

Mexborough St John The Baptist C of E Primary School

Sedgefield Way, Mexborough, South Yorkshire, S64 0BE.



We love and value all of God's children, creating an inclusive environment that helps all to flourish.



21.12.23

NEWSLETTER

As we approach the festive season, I wanted to take a moment to extend my warmest wishes to each of you. The end of the year is not only a time for reflection but also an opportunity to express gratitude. On that note, I would like to thank you all for your continued support and for working with us to provide the best possible education for our children. Thank you to our children for the hard work and determination that they show towards their learning and school and thank you to all of our staff for the incredible work they have accomplished throughout the year.

I hope the holiday season is filled with joy, laughter, and moments of well-deserved relaxation and rest amidst the festivities. I look forward to seeing you all in 2024.

Collective Worship

Father Edward has joined us today to hold our Christmas Service in school. We gave thought to the meaning of Christmas, sang hymns and prayed for those less fortunate than ourselves, especially at this time of year.

Attendance

This week's attendance scores are below.

Cherry Tree/FS1	92.2%	Willow/Y3	89.5%
Acorn/FS2	94.7%	Maple/Y4	89.5%
Rowan/Y1	92.9%	Chestnut/Y5	90.1%
Cedar/Y2	92.1%	Oak/Y6	93.8%

Our school attendance target is 96%.

Please revisit the communication regarding attendance by visiting https://www.mexboroughstjohn.co.uk/files/ugd/ef9da6_f0d83299378745889fc44faca10a2658.pdf

Performances

The children have worked incredibly hard to produce their Christmas performance and carols this year. It's not easy to get up on stage in front of lots of people, learn lines, act and sing. However, they did a wonderful job and I am very proud of them. Thank you to all of the parents and carers who came to support the children and for lovely supportive comments we received. Next year we will be looking at changing things slightly and considering ways to involve more pupils while providing greater opportunities for parents / carers to be involved. Some of the ideas we are considering are outlined below. As always, we would greatly welcome your ideas and suggestions, so please do get in touch or catch me on the gate. Christmas performances and activity suggestions for 2024:



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| EYFS | Carols followed by Christmas crafts for children and parents. |
| KS1 | Traditional nativity. |
| Year 3 and 4 | Christingle service in church with carols and mince pies or 'Messy Nativity' in school with children and parents. (Messy nativity is an interactive way of retelling the Christmas story). |
| Year 5 and 6 | Christmas performance |



E-Mail school@msj.jmat.org
Website: - www.mexboroughstjohn.co.uk



Christmas Dinner & Party Day

On Wednesday we enjoyed Christmas dinner, thank you to our wonderful catering staff all your hard work, not just today but all year round. Children also enjoyed a party afternoon and had a very special visit from Santa, We had a lovely afternoon.

Swallow Wood Residential Home Visit

Year 4 were fantastic ambassadors for our school this week at Swallow Wood care home. They completed Christmas crafts with the residents and sang carols to spread festive cheer. Well done Y4 we are very proud of you.



Christmas Raffles

Thank you to all children, parents and carers for supporting our Christmas raffles. All winners have been notified and prizes claimed.

Friends of School

Just to extend our thanks to Friends of School for the continued support throughout the year. Helping with events, treats for children, competitions, raffle and all things fundraising. You are greatly appreciated.

If any parents would like to join Friends of School, please do get in touch.

Next Term Afterschool Clubs

Please note that there are changes to the scheduled afterschool clubs that are on website. The afterschool clubs are as follows and emails have gone out this week. Places will be allocated on first day back. Clubs that start on Monday 8th will have now been allocated.

Monday 08.01.24 – 05.02.24 KS1 Art Club

Monday 08.01.24 – 05.02.24 Y5 Cooking Club

Monday 15.01.24 – 05.02.24 KS2 Gymnastics

Tuesday 09.01.24 – 06.02.24 F2 KIXX Dodgeball

Tuesday 09.01.24 – 06.02.24 KS1 Computers

Thursday 11.01.24 - 08.02.24 KS2 Science Club

Thursday 11.01.24 - 08.02.24 KS2 Football

Christmas Gift Wishlist

We would like to thank all families that for taking the time to order off our Wishlist, we really do appreciate this. Also, a thank you for additional gifts too, Thank you from everyone at MSJ!

Carol Service at St John's Church



Parent/Carer Support

Whilst Christmas is a time of celebration, we recognise that for some people it can be a difficult time of year. Please visit the below links for external sources of support:

- <https://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/mental-health>
- <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKDONCO/bulletins/37ff0ba?fbclid=IwAR15lqL2k7mfGJIGd9xK-12tJYDZaJgJ LrnIZVK2CiwFSSqzffBXxHsdF0>
- <https://www.yourlifedoncaster.co.uk/south-your-place-hub>
- <https://www.doncastermind.org.uk/our-services/crisis-help/>

Return to School.

We look forward to seeing you on **Monday 8th January 2024**. Please remember the school gates open for F2-Y6 at 8.35am. Children are expected to be in the classroom, ready for registration and to begin learning at 8.45am.

Key Dates

December

Fri 22nd Dec School closed for children. INSET day.

January 2024

10th January Y5 Swimming lessons commence. Appropriate kit required as detailed in letter.

15 January 2024 Close date for applications to F2/Reception in Sept 24.

<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/.../schools/primary-admissions>

30th January 2024 Your Place Drop in session

*Term dates & inset dates available here: <https://www.mexboroughstjohn.co.uk/term-dates>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/504576376708064/> Twitter: @StJohnMex

