

Mrs S.L. Whalley
01392 824340
admin@exminsterschool.co.uk

Issue 13 7.12.16

A huge well done to our Reception children. They performed a brilliant play to show the Christmas story to their adults on Tuesday afternoon. The costumes were amazing, the children spoke, sang and danced brilliantly and it really marked the beginning of Christmas.

We have a very busy week ahead: we are looking forward to our KS1 performance next week along with carol concerts at the church, carols in the yard, Christmas lunches, Christmas parties and a special staff pantomime at the end of the week (for children only!).

School Meals

A copy of the new school menu for Spring 2017 was sent out via ParentPay recently. The information can also be found on the school website under Parents/School Meals.

There will not be a roast option on the first day back after the Christmas holidays. The choices for Wednesday 4th January will therefore be as follows:

Homemade Pizza with either Cheese and Tomato or Cheese and Ham Vegetarian Sausage Wrap	
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans	Plain Jacket Potato
Ham wrap packed lunch	Cheese wrap packed lunch
Carrots/Peas	Fruit crumble with custard

Breakfast Club

All regular Breakfast Club users will have received a booking form for next term. Please complete and return the form to us by Monday 12th December at the very latest. If your child is not booked in we will be unable to accept them at Breakfast Club as we have to ensure we have the correct adult:child ratios in place at all times.

Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

Friday 16th December, the last day of term, is Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children. In return for a small donation to the charity children can wear something bright and cheerful to school.

School Library Books

If you are having a Christmas tidy up at home please would you be kind enough to check if your child has any reading books or library books which belong to school. If you do, please return them to your child's class teacher. The books are a valuable resource and, as a rule, only one book at a time should be issued to a child so there is always a wide range available in school. Thank you.

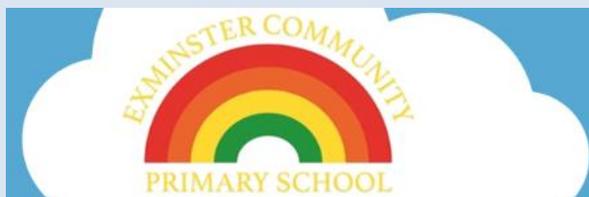
Please Help!

Hermione and Ben, the Rainbow Corner fish, need a bigger tank. If you have a tank that you don't use any more our fish will be really happy. Please see the ladies in the office if you can help.

From St Martin's Church

The annual singing of carols around the Christmas tree at The Victory Hall will take place on Tuesday 13th December at 6pm followed by refreshments in St Martin's Church. Everyone is very welcome. If the weather is bad the carol singing will take place in St Martin's Church.





Mrs S.L. Whalley
01392 824340
admin@exminsterschool.co.uk

Survive The Tech Christmas Holidays - Online Safety Tips for Parents & Carers

Basic eSafety advice from SWGfL (South West Grid for Learning) and UKSIC (UK Safer Internet Centre).

Keep It Nice: Remind your children that being kind online is up to everyone. If they do see something upsetting or abusive online, they should block and report it, and talk to you or another trusted adult about it.

Gaming: Do look out for the PEGI age ratings on the games your children want to play – they work in a similar way to age ratings for films and should be respected. Games also have PEGI labels – visual icons to indicate if the game contains violence, scary content and so on.

Sharing Photos: We all love sharing photos of days out, picnics or holidays by the pool. However it is worth thinking how you share these photos and with whom. Consider who you want to share what with and manage your lists of contacts. For example you can create a 'close friends and family' list of your Facebook contacts and share some pictures with a limited group of people, rather than everyone on your list of contacts – including colleagues, or mere acquaintances.

Insurance: Sometimes it can be really difficult to actually figure out the cost of a phone or tablet but even the most basic of smartphone can actually cost a small fortune. The cost is sometimes hidden behind a monthly contract and it's not until the phone is dropped on its screen or someone loses it that you suddenly find out just how much these phones and tablets really cost. Do check the insurance policy on your child's phone and consider whether it is worth having one or not.

Lost and Found: Take a look at your child's mobile phone and tablet. Most now come with an app that can allow you to locate it if your child misplaces them. However, as good as these apps are, they are not pin point accurate. They can give an indication of where the device last connected but that doesn't mean it is still there and the accuracy varies greatly between each device and each application. One of the most important things these apps do though is give you the ability to lock the device and remotely wipe its data. You may have lost the phone but at least no one is looking through your photos, contacts or bank details.

ICE: ICE stands for In Case (of) Emergency. You create a contact in your child's phone called ICE and have the number as someone who an emergency service worker - doctor, first aider, etc - can contact. Should your child become ill or injured blue light services are trained to look for an ICE contact if they find a mobile phone.

In App Purchases: Now is a great time to check your parental settings both on your phone and your child's devices. You can set a block on your child's phone to prevent them from downloading any apps which have in app purchases.

It's Good To Talk: Parents are often reluctant to talk to their children about technology, because they feel that their children know more than they do. And that may well be true! However, although they may know how to use apps, tablets, consoles and other high tech gadgets what they often lack is life experience and the ability to think about their actions and consequences. So, most importantly this summer, talk to your children about what they enjoy doing online, get involved in what they are doing, play games with them, ask them what that funny-looking app is on their screen so you understand what they are using. You don't have to be a computer genius to impart practical safety advice.

We hope these tips are helpful and offer some practical advice. Enjoy a safe digital Christmas! Useful Links:

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/
www.internetmatters.org

<http://swgfl.org.uk/>

www.childnet.com
<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/>

If you have any urgent safeguarding concerns, you should contact 0345 155 1071 to reach MASH (The Devon Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub).

