



# Newsletter

December 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

First of all I would like to thank you for all your kind words regarding my recent promotion and relocation. It was a very hard decision to make as I care so much for the school and particularly all the children we have who make me proud each and every day. I will be supporting the Governors to find a suitable Headteacher from the summer term and have already asked the children what they would like to see in their new Head. During the spring term I will be spending some days at my new school in Harrogate to help with transition there but I will be leaving the school in Mrs Smith's more than capable hands and she will be able to deal with any queries just as much as I.

I would just like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you all for your support both in terms of the fundraising/charity work we have undertaken as well as the support you have given us in your child's education.

The coming few weeks will be eventful with Christmas plays, parties and festive cheer (see dates opposite).

All the staff at John T. Rice would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Yours faithfully,  
Mrs Zoe Anderson  
**Head Teacher**

## Website

This is a reminder that our school website is [www.johntrice.notts.sch.uk](http://www.johntrice.notts.sch.uk). There are always copies of the newsletters on there as well as other information and important dates. Each class also has their own page on the website where you can see what has been going on in school.

## Diary Dates

<b>5<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Dinner</b>
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Fundraiser</b>
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Trip to Pantomime at Mansfield Palace Theatre</b>
<b>14<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>2.30pm Foundation Concert</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>9.30am Foundation Concert</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Xmas Jumper Day</b>
<b>19<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>2.30pm KS1 Concert</b>
<b>20<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	<b>9.30am KS1 Concert</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Christmas Parties</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Dec</b>	<b>2.30pm Carols around the tree</b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Break up for Christmas</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Back to school</b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup> Feb</b>	<b>INSET Day</b>
<b>25<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>INSET Day</b>

## Clothing

As the weather is getting colder, can we please remind parents that children need to come to school in suitable clothing including a warm coat for playtimes.

We are also getting a number of items of clothing left in lost property because they have not been named so cannot be returned to the correct child. Please can all items be named (including hats and gloves) so that they can be reunited with their owner.

## Infant/Junior Admissions

Admissions for children in the Nursery to start full time in Reception in September and for children in Year 2 who will be moving to Newlands Junior School in September opened on 6<sup>th</sup> November. Please make sure you apply by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 for your place using the pack you have received from Notts County Council. If you have still not received this please contact admissions on 0300 5008080.

# Christmas

## Christmas Plays

The Foundation Stage nativity this year is called "Happy Birthday Jesus" and the Key Stage One performance is called "A Midwife Crisis". Due to the large numbers of children taking part, these are ticket only performances. Letters for the Foundation Stage nativity are going out today and Key Stage One letters will go out on Wednesday. Additional tickets will be available to purchase after the closing date for initial tickets.

## Carols Around The Tree

On the last day of term, **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**, we will again be doing our Carols around the tree at 2.30pm. This is a time to sing carols with the children in our hall. Spaces are limited and as we have found out that the children from the Junior School will be finishing earlier that day, we will have to run a ticket system with only one ticket per family on a first come first served basis. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but we have restrictions on the number of people we can safely have in the hall. Further information regarding tickets will be sent out closer to the time.

## Pantomime Trip

This year we will again be taking the children to the Pantomime. **All full time children** will be going to see Jack and the Beanstalk at Mansfield Palace Theatre. This will be our Christmas present to the children so will be of no cost to yourselves. The children will be attending the 10.00am performance on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December**. We will be travelling on coaches fitted with seatbelts and will be returning to school in time for a slightly later lunch. If you do not wish your child to attend, please speak to their class teacher.

## Christmas Jumper Day

On **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** we will be taking part in the Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children. The children can come to school in their Christmas jumpers (or non-uniform if they prefer) for a minimum donation of £1.



Save the Children  
**CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER DAY**

## Christmas Parties

Our Christmas parties will take place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December. We will be asking for a voluntary contribution of £1 towards the cost of party food and anything that isn't spent will be used to fund future events.

## Christmas Dinner

In a change to our menu, on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December** we will be having turkey Christmas Dinner with ice-cream at lunchtime. All the children will be eating together, served by the staff and will be free to everyone.

## Christmas Fundraiser

Our Christmas Fundraiser is on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm**. A huge thank you to our newly formed PTA along with Mrs Scotney for organising the event, we have lots more this year to explore!

We will still be having a raffle but this year we have some amazing prizes to be won including tickets to see The Wizard of Oz at Mansfield Palace Theatre, Tickets to a home game at MTFc, a family swim pass, tickets for Jango's, Odeon Cinema tickets, free MOT tests, a free archery lesson, a Tesco's gift card, a pair of flashing heelys, MTFc Footballs as well as a number of selection boxes!!!

We would like to ask for donations of cakes for our cake stall to come to school on the morning of the fundraiser.

Just a reminder that entries for the decorate a Christmas Tree competition need to be in with the 50p entrance fee by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December where the winner will be announced at the fundraiser.

### Attendance / Punctuality

Although our attendance target for this year is to get over 96%, the Supreme Court have ruled that good attendance is every day that the school is open. For November we reached **97.2%** which is great so well done.

#### Class Attendance for November

Purple Class	95.8%
Red Class	96.4%
Blue Class	97.5%
Green Class	97.5%
Pink Class	97.9%

Well done to **Pink Class** for having the best attendance last month! Let's try and get all our classes over 96% next month.

Punctuality continues to be an issue, with over 19 hours of learning time being lost in November alone. Please can we also remind you that our doors open at **8.40am** to give the children time to put their coats and bags away before they start at **8.45am**. The children have important 'morning jobs' that they do at this time to consolidate and improve their learning.

We also finish the school day at **3.15pm** and staff often have meetings after school so we would appreciate your promptness in collection.

### School Grounds

This is yet another reminder that the children are not allowed on the climbing frames and other playground equipment before and after school. At these times the children are your responsibility and as such you should not be allowing them on the equipment. The children are aware of the school rules regarding this so if they are caught using the equipment before or after school they will receive a warning on our behaviour management system.

There have also been a number of children riding bikes and scooters in school. With the number of people on site at the beginning and end of the school day this is dangerous so we remind you to push bikes and scooters whilst on the premises.

### Governors

I am pleased to announce that we have some new governors join the school. Mr Robinson and Mrs Wilson have both joined us as Parent Governors (both parents of children in Green Class) and Miss Brockerton has joined us as a Co-Opted Governor (she is from the local area and her children previously came to our school). I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome them to the governing body and look forward to working with them.

### Singing Club

Our Year 2 Singing Club will be performing at Kings Mill Hospital on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 11am in aid of dementia care. It would be lovely to see parents there to support them. You can also hear them sing on Mansfield 103.2 on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 7.40am and 9.15am.



### Purple Mash

Just a reminder that your child can access Purple Mash at home at [www.purplemash.com/login/](http://www.purplemash.com/login/). The site has many different activities to explore with your child. If you are unsure of your login then please see the class teacher.



### Contact Details

As it's coming up to Christmas, some of you may be getting new phones and new numbers. Please can we ask that you inform school of any new phone numbers, including those of emergency contacts, as soon as possible to ensure we can get hold of you if needed.