

Simonside Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Hills



Thursday 4th December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

School is a busy hive of activity at the moment in the run-up to Christmas!

Advent Attendance

There are so many presents wrapped and waiting to be won for attendance! Please try and make sure your child is in school and on time every day now until the holidays. Attendance is 95% today! This is brilliant!



Christmas Performances

These are all taking place next week. Due to fire regulations we need to be careful not to exceed capacity in the halls. Therefore, there is a limit to **two adults per child**. You don't need a ticket to attend. Please just come to the big hall doors after drop-off and help yourself to tea/coffee etc whilst the children are registered and get ready. You may take photos and videos of the children but please don't post these on social media; there are children who, for various reasons, can't be on social media.



Tuesday 9th December 9:15am: Reception songs and crafts

Wednesday 10th December 9:15am: Key Stage 1, 2pm: Nursery

Thursday 11th December 9:15am: Lower Key Stage 2

Christmas Grotto

Thanks to our wonderful PTFA and Mrs Watson, we are planning to have our Christmas Grotto again this year in the last week of term. On **Monday 15th December** the children are invited to come into school in non-uniform in exchange for bringing a donation for the grotto. Nursery and Reception children will already be in party clothes that day so their Grotto non-uniform day will be Friday 12th December. The Grotto will then be open on **Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th** for



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children to attend if they would like to. Gifts will cost up to £2. Money can be brought into school and will be kept safe by the class teacher.

Christmas Jumper Week

In the last week of term all the children are invited to wear Christmas jumpers any day they like – and all days if they wish.



Parties

We like to host a Christmas party for every class in school. The children will be given party food and there will be prizes for games etc. On their party day, children are invited to come to school wearing party clothes if they would like to.

Monday 15th December: EYFS

Tuesday 16th December: KS1

Wednesday 17th December: LKS2

Thursday 18th December: UKS2



We know that for some children they prefer to wear school uniform and can find wearing different clothes like party clothes and Christmas jumpers overwhelming. It is absolutely fine to wear school uniform if they would rather.



Christmas Dinner

Christmas Dinner day is Thursday 18th December. Please see Parent Mail form for this. The deadline for this form is 3pm tomorrow (Friday 5th).

Christmas Post Box

Our Simonside Christmas Post Box is in the KS1 library for any Christmas cards that children would like to post to other classes in school.

Online Safety at Christmas

As some children may be receiving new consoles or games at Christmas, here is a quick reminder of the importance of setting up appropriate parental controls on these devices.



Games/Consoles

- Check age ratings: Look at the PEGI rating. Many popular games have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's setting so they can only download and use games appropriate for their age.

- Manage communication: Check whether games include communication features. If a game does allow your child to communicate with others, then adjust or disable the settings as appropriate to your child.

- Set device controls: On the device itself, set up spending limits and other parental controls. Most consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play and what content they can access:

Xbox: <https://www.xbox.com/en-GB/family-hub>

PS5: [How to set parental controls on PlayStation consoles](#)

Nintendo Switch 2: <https://www.nintendo.com/en-gb/Hardware/NintendoSwitch-Parental-Controls/Nintendo-Switch-2-Nintendo-Switch-ParentalControls-2873385.html>

There is a lot going on over the next two weeks. Please also see Class Dojo posts for reminders and extra things that your child's class may be doing.

Mrs Hills
Headteacher