Dear Parents/Carers

It was wonderful to see so many of you join us at school last night for some hot chocolate as we waited for the arrival of Santa! We do hope to see many more of you join us this evening for our Christmas Fayre from 6-8pm!

A huge **congratulations** to our amazing Nursery staff team on their recent inspection where they received well deserved high praise!  I have attached a copy of their report.

**Fishermoss Family Festive Kindness Challenge……** Amongst all the excitement this time of year brings, we thought it would be special to focus on our school value of **kindness**, with the emphasis on ‘doing’ rather than giving. We would like to invite all in our Fishermoss Family to take part.  Please find attached. We will be sharing our acts of kindness with each other in school.

**December Dates for your diary……**

Individual **Class Christmas Parties** will be held on the following afternoons:

* Thu 15th P2/3 & P3
* Fri 16th P2 & P3/4
* Mon 19th P1M & P1S
* Tue 20th P5 & P6/7
* Wed 21st P4/5
* Fri 23rd P6 & P7

Our **PSC** are kindly arranging Party Bags.  Pupils can come to school dressed in party clothes or they can change at school.  Party clothes can be anything from frocks to Christmas jumpers to casual……whatever they would normally wear to a party.

Fri 16th Primary 1 **Nativity Performance** to Primary 1 Parents 10am-details were emailed to P1 Parents earlier today.

Wed 21st **Cinema Outing** to Vue Cinema, Aberdeen to see Disney’s ‘Strange World’.  As previously shared, the **PSC** are kindly funding this event therefore there is no cost to families.  A Microsoft permission form for your child/ren to attend will be issued next week.

Thu 22nd **Christmas Church Service** 9:30am-Portlethen Parish Church-Parents are very welcome to join us.

Thu 22nd **Christmas Lunch.** The menu was shared in last week’s Friday update. A reminder that, there is no alternative to the Christmas lunch menu being served on this day e.g.  sandwiches etc If you haven’t already done so, please complete the online form for your child/ren using the following link **by Monday 5th December** if you wish your child to have a school lunch on the 22nd.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=BpPZ_i1NCUSVndDttzBKCwpgAr6qxnRDhbRWYJYU3zlUMjZNQTlVMFZQU1RDVjgyUFZGUUVFQUpDVy4u>

**Christmas Jumper Day** is an annual Charity event organised by **Save the Children Fund.** As discussed at our recent PSC meeting, it has not previously been a chosen charity event at Fishermoss as it involves a burden on families in terms of purchasing jumpers…. not everyone has Christmas jumpers and children grow fast each year!  We have a tendency to select charity events that are accessible to all families, regardless of their income, e.g. Dress as you please days, Crazy Hair Day, where children can wear anything, can easily get involved and feel included.  If, however, any parent wishes to support Save the Children Fund’s Christmas Jumper Day and wants to send their child into school that day wearing a Christmas jumper we have absolutely no issue with this.

Other occasions when pupils can dress up in Christmas jumpers, or sparkly frocks or anything else Christmassy is for our school Christmas Lunch, our trip to the Cinema and class Christmas Parties.

Finally, some **Fishermoss Family Friday Homework**……the Carols we are practising for our Church Christmas Service are ‘Away in a Manger’, ‘It was on a Starry Night’ and ‘O Little Town of Bethlehem’…. it would be super if you could have these carols as festive background music at home to help our pupils learn the words.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

Kindest regards

**Margaret M. Ferguson**

**Head Teacher**

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Aberdeenshire Council Education and Children’s Services

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**‘Being the best we can be’**

**Respect-Honesty-Responsibility-Kindness-Hardworking**