



Clenchwarton Primary School Weekly Newsletter – 13th December 2024



Hello Everyone,

This week the children enjoyed the Panto, Cinderella. Thank you to the PTA for arranging this. Everyone had a great afternoon. It has been a very festive day today with Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day. Donations for Christmas Jumper Day, which will go to Save the Children, can be made on Parentpay.

The PTA raised an amazing £531 at the Christmas fayre. Thank you to everyone who came and supported the event.

Today we say goodbye to Mrs Real who starts her maternity leave and wish her good luck. We look forward to meeting the new addition. We also say goodbye to Mrs Hudson who will now be working at Walpole Cross Keys. We have welcomed to the team Mr Robinson in Year 5 and Mrs Smart in Year 6.

Well done to the choir children who took part in the community Christmas service at St Nicholas Chapel earlier this week.

Please remember your tickets for the KS2 concert and the Nativity performances as you will need these to enter. Please make sure everyone attending including younger siblings have tickets this is because of safety. There are still nativity tickets for both days available at the office. For the KS2 Christmas concert, please can children bring their Christmas Jumper/T-shirt to change into.

For Christingle, please can all children bring an orange on Monday. We have purchased the ribbon, candles etc.

From January we will be using My Child at School (MCAS) if you haven't already done so, please use this link to activate your account - <https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSForgottenLogin> - and change the password.

As always, we want to ensure that your experience at Clenchwarton Primary is a positive one and we will keep you informed of your child's progress or any other incidents which happen in school. If you have any concerns, in the first instance, please telephone or email the school office.

Best wishes

Ms J Borley
(Executive Headteacher)

Attendance

Reception:	95%	Year 4:	89%
Year 1:	92%	Year 5:	95%
Year 2:	98%	Year 6:	99%
Year 3:	97%		

Congratulations to * Year 6*



www.clenchwartonprimary.co.uk

Governors email address:

r.wenn@westnorfolkacademiestrust.co.uk



P.T.A.

Next Meeting—Monday 13th January 6:00pm

The PTA are looking for new members please come and join us. *If you have any queries, please speak to Miss Kelly Childerhouse (Chair).*
clenchwartonpta@gmail.com



Lunchtime Co

Please see the school website for the menu. (please note this can be subject to change). If your child has any dietary requirements that we are not aware of, please inform the school office. **All Bookings should be made via ParentPay, by**



Healthy Snacks

Pupils can bring in a healthy snack to eat at playtime. E.g. fruit, cereal bars (**no nuts**), raisins, vegetable sticks, etc.

Crisps and chocolate are not allowed as a snack but can be put in your child's lunch box for lunchtime. We are encouraging a healthy lifestyle!



My Child at School App (MCAS)

We are excited to have sent out access to the 'My Child at School' app. We will be moving over to this in January 2025. The purpose of sending it out to you now is to ensure everyone has downloaded and has access to it ready for January 2025, where we will be using it to book dinners, clubs, trips, parent evenings, sending reports and storing important documents.

FROM 1ST JANUARY 2025

LUNCHES

The lunch menu's are now on MCAS. You will be able to book and pay for these from 1st January. This will work in the same way as ParentPay and we will only be able to order meals that you have selected and you can order lunches up until the Sunday before the week of the lunches. If you do not select any meals for your child, please send them in with a packed lunch.

TRIPS

Trips will be on MCAS for you to pay and to give permission for your child to attend. Please remember we cannot take children on trips without consent. You may see some trips appearing on your child's account before January but you will be unable to consent or pay for these until 1st January.

CLUBS

Clubs will be available to book on MCAS the first week back in January. This will be on a first come, first serve basis.

If you haven't already done so, please use this link to activate your account - <https://www.mychildatschool.com/MCAS/MCSForgottenLogin> - and change the password.

As the weather is turning colder could you please ensure your child comes to school suitably dressed for the elements.

ParentPay

Lunches

Please book school lunches via ParentPay before midnight on a Sunday. Even if your child receives Free meals booking is still required. Thank you.



Attendance & Pastoral Support

Gail Scott is our Attendance and Pastoral support officer for Clenchwarton Primary School. Mrs Scott can be contacted by emailing:-
g.scott@westnorfolkacademiestrust.co.uk





Diary Dates



***Please be aware that dates are for guidance only and are subject to change.**

Please note that the West Norfolk Academies Trust school calendar for 2024/2025 can be located from the school's website. School holiday dates are slightly different to NCC.

Monday 16th December 2024	KS2 Carol Concert 2:15pm—Tickets Required Nativity Dress Rehearsal
Tuesday 17th December 2024	KS1 Nativity 9:15am– Tickets Required
Wednesday 18th December 2024	Used Uniform Sale Year 1 Christmas Singalong - Cancelled
Thursday 19th December 2024	KS1 Nativity 2:00pm—Tickets Required
Friday 20th December 2024	Last Day of Term
Tuesday 7th January 2025	New Term Begins
Monday 13th January 2025	PTA Meeting 6:00-7:00pm
Monday 27th January 2025	Active Kids—Selected KS1 pupils
Wednesday 29th January 2025	Year 3 Trip to Flag Fen

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Limiting screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discouraging packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>

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