



# Egginton Primary School Newsletter

DECEMBER 2024

## UPCOMING DATES FOR THE DIARY...

6th January

Return to school

14th February

Celebration Assembly

Half term holiday

24th February

INSET day

25th February

Return to school

3rd March

World Book Week

7th March

Book Character Dress Up  
Day

12th March

Parents' Evening

14th March

Hedgehog Activity Day

4th April

Celebration Assembly

Easter Holiday

21st April

Return to School

## Balance Bikes

Reception pupils from Mrs Belton's class had a great time using the Balance Bikes in the hall on December 2nd. This involved a variety of activities to develop their confidence and skills required to ride a pedal bike independently, getting them off to the best start in cycling and assisting their ability to participate in Bikeability when they get into the juniors.



## Christmas Fayre



On Friday 6th, pupils opened the Christmas Fayre by singing 'Because It's Christmas' to the families from the main entrance. They performed really well and many of them stayed to enjoy what was on offer in the hall, from decorating biscuits to Skittleball!

## Christmas Carols

The children loved performing Christmas songs at the community coffee morning.



## The Nativity

The children performed at St Wilfrid's Church last Friday and were amazing! A big thank you to everyone who came to support as well as Mr Farrow, our Chair of Governors for sorting the lights and sound system.



## Poppy Update



We have recently been informed that our Poppy Appeal raised an incredible  
**£107.63!**

## Attendance



Our overall attendance for this year has been **94.82%**, which is slightly below the government target of 95%.

MacArthur Class have **94.92%**,  
Nightingale have **94.44%** and  
Arkwright have **95.26%**.

*If your child has attendance of 90% or less, you will receive a separate 'persistent absence' letter, as required by the Local Authority.*

## Cinderella

Our visit to Derby Arena to watch the Pantomime was fantastic. The children had such fun and behaved superbly. A huge thank you must go to our PTA for helping to fund the cost of the coach.



## Online Safety



For all of your safety top tips during the festive season please click [here](#) to access guidance from the National College. If you haven't registered for an account yet, please click [here](#).

## Reception Tree Decorators



A big thank you to all of our pupils in Reception who helped Mrs Wallace to decorate the Christmas tree that we have put in the hall. They all had a lovely time getting ready for Christmas.

## Join the PTA!



## Christmas Fayre

A massive thank you to our PTA for organising the Christmas Fayre.

Altogether it has raised

**£536!**

## A little bit extra...



**Tchaikovsky**

In December, we have learned about Tchaikovsky, a Russian composer. He wrote some of the most popular concert and theatrical music in the current classical repertoire, including the ballets Swan Lake and The Nutcracker. You can sample some of his music [here](#)...

## Phunky Foods



Why not try out our 'Recipe of the Month' at home?

## Christmas Tree Pittas

Click on the link [here](#) to enjoy a delicious Christmas treat with all the family...

## Free School Meals

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

**Pssst**

Did you know that all reception, year 1 and year 2 pupils are entitled to receive a free meal at lunchtime regardless of family income?

And if your child is in year 3 or above, they may also be eligible, if you receive one of the qualifying benefits.

Just log into the new speedy free school meal checker system to see if your child is eligible. Scan the QR code and it will take you straight there.

DERBYSHIRE County Council

**If school meals are free for reception, year 1 and year 2 - why do I still need to apply?**

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 get free school meals, but if you receive one of the qualifying benefits you may also get help with:

- the cost of residential school trips
- travel costs to school
- school uniform costs
- music lessons at school

For every child registered for free school meals, schools receive a pupil premium payment each year. This will be used to help your child achieve their best at school.

Use the QR code overleaf to access the portal and check your eligibility.

[www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)  
email: [checking@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:checking@derbyshire.gov.uk) telephone: 01629 536481