

# Hill West Weekly Bulletin


*Kindness, Compassion, and Connection at the heart of 'Our School'*

Week commencing: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December



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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION; at a glance

<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ATLP TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED TO ALL CHILDREN</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SCHOLASTICS Book Fair</b> in School all week; KS2 Hall entrance</li> <li>• Children to bring in an Orange for Christingle</li> <li>• <b>9.00am Children leave for their residential visit to Aberdovey</b></li> <li>• 7.30pm PTFA Meeting taking place in the KS1 Reception area. All parents welcome to Join.</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>9.30am Christingle</b> for Years 3, 4 and 6 at <b>All Saints Church</b>.</li> <li>• <b>6.50pm – 9.15pm</b> Four Oaks Cluster Lichfield Cathedral Carol Concert for the School Choir</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bikeability</b> for selected Year 6 Children</li> <li>• Swimming for children in Years 4, 5 and 6</li> <li>• <b>9.00am – 11.00am Squirrels Open Morning</b> for Parents; My Happy Mind in the KS1 Hall followed by a school tour.</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bikeability</b> for selected Year 6 Children</li> <li>• <b>9.30am Christingle</b> for Reception, Year 1 and 2 at <b>All Saints Church</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Bikeability</b> for selected Year 6 Children</li> <li>• <b>9.00am – 11.00am Moles Open Morning</b> for Parents; My Happy Mind in the KS1 Hall followed by a school tour.</li> </ul>
<b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b> – Year 2 Owls Nativity 9.00am-10.00am, Kingfishers Nativity 2.30pm- 3.20pm</li> <li>• <b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b> - Year 2 Kingfishers Nativity 9.00am-10.00am, Owls Nativity 2.30pm-3.20pm</li> <li>• <b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b> - Jolly Jumper Day for Birmingham Hospice</li> <li>• <b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b> – Christmas Lunch for <b>Year 3</b></li> <li>• <b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>- Christmas Lunch for <b>Year 4</b></li> <li>• <b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b> -Christmas Lunch for <b>Year 5</b></li> <li>• <b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b> -Christmas Lunch for <b>Year 6</b></li> <li>• <b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December</b> – <b>BREAK UP FOR CHRISTMAS</b></li> </ul>



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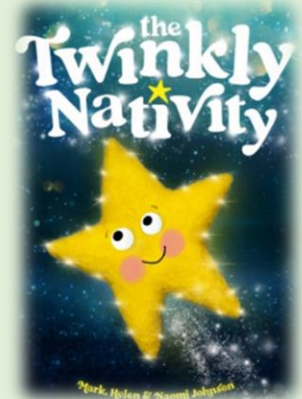
## CHRISTINGLE

Our children will be visiting All Saints Church again this year for their Christingle Services. Christingle is a joyful celebration that brings families and communities together to share in the excitement of Advent and spread a message of hope. Children in **Year 3, Year 4, remaining Year 5s and Year 6** will be visiting on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**. Children in **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** will be visiting on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December**. We are suggesting parents of children in **Reception and Year Six** join us if they wish to. Oranges should be brought to school on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December please**, to decorate in readiness for the service.



## YEAR 2 NATIVITY

Our Year 2 Children will be performing 'The Twinkly Nativity' in the KS1 Hall on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December. On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December, Owls will perform at 9.00am and Kingfisher at 2.30pm. On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, Kingfishers will perform at 9.00am and Owls will perform at 2.30pm. We very much look forward to welcoming you to one or both of the performances. If you are not able to attend yourself, then grandparents, other family members or family friends can attend in your place.



## ALL SAINTS CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

**All Saints Church** are excited to announce that they will be holding a **Christmas Tree Festival** again this year. The event will take place on:

- ✓ Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am – 3.00pm
- ✓ Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 10.00am – 4.00pm
- ✓ Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 11.00am – 4.00pm

The Hill West Choir will be decorating a tree and performing a few carols on **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 11.00am**. The trees will be located in and around the



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Church and the Church Centre, and once you have enjoyed the trees, festive refreshments will be on offer in the Church Centre.

## PTFA MOVIE NIGHT

**CHILD ONLY EVENT**  
**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**Movie; Snacks; Drink**

**Reception; 5.30pm- 7.30pm**

**Year 1; 5.30pm -7.30pm**

**Year 2; 5.30pm – 7.30pm**

**Movies:** Donner The Christmas Movie / Postman Pat  
Magic Christmas / Mickey Saves Santa

**Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 - 5.45pm – 8.00pm**

**Movie:** The Christmas Chronicles

**Tickets are priced at £10per child  
and are available on MCAS until  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December**

## JOLLY JUMPER DAY

This year we will be supporting our chosen Charity, **Birmingham's Hospice.**

On **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December**, we will be taking part in **Birmingham's Hospice 'Jolly Jumper Day'.**

We're asking families to donate £2 (or however much they can give), to support families when they most need it. **Children should wear a jolly jumper (Christmas themed or otherwise) with their uniform.**

**Donations can be made by following the link below**

[www.justgiving.com/page/hill-west-primary-school-jolly-jumper](http://www.justgiving.com/page/hill-west-primary-school-jolly-jumper)



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## READING

In our house at Christmas it has been a long held tradition that we choose a new Christmas Story each year to read together. Here are some highly recommended Christmas reads...

- Penguin's Egg by Anna Kemp, illustrated by Alice Courtley (2024)
- Santa's First Christmas by Mac Barnett, illustrated by Sydney Smith
- The Christmas Tree Mouse by Joseph Coelho, illustrated by Farah Shah (2024)
- The Snowman by Raymond Briggs (1978)
- That Christmas by Richard Curtis & Rebecca Cobb (2021)
- A Shirley Hughes Christmas by Shirley Hughes (2023)
- The Jolly Christmas Postman by Janet Ahlberg & Allan Ahlberg (1991)
- Peter Rabbit Tales: The Christmas Star (2023)
- There's an Elf in Your Book by Tom Fletcher & Greg Abbott (2019)
- Jim's Spectacular Christmas by Emma Thompson and Axel Scheffler (2022)
- The Dinosaur that Pooped a Reindeer by Tom Fletcher, Dougie Poynter and Garry Parsons (2023)

More to follow, next week, or take a look yourselves at <https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/childrens-article/christmas-classics-childrens-books>

## ATTENDANCE

At this time of year, it can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.



### **Sore Throat**

You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.

### **Threadworms**

You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms. Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.

### **Vomiting and diarrhoea**

Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).



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## SAFEGUARDING; TOY SAFETY

Love it or loathe it the run-up to Christmas for parents means having a lot on your plate (and we're not talking Christmas dinner).

While toys sold by well-known stores are generally safe; many cheap toys from unknown sellers on online marketplaces come from abroad and have not been safety tested.



From super-strong magnets that can be harmful, to easy-access button batteries that cause serious illness or even a fatality if swallowed, to dangerous electrical goods that can start fires in your home. **SHOP SMART and STAY SAFE.**

### 5 top tips for buying safe toys online

Take care when shopping at marketplaces online (think AliExpress, Amazon, eBay, Etsy, Groupon, Joom, OnBuy, Shein, Temu, TikTok Shop and Wish). There might be dangerous products that haven't been safety checked.



Buy toys from brand names you know. If you've never heard of the seller and the price is really tempting, the toy could be dangerous.



Be really careful when buying for under 3s as they're most at risk from dangerous toys.



Watch out for cheap copies of popular toys. They may not be made to UK safety standards.



Check if the toy has been removed from sale because it's unsafe. Visit [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) for a list of recalled products.



If you buy something that looks unsafe, trust your instincts and send it back.



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## YEAR 4 OPEN MORNINGS



Our **Year 4** open mornings will be taking place on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December for Squirrels** and **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December for Moles**. We will be holding these sessions in

the **KS1 Hall**. The session will provide you with an introduction to **My Happy Mind**, a programme based around helping children to understand how their brain works and to support them in developing positive skills and habits to be their very best selves.

## SCHOLASTICS BOOK FAIR



This year scholastics book fair will be taking place in school, on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December to Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December**.

Children will be able to choose a book, which parents will be able to pay for should they choose. For every book sold a contribution is made to school by Scholastics. Please support us if you can.



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# XMAS Movie Night

Brought to you by Hill West PTFA

**Date: 13th December**

**R, Y1 & Y2 5.30-7.30pm (Classrooms)**

**Films: 3 short films inc Mickey Saves Christmas / Postman Pat Magic Christmas / Donner the Christmas Movie**

**Year 3 & 4 5.45-8.00pm KS1 Hall**

**Year 5 & 6 5.45-8.00pm KS2 Hall**

**Film: The Christmas Chronicles**

**Tickets £10 per child**

**Pre Booking essential on MCAS app**

**Tickets sales will close Friday 6th December**

**Tickets inc: Movie / Hotdog / Sweets & Drink**

**Allergies will be catered for - please email Mrs George if you have any concerns**

**This is a child only event with teacher supervision.**

**Please drop off & collect from school premises**



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## All Saints Four Oaks Handmade Craft Fayre



**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

**10am to 4pm**

Leather Goods

Fabric Bags

Children's Photographer

Christmas Decorations

Knitted Novelties

Artwork

Homemade Jams and Mincemeat

Guess the weight of the cake

Christmas Plants

Cinnamon Buns

Lucky Dip



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ALL SAINTS'  
FOUR OAKS  
**CHRISTMAS TREE  
FESTIVAL**  
13th - 15th DECEMBER 2024

FRI 10-3PM SAT 10-4PM SUN 11-4PM

HO HO HO

**COME ALONG AND JOIN THE FESTIVITIES WITH  
OUR CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES DAILY**  
ON SATURDAY THERE WILL BE A CRAFT FAYRE &  
SANTA'S GROTTTO WILL BE OPEN 10.30 - 3.30

CAN YOU FOLLOW  
THE SNOWMAN TRAIL  
TO WIN A PRIZE?

VOTE FOR YOUR  
FAVOURITE TREE

DELICIOUS FESTIVE  
REFRESHMENTS  
SERVED ALL DAY

NO NEED TO BOOK TICKETS - JUST TURN UP ON THE DAY



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