

Court Lane Infant School
Hilary Avenue,
Portsmouth, Hampshire,
PO6 2PP
Head of School: Mrs Karen Geddes
T 023 9237 8890
E inbox@courtlaneinf.co.uk
W <http://www.courtlaneinfant.co.uk>



Court Lane Junior School
Hilary Avenue,
Portsmouth, Hampshire,
PO6 2PP
Head Teacher: Mrs Judith Ramshaw
023 9237 5444 T
admin@courtlanejnr.co.uk E
<http://www.courtlanejunior.co.uk> W

Head Teacher of Court Lane Academies: Mrs Judith Ramshaw

24th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,



Christmas will carry on at Court Lane Academies



Ho Ho Ho,

Advent is now creeping up on us ☺ and we have plans up our sleeve to spread Christmas cheer and still have protective measures that help to keep our school community as infection controlled as possible. No-one wants to have to self-isolate for the 5 much anticipated days of less restrictions this holiday! Therefore, most of the typical treats will still continue, but with slightly different arrangements.

Regrettably, as I am sure you have guessed, there cannot be mass gatherings so there will be no Infant present buying day or Christmas fayre and there is no playground torchlit cheer or Junior carol service at the church this year. However, there is plenty afoot to keep Advent a magical time at Court Lane Academies and to ensure the learning continues. As well as what is outlined in this letter we have a few surprises in mind too!

Theme Days

As part of our farewell to Mrs Ramshaw who will sadly be leaving Court Lane Academies at the end of this term, we will be holding a theme day in each school as follows:

Monday 14th December – JUNIOR School – The theme for the Junior School on this day will be *'Alice in Wonderland'*. All JUNIOR pupils are invited to come into school 'crazily dressed' for the Mad Hatters Tea Party! We shall be making hats in school.

Thursday 17th December – INFANT School – The theme for the Infant School on this day will be *'Fairy Tales'*. All INFANT pupils are invited to come into school dressed as something from their favourite fairy tale. No accessories please.

Christmas Parties

Monday 14th December – JUNIOR School – Children at the JUNIOR School will have their Christmas Party on Monday 14th December (the same day as their 'Alice in Wonderland' theme day)

Thursday 17th December – INFANT School - Children at the INFANT School will have their Christmas Party on Thursday 17th December (the same day as their 'Fairy Tale' theme day)

Children will have their school lunch or packed lunch as usual on their party day but, in addition, we are asking if you could provide a small Christmas snack for your child to enjoy. A single item, no party plates please. Please ensure the snack is brought into school on the morning of their party. In line with our school policy, we request that you do not send anything in that may contain nuts – including chocolate spread.

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Christmas Lunch

Tuesday 15th December – JUNIOR School

Wednesday 16th December – INFANT School

You will have received the letter last week about the Christmas lunch. If your child would like a Christmas lunch on this day then please ensure you book this online via Scopay by next Monday 30th November. Children are encouraged to come to school wearing their Christmas jumper or Christmas t-shirt on the day of their lunch. At the Juniors we shall be seizing the opportunity on Tuesday 15th December to also sing outside in our protective bubbles. So coats absolutely essential. The remainder of the week – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, please ensure Junior pupils wear school uniform.

Exchanging of Christmas Cards

We have had queries from parents asking if children will be able to swap Christmas cards this year due to the Covid restrictions. We are pleased to confirm that children will be able to exchange Christmas cards with children and adults from within their own class bubble. In order to do this safely and taking into account the quarantine period, we are asking that children bring their cards into their class by **Friday 11th December** where they will be able to post them into their class post box. Children will then be able to bring their Christmas cards home on the day of their Christmas lunch. Similarly, some parents have asked if staff will be able to accept gifts this year. This is possible, however we will need to quarantine these for 72 hours before staff can open them. Therefore, if you would like your child to see their teacher opening a gift before the end of term, we ask that these are also brought in by Friday 11th December for quarantine purposes.

Finally, may we take this opportunity to thank you for your understanding, patience and support during the unusual and sometimes challenging times. The positive feedback you are giving to our staff on a regular basis makes a huge difference to them. We are doing everything we can to support our families during this time, so if any family finds themselves being adversely affected by the restrictions, please contact us. In the meantime, we will do our utmost to make this Advent a special time.

Kind regards,



Mrs J Ramshaw
Headteacher



Mrs K Geddes
Head of School