

Dear mums, dads and carers,

December 2017 Newsletter

Page 1

*Dates for 'End of Year' parties
Carol singing session on Friday
Early closure on last day of term*

Page 2

*Christmas jumpers/lunch on Tuesday 19th
Reception's Winter Show reminder
Deadline for school applications*

Dates for our 'End of Year' parties

All of our rooms are holding celebrations to mark the end of the Autumn Term and of 2017 itself. Please speak to your child's keyperson about the specific arrangements for your room and if you can contribute healthy snacks (that don't contain nuts!).

Both Nursery classes will be holding their parties at **2.30pm on Thursday 14th December**, while Baby Room and Toddler Room will both be holding their parties at **2.30pm on Monday 18th December**. Children who do not normally attend the Children's Centre on those days/times are still welcome, so please feel free to bring them along to join in the fun. Meanwhile, Reception classes will be holding their parties in the afternoon of **Tuesday 19th December**.



Join us for a Carol singing session

There will be a carol singing session that parents/carers can attend on the final Friday of the Autumn term. It is taking place in the Outreach hall at **9.30am on Friday 15th December**, and ends at 9.50am.

Please come and join our children and staff on this special day to sing your hearts out and mark the end of the year. (The entrance from Blackstock Road closes at 9.30am, so make sure you're on time if you're coming that way!)

Notification of early closure on last day`

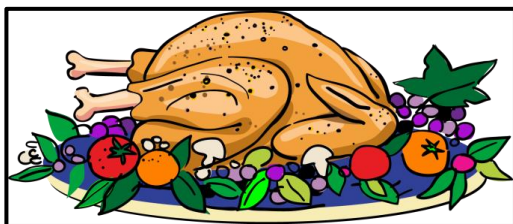
The last day of term is **Wednesday 20th December** and we'll be closing at **2.00pm** for all 'term-time only' children, as will the primary school. This means there's no extended day service for Reception.

However, there will still be a reduced child-care service for our 'all year round' families on this day. We'd appreciate these families collecting their children early (preferably by 4pm) so staff can clean the Centre before the Christmas break. If you expect difficulties please speak to Lorna Prynne or Selina Laville. We'll then see you all back on **Wednesday 3rd January**.



Christmas jumpers

Ambler children and staff will be raising money for a worthwhile cause by wearing their Christmas jumpers on **Tuesday 19th December**. If your child would like to join us in the festive spirit, and you are able to, a £1 donation would be much appreciated. (Please note this is not a non-uniform day for any older siblings in Year 1 or above...)

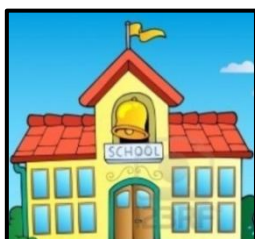


Reminder of special 'Christmas Lunch'

Caterlink's annual Christmas lunch will be served on **Tuesday 19th December**. The main course will be roast turkey breast served with chicken chipolata sausage, sage and onion stuffing, cranberry sauce and gravy, or baked butternut squash. Both options will be served with roast potatoes and seasonable vegetables. Meanwhile, desert will be gingerbread or mincemeat pie and cream or custard or a fresh fruit platter.

Reception's upcoming winter show

Reception are holding a full dress rehearsal of 'A Winter Show' on **Friday 15th December**, so please dress your child in black on this day. The performance itself is taking place on **Monday 18th December at 2pm**. Parents/carers are asked to arrive at either the School or Children's Centre admin office in plenty of time to be seated before the performance begins. You can take photos and film your own children but please use all pictures and footage sensibly, so don't upload anything to the internet or social media. Every child should be sent home with lines already, so please help our budding thespians practice them at home...



Deadline for primary school applications

All children who are currently in Nursery class are due to start primary school next September, so please make sure to apply online before the deadline of **15th January 2018**. It is very important that applications are made on time as otherwise you may miss out on your favoured choice of schools. To do so, Islington residents need to go to **www.islington.gov.uk/admissions**, while non-Islington residents should apply directly with their local council. There is no automatic transfer from our Nursery to our Reception class, even if you already have other siblings in the school.

Who to speak to and governance

We aim to have open communication. Your child's key person and then the room lead will be the people you have most contact with. However, there may be times when you want more support from the senior leadership team of **Lorna Prynne**, Children's Centre and EYFS Lead, or **Selina Laville**, Daycare Manager.

Communication and feedback

Each child has a pigeonhole labelled with his/her name. Please check this daily. The 'School Gateway' service is used to share information via email, text, online and app. If you have any compliments, complaints or suggestions to help us improve our services, please fill in a feedback form (available from the foyer).

Very best wishes,
The Ambler Team



Term dates and holidays

BR = Baby Room, TR = Toddler Room, N = Nursery
TTO = Term Time Only, AYR = All Year Round

AUTUMN TERM – 2017

Wednesday 20th December 2017

Last day of term – school and CC closes at 2pm for TTO places
BR, TR and N open later for AYR children

SPRING TERM – 2018

Wednesday 3rd January 2018

First day back for all children

Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2018

HALF TERM HOLS - Open for AYR children in BR, TR and N/Reception Playscheme only

Thursday 29th March 2018

Last day of term for TTO children

Friday 30th March and Monday 2nd April 2018

Children's Centre and school closed for Bank Holidays

Tuesday 3rd April to Friday 13th April 2018

EASTER HOLIDAYS - Open for AYR children in BR, TR and N/Reception Playscheme only

SUMMER TERM – 2018

Monday 16th April 2018

First day back for TTO children

Monday 7th May and Monday 28th May 2018

Children's Centre and school closed for Bank Holiday

Tuesday 29th May to Friday 1st June 2018

HALF TERM HOLS - Open for AYR children in BR, TR and N/Reception Playscheme only

Friday 15th June 2018

Children's Centre and school closed for Inset Day

Friday 20th July 2018

Last day of term – school and CC closes at 2pm for funded places
BR, TR and N open later for AYR children

Monday 23rd July to Thursday 16th August 2018

SUMMER HOLIDAYS - Open for AYR children in BR, TR and N/Reception Playscheme only