



A wonderful Christmas Nativity performance by our Reception children

## Dear Parents and Carers



It has definitely felt like Christmas is just around the corner in school this week. There has been glitter around, Christmas songs can be heard coming from the classrooms and children have been enjoying the festive events which have been coming thick and fast!

We began the week with a performance of *Sleeping Beauty*, where the Upper School hall was transformed into a mini theatre with lights and sound effects accompanying a dazzling production by a touring theatre company. We are hugely grateful to the PTA for funding such an event as we realise how expensive going to see theatre productions can be so for us to be able to bring to a pantomime to children is a brilliant opportunity that we can't miss. Children were singing and dancing along to songs that they know and love and even Mrs Phillips and Mrs Smith couldn't help but join in when they got invited on stage.

It was then the turn of our youngest pupils in Reception to wow their parents, carers and family members with their traditional nativity performance. What struck me was the level of self-organisation displayed by the children as they passed the microphone, lined up to go on stage or stood to deliver their lines. Huge congratulations must go to the staff team in Reception for putting this together.

Yesterday was our school Christmas Dinner, which we linked with the national Christmas Jumper Day, our chosen charity is Daisy's Dream. There was music playing, crackers being pulled and plenty of food for everyone! Children thoroughly enjoyed their meals. Thanks to Karen, Patsy and Hayley in the kitchen for their hard work preparing the Christmas dinner for so many children! Thank you also to all the staff who supported the children in the hall.

Our Glee Club have been busy too. Today they were at Cox Green Community Centre singing carols and festive songs for Maidenhead & District Stroke Club's Christmas lunch. The children loved the opportunity to contribute to the wider community and therefore were asking when they can go and sing again! Thanks to Mrs Eves and Mrs Phillips for working so hard with Glee Club each Monday after school and to Mrs Ford for accompanying the children and Mrs Eves on this visit.

**Wessex PTA  
Christmas Disco**

**Friday 13th December 2024**

3:30pm - 4:30pm  
Reception / Year 1 & Year 2

4:45pm - 5:45pm  
Year 3 & Year 4

6pm - 7:30pm  
Year 5 & Year 6

Please book on Arbor

Tonight is the PTA Christmas discos, which we know children will love! Please make sure that you send children with an appropriate amount of money for them to spend. Previously, children have brought a lot of money, which is a big responsibility for them to look after at the discos.



## Quotes of the week

"I loved playing my role in the nativity" Muhumed, Reception

"I enjoyed using adjectives about the big soup" Ava, Year 1

"I tried my best in learning different styles of jumps"  
Luka, Year 2

"We have learnt about Greek Gods" William, Year 5

"We learnt about WW2 and I enjoyed it lots" Mio, Year 6

# Diary dates coming up



**Tuesday 17th December**  
KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Nativity - 9.15am

**Wednesday 18th December**  
KS1 (Y1 & Y2) Nativity - 9.15am  
KS3 (Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6) - Carols Round the Tree - 2.45pm

**Thursday 19th December**  
Christmas Parties for all - bring in party clothes

**Friday 20th December**  
Final day of the term - finish at 1:30pm

**Monday 6th January 2025**  
INSET day - children not to attend

**Tuesday 7th January 2025**  
First day back for children.  
\*\*\* Year 1 Toy museum workshop - NEW \*\*\*

**Wednesday 8th January**  
Year 3 road safety workshop

## Good News Certificates



**EYFS: Scarlett and Ciara**

**Year 1: Jasen and Milo**

**Year 2: Dominic and Aiden**

**Year 3: Greyson and Jacob**

**Year 4: Aneesa and Freddie F**

**Year 5: William and Jacob**

**Year 6: Mio and Emily P**

## Attendance

**Lower School: Birch winners with 98.6%**

**Upper School: Lime Winners with 97.2%**

**School attendance this week**

**93.8%**



Last week = 93.2%  
Last year average = 95%

**Aiming for 97%**

## School Values



This week, we have focused on consolidating all of our school values and have asked children to think about all of these throughout the week.

## Little Musketeers Club

We have enjoyed being able to provide Little Musketeers fencing club to the children this term. It has been a new club for the school and the pupils who take part thoroughly enjoy it. The club takes place on Mondays at 8am in the Upper School Hall. If your child would like to take part, please see the information later in this letter or on the [clubs page](#) of our website.



## E scooter Safety

Thames Valley Police and the Fire and Rescue service have asked schools to pass on a message about e-scooter safety. The use of privately owned e-scooters is illegal on public roads, pavements and cycle lanes, they are only legally allowed to be used on private land with the landowners' permission. Also, the batteries in e-scooters can catch fire very quickly and therefore pose a fire risk.

## Electrical Gifts - Safety

With Christmas just around the corner, the Christmas period is a great time to take stock of any devices children have (plus any new Xmas devices) and ensure they are set up correctly with any parental features you feel are appropriate for your child. One frustrating issue is that the available features and how you set devices up differ, so to help parents, Internet Matters have really good, non-techie guides which you can follow as part of their ABC Checklist:

- A - Activate parental controls.
- B - Balance screen time.
- C - Check and chat.

Their simple guides can be found [on their website](#).

## Character Curriculum

There was no new character trait this week; instead we have had a focus of consolidating all of the traits covered this year. (See the next page). It is so lovely to see children greeting staff and their friends with a smile in the morning. There are some children who come in to school confident with a happy "good morning" who would not have done this before. Well done to them!



Positivity



Honesty



Respect



Pride



## Christmas Events - Information and Reminders

Mon 9 Dec - Sleeping Beauty Panto in school

- All Reception to Year 6 children will be watching the panto
- No payment required
- Thanks to the PTA for covering the cost of the panto

Thu 12 Dec - School Christmas Lunch

- Children can wear Christmas Jumpers and/or Christmas hats/headdress if they wish
- We will be collecting any monetary donations for the Christmas Jumper charity appeal at drop off

Fri 13 Dec – PTA Christmas Discos

- Reception, Year 1 & Year 2, 3.30pm - 4.30pm
- Year 3 & Year 4, 4.45pm - 5.45pm
- Year 5 & Year 6, 6pm - 7.30pm

Mon 16 Dec - KS1 Nativity Dress Rehearsal

- Final practice will be shown to FS2 & KS2 children

Mon 16 Dec - Christmas Cinema afternoon

- Children will watch a film (U rated film will be chosen by staff)
- Children will stay in their phases (KS1, Y3/4, Y5/6)

Tues 17 & Wed 18 Dec - KS1 Nativity to parents at 9.15am

- Please drop off as usual and then line up at the door by the main school gate entrance
- Admittance will be after the children are in position
- Hall seating for children as parents enter the hall – Left side Chestnut – Right side Cherry – Year 1 in the middle

Wed 18 Dec - KS2 Carols to parents at 2.45pm

- Event will be held outside (weather permitting only)
- Chn can wear Christmas headdresses and hats if they wish
- Please ensure children have a coat in school to wear

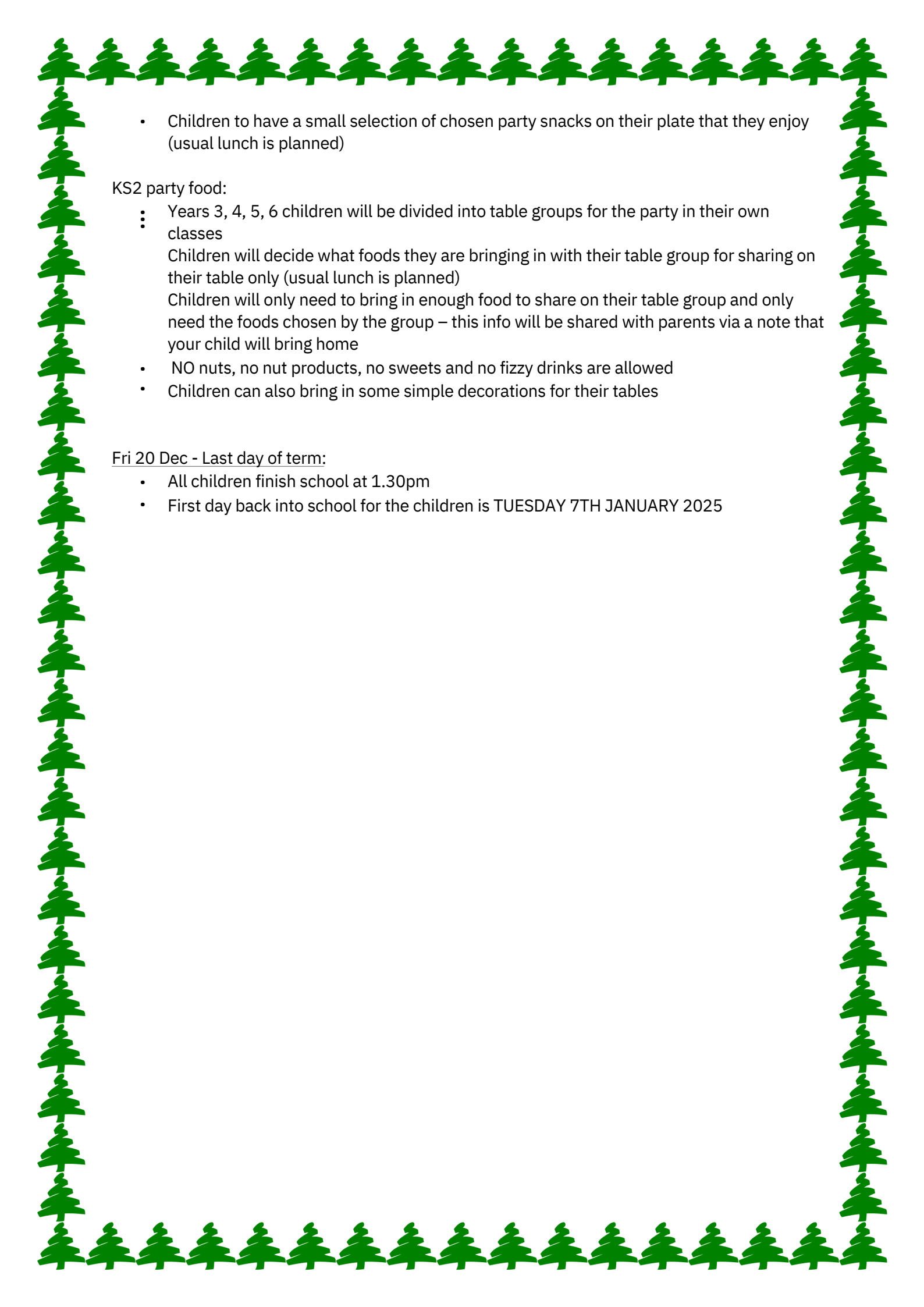
Thurs 19 Dec - Christmas Parties for all classes

Party clothes:

- All chn are allowed to bring party clothes outfits in a bag on the day of the party
- Chn are not allowed to wear their party clothes to school
- Each year group will have access to a LS or US hall slot for party games

KS1 party food:

- Children in Years 1 & 2 will bring in a named food plate on the morning of the party to their class teacher
- Children will not be sharing food with each other in their class
- NO nuts or nut products - NO fizzy drinks - NO sweets

- 
- Children to have a small selection of chosen party snacks on their plate that they enjoy (usual lunch is planned)

KS2 party food:

- Years 3, 4, 5, 6 children will be divided into table groups for the party in their own classes
- Children will decide what foods they are bringing in with their table group for sharing on their table only (usual lunch is planned)
- Children will only need to bring in enough food to share on their table group and only need the foods chosen by the group – this info will be shared with parents via a note that your child will bring home
- NO nuts, no nut products, no sweets and no fizzy drinks are allowed
- Children can also bring in some simple decorations for their tables

Fri 20 Dec - Last day of term:

- All children finish school at 1.30pm
- First day back into school for the children is TUESDAY 7TH JANUARY 2025

### How to have good table manners



- Chewing with your mouth is closed
- Talking only when your mouth is empty
- Using a knife and fork correctly
- Picking up any food or letting an adult know if any food is dropped
- Staying in your seat when you have sat down



### How do you ask someone to stop doing something?:



- Politely and firmly explaining your situation.
- Being clear in what you want to change and why.
- Explaining the impact on you.
- What to do if that doesn't work.



### Helping other people



- Does the other person need help?
- Can you stop to help them?
- Ask if the other person needs help
- Accept that they may not need help
- Do it because you want to; not for praise, thanks or rewards.



### How to walk around the school



- Walking; not running or jumping
- Walking on one side
- Single file
- Voices appropriate
- Facing the way you are going
- Giving enough space between you and someone else
- Remembering politeness / holding doors / greetings



### How to sit on a chair or carpet



- Feet on the floor when on a chair
- Adjusting your chair to be close to the table
- What to do with your hands
- Looking at the person who is speaking



### Why is listening important?



- Being respectful to others
- Allows us to learn and understand
- Following instructions
- Keeps us safe
- Being fair so we all get a turn and feel valued



### Why contribute?



- Shows what you can do
- Helps others to learn
- Is respectful to others
- Develops your own confidence



### Why is thinking important?



- You learn when you think hard
- Shows you respect yourself and others
- Teachers know how to help
- Everyone knows what is happening



### When to hold a door open



- How to check to see if you need to hold a door open.
- How long to wait for someone.
- How many children to open the door for.
- Saying thank you if someone opens the door for you.
- Not moaning if people don't thank you



### Greeting people



- Listen out for greetings
- Stopping and responding
- Giving a greeting back
- Introducing yourself
- Smile
- Look at the person
- Give eye contact,



### Asking to join in games



- Find something to do.
- See if you can join in.
- Wait for the right time to ask.
- Understand you may not get your way.
- Be grateful to other people.
- Say thank you.
- Tell someone.



### How to interrupt someone talking



- See what they are doing if they can be interrupted
- Wait until they have finished talking / there is a gap in their conversation
- Say excuse me and use their name, "Excuse me, Mr Beavan"
- Wait for them to look at you
- Don't tap people



# WINTER CAMP

ACTIVITY

Where Every Activity Builds Skills



Dates between:

20th December - 3rd January

For ages 4 (Reception+) - 16

£32.45

Half Day

8am - 3:30pm

£34.45

Full Day

8am - 6pm

SAVE WITH OUR NHS, SIBLINGS,  
AND MILITARY DISCOUNTS!

**HAF spaces available!**

Contact our admin team  
for more details



- Themed Crafts
- 20+ Sports
- Creating, Making, and Designing
- Science Experiments

## WHAT'S ON...

- Themed Games
- Challenges and Competitions
- **And Much More!**

See Full  
Venue List!



# WINTER CAMP

Get Active 

## HAF

SUPPORTED BY ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR & MAIDENHEAD COUNCIL

Ages  
4+



Dates between:

23rd December - 3rd January

Wessex Primary School

Maidenhead, SL6 3AT

9:30am-3:30pm

IS YOUR CHILD ENTITLED TO INCOME RELATED FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

This Winter Break, children all across Wokingham that are in receipt of Free School Meals can access FREE Christmas Activities over the Holiday.



- Themed Crafts
- 20+ Sports
- Creating, Making, and Designing
- Science Experiments

## WHAT'S ON...

- Themed Games
- Challenges and Competitions
- and much more!

See More  
Details



# CYBER PROTECT

## The Digital Dilemma

Keeping Your  
Kids Safe Online

December 4th, 11th, 18th



**FREE WEBINAR FOR PARENTS & CARERS**

**Thames Valley Police**

Hints and tips to secure your family  
online, covering:

**Gaming**



**Social Media**



**Email**

**BOOK YOUR SPACE:**

Eventbrite: Police - South East Cyber

**DON'T LET IT BE GAME OVER**

**LEVEL UP**

**YOUR ONLINE SECURITY**

## What is Little Musketeers?

- The UK's No.1 dedicated primary school fencing programme.
- A welcoming and friendly club giving children a fun and safe introduction to the sport of fencing.
- Founded in 2009 by Olympian and 10x British champion James Beevers.
- Currently operating in 60 schools across Berkshire.



## Why choose us?

# Because its fun!



- Classes provide a unique mix of mental, social and physical stimulation.
- Strategic, disciplined, physical nature makes it attractive to a wide range of students.
- Endorsed by the worlds leading cognitive, developmental neuroscientist.
- Teaching the art of friendly confrontation & conflict resolution.
- Emphasis on a child's social emotional well-being.
- Development of a child's executive functions.



Dear Parent

### **Little Musketeers at Wessex Primary School | Purple Term – Leadership and Responsibility**

Little Musketeers are back offering a fun, safe and educational environment for young children to learn the sport of fencing. What child has not grown up pretending to be a swashbuckling pirate, a dueling Musketeer, or even the master of swordplay himself, Zorro? Why do they do it? Because it's fun!

Little Musketeers provide bright coloured foam and plastic foils and plastic masks with mesh visors that are safe and yet hard enough to give children the real feel of fencing. We ensure visors are worn at all times giving peace of mind as well as that genuine fencing experience.

Little Musketeers classes are designed and managed by Olympic fencer and 4 times British National Champion James Beevers. All staff are CRB checked, First Aid certified and trained personally by James.

This term's course will focus on **Leadership and Responsibility** as well as focusing on balance and reaction speed! Once the course is completed, they will be awarded with the **Purple term wristband**.

We hope you can join us for our **10-week course** as follows:

- Monday 13th January - Monday 24th March 2025 / 08:00 - 08:45 / Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6

The cost for the course will be **£80.00** per child.

If your child would like to sign up for this course, please visit:

<https://bookings.littlemusketeers.com>

Once there, follow the instructions to complete your booking online. **Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.**

Yours Faithfully

Hayley Munt

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Church of the Good Shepherd, Cox Green

# CHRISTMAS SERVICES

## **Sunday 22nd December - Carol Service at 6pm**

A service of readings & carols

## **Christmas Eve - Crib Service at 4pm**

Especially suitable for children

*Children are invited to come dressed as an angel or shepherd if they wish*

## **Christmas Eve - Midnight Eucharist at 11.15pm**

## **Christmas Day - All Age Festival Communion at 10am**

With carols - suitable for all ages.

*Children are welcome to bring along a present to show us*

