

Dear Parents/Carers

As you know, COVID cases in Hartlepool are high and some schools across town are currently suffering COVID outbreaks. Whilst ensuring we hold tightly to the magic and fun of Christmas for our children, we want to protect our children, staff, and community so that they remain safe and are able to enjoy their own family Christmas celebrations. With this in mind, we are altering the Christmas performance festivities in school whilst spreading the joy of Christmas. We are really excited to announce our Christmas event:



What will the Carol and Cocoa event look like?

As you know from our previous correspondence, Public Health in Hartlepool have advised school to limit whole school assemblies. Therefore, our 'Christmas Carols and Cocoa' event will be reduced to a single class performance. Each class will gather in the Forest Church area, (ground and weather permitting) to perform Carols and Christmas songs for their parents/carers.

What preventative measures are in place?

A risk assessment for the event will be written in accordance with the latest guidance. Preventative measures will include

- Reduced to a single class performance to reduce contacts
- Parents /carers will be asked to wear face coverings
 - We can allow 2 family members to attend
 - There will be 2 chairs allocated to each family.
 - Families will have social distanced seating.

Please note if the Government, Public Health or Health & Safety put in additional guidance/measures, the arrangements for the event may be altered or cancelled.

How many family members can attend?

- We will limit it to 2 members per family. If a younger sibling is attending, it is the responsibility of the parent to ensure they are seated at all times with the family.

When and what time?

The event is very much dependent on the 'British Weather' and therefore we have put into the diary 1 event date and identified a reserve date. We appreciate that it is difficult for working parents/carers, but we would rather try and do something than nothing at all. We will ask to parents leave promptly after their child's performance so that we can prepare for the next class. To save EYFS parents coming back and forth to school, they can take their children home after their performance should they wish to.

Elwick Date: Tuesday 14th December

Elwick Reserve Date: Thursday 16th December

EYFS	1:45
Year 1 and Year 2	2:30
Year 3 and Year 4	3: 15
Year 5 and Year 6	4:00

For nursery children who attend mornings only, they can either come back to school at 1:15 to join in the performance or pay to stay for school lunch. Please let the EYFS team and the school office know in advance.

Will I be able to watch all my children?

Yes, we are starting at 1:45 with EYFS and then having gaps in between as the younger children tend to get tired by the end of the day. To support parents, class teachers can keep KS2 siblings in school until their performance. If you would like to do this, then please let the class teacher know.

Younger siblings can come and watch their older sibling, but they must be seated and sat with family members.

What if the weather isn't appropriate?

If the weather prevents the event going ahead, school will move to the reserve date. If school must cancel the event, you will receive a text message. If the weather on the reserve date prevents going ahead, the event will be cancelled. However, a recording of the children signing and signing 'Away in A Manger' - will be uploaded to MST

Will the children be dressed up?

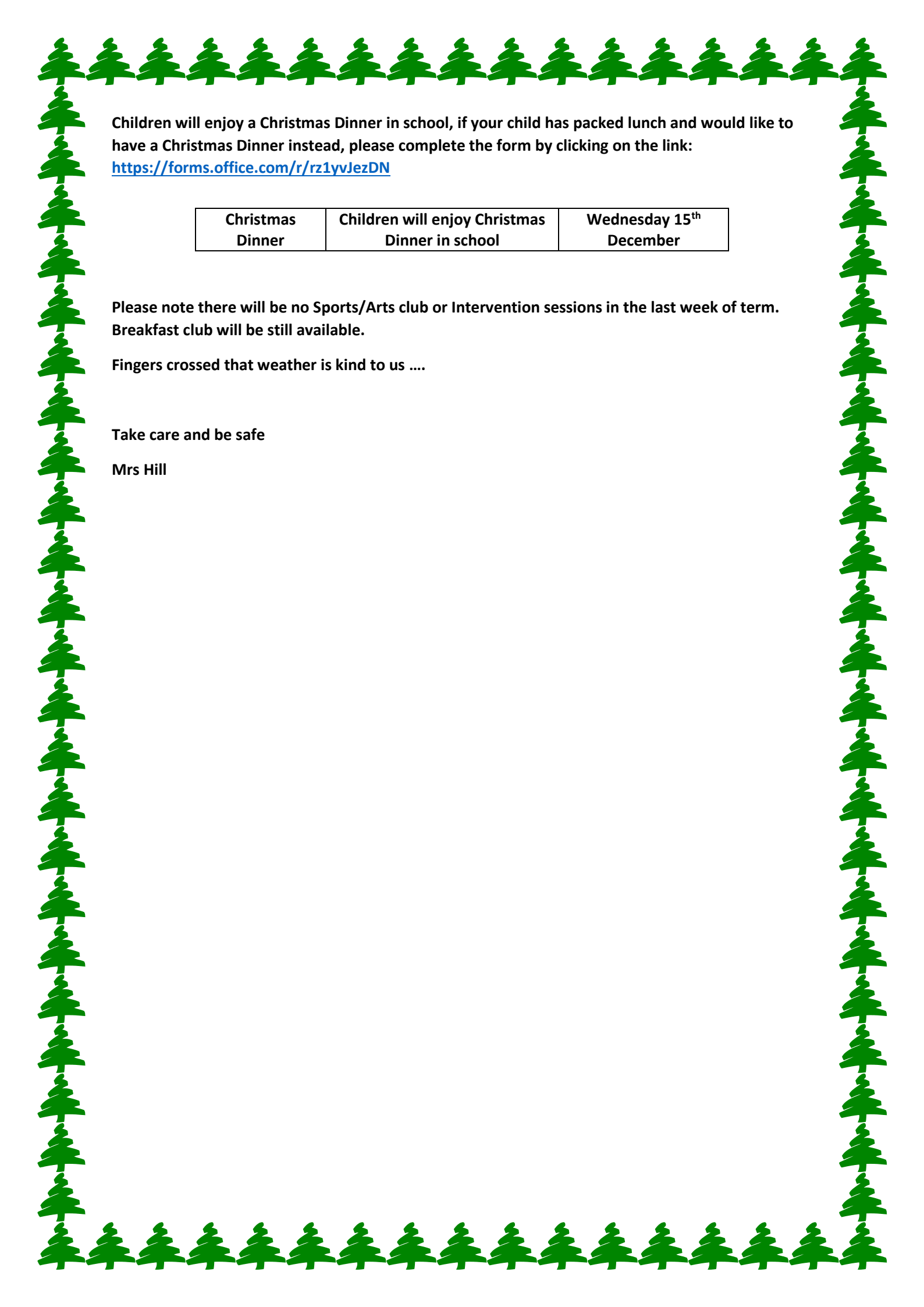
Yes, class teachers will allocate costumes or themes but will ensure children are warm. The class teacher will inform children and parents of the 'costumes' needed but we will ask that parents support school to provide warm clothing e.g., a vest, gloves.

Do I need to bring anything?

We are asking that parents/carers wear a face covering and dress warm and festive. There will be cocoa for a small donation. There will be decorations to buy made by the children and a raffle.

Other Key dates

Event	Description	Elwick
Christmas Jumper Day.	Children can come into school their Christmas jumpers of festive dress of their choice	Friday 10 th December
Christmas Party	Children will have party games within their class. Children can come to school in clothes of their choice. Party food donations will be greatly received but they must be pre-packaged due to Natasha's Law	Friday 17 th December



Children will enjoy a Christmas Dinner in school, if your child has packed lunch and would like to have a Christmas Dinner instead, please complete the form by clicking on the link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/rz1yvJezDN>

Christmas Dinner	Children will enjoy Christmas Dinner in school	Wednesday 15 th December
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Please note there will be no Sports/Arts club or Intervention sessions in the last week of term. Breakfast club will be still available.

Fingers crossed that weather is kind to us

Take care and be safe

Mrs Hill