

Games, cakes, gifts, crafts,  
cakes, milkshakes, bar,  
hot food and drinks,  
Firehouse pizzas

ALL PTA stalls will accept cash or PTA Bux



### Winter warmer - 1st December 3.15pm

In preparation for our fair on the Saturday we will be opening our PTA shepherd hut for milkshakes and hot chocolates in the back playground on Friday. Do come and join us for festive music and cheer from 3.15pm.



### Carols at Tesco Langport - 6th December 3.45pm

Join us at Langport Tesco as the School Choir fills the air with carols and festive tunes. There will be bells, lively jazz hands, and the cheerful sight of Christmas hats! 🛎️🎶



### Elfridges - 8th December

The PTA elves will be setting up their Christmas shop in school on Friday 8th. Gifts will be available from £1. Each class will have the opportunity to come and visit during the day. PTA Bux or cash will be accepted. Buy PTA Bux at our website shop.

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## Lates

We are aiming to reduce the number of pupils who arrive late.

Class	Number of last week	Number of lates this week
Pippin	2	1
Maigold	3	0
Gala	3	5
Discovery	1	1
Camelot	5	4
Blenheim	3	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>

Please remember that being late can lead to your child:

- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons making them fall behind
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day
- Learning bad habits which could affect their employability in the future

The impact of being just a little late can accumulate to a loss of learning time.

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 mins	3.4 days
10 mins	6.9 days
15 mins	10.3 days
20 mins	13.8 days
30 mins	20.7 days

## Attendance

**Overall school attendance:** 95.23% (Target 96%)

**Class attendance award:** Discovery (98.5%)

**Most improved class attendance:** Pippin (93.6%)

## Celebration

We were able to welcome parents/carers to our celebration assembly today. Well done to the following pupils:

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### **Class Cup Awards**

Pippin: Jessica  
Maigold: Brody-Luca  
Gala: Bella  
Discovery: Darcey S  
Camelot: Ammiya  
Blenheim: Henry

### **Lunchtime stars**

Pippin: Arlo  
Maigold: Eddie  
Discovery: Darcey S  
Camelot: Ammiya  
Blenheim: Tiana

### **50 Merit (Dojo) Certificates:**

Pippin: Elsebeth, Jessica, Ellie, Piper, Florence  
Gala: Izabelle, Henry,  
Discovery: Darcey S, Grisha

### **Achievements outside of school:**

**Stage 2 swimming:** Oliver J (Gala)

**Violin-** Lizzie P (Discovery)

Have a good weekend.

Ali Pook

Head Teacher

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