



# Nerrols' Newsletter

6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I hope this Newsletter finds you well as we edge into December and try to juggle our busy lives with everything else that the festive season brings! We kicked off the Christmas season with our fantastic Friends of Nerrols Christmas Fayre last Friday, and it was great to see this so well attended and supported. A huge thank you to Rachael and the Friends of Nerrols team for organising another successful event for us all to enjoy with our families! This week, we have continued the celebrations with our Blossom Nativity performances on Thursday, in which our young stars created memories that I am sure will stay with us all for a lifetime! Over the next couple of weeks we look forward to lots more, including the Willow and Birch Nativity performances, our Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Concerts and trip to the Tacchi Morris for the Cinderella Pantomime! Please do make sure you take the time to read and make a note in your diaries about what is happening between now and the end of the term so that everybody benefits from our upcoming schedule!



## Staff Update

Following a rigorous and competitive recruitment process, I am excited to let you know that Mrs Marriott has been appointed as the Deputy Headteacher of Nerrols Primary School and Nursery and will take up her new position at the start of the 2025-2026 academic year. Mrs Marriott has been the Senior Teacher at Nerrols for the past few years, where she has supported the strategic and operational running of the School, has developed a wealth of knowledge and experience in helping our children and staff to achieve their best and has contributed significantly to our successes. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mrs Marriott on her new appointment and look forward to seeing how she can continue to add value to everything we do!

Unfortunately, I also share the sad news that Miss Mahoney, who works in our Main Office, will be leaving us at the end of this term to begin an exciting travelling adventure with her partner after Christmas! Sarah's contributions to the children, families and staff of Nerrols have been truly invaluable and I know that she will be sorely missed by us all. I am sure you will join me in making her last couple of weeks with us as enjoyable as possible and wish her the very best of luck for her future! Thank you for everything, Sarah!

## Curriculum Focus: What is my child learning about at school?

Following feedback from parents and carers through our Parents' Forum, you should have received an 'Autumn Term 2 Overview' document that details what your child will be learning about across the curriculum, which we hope you find useful in supporting your child's education.

On the second page of the document, you should also find some ideas that you may wish to complete at home with your child to support them with their learning. We are aiming to develop a culture in which homework is viewed as an extension of our children's learning, which will also allow them opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge within different subjects and for parents and carers to be involved in promoting discussion around different topics.

To celebrate this extension of learning, we will hold a 'Fair' on the last Wednesday of each half-term. Parents will be invited to attend the Fair to celebrate and explore the range and depth of children's extended learning, which will encourage children's intrinsic motivation to extend their learning beyond the classroom.

This half-term's Homework Fair will be held on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** at 3:15pm with a focus on **Geography**. Please can your child bring in their homework on the morning of **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December** to enable us to set up the fair during the day. We look forward to seeing you and your children there!

## Dad's Tuning into kids

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) are running a FREE seven-session programme for fathers and adult males of school-aged children to learn more about managing children's feelings such as worry, frustration and anger. The programme can help to understand more about children's emotional intelligence, which in turn will help them to concentrate better at school, have greater success with making and keeping friends, managing conflict with peers and being more able to calm down when upset or angry. Attached to this Newsletter is a flyer advertising the MHST's programme more, including the dates of the sessions and how to book your place!



## Christmas Cards

As in previous years, we have placed a large Christmas Post Box outside the main School Office area before and after school each day for any children and families wishing to send Christmas cards to other members of our community. Please ensure all cards are named (including class name) so we can identify the correct recipient!

## Nativities!

Our children in Willow and Birch will be performing their Nativity performances on **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 10:00am and 5:30pm**.

We really hope that you will be able to join us, but regretfully we will need to limit the number of family members able to attend to 2 per child for each performance in order to comply with health and safety regulations given the capacity of our School Hall and to ensure that members of all of our families are able to watch their children. We will send home 2 tickets for the morning performance and 2 tickets for the evening performance with each child, and politely ask that any unwanted tickets are returned to us so that we can offer these to families wishing for more tickets. These will be re-allocated based on need, for example to those families with siblings who cannot get childcare.

We will check tickets on the door and politely request that all parents and carers adhere to our expectations to make it a fair and enjoyable experience for us all.

We will also hold dress rehearsals during the school day so that all siblings have the chance to watch our performances, which promise to be memorable!

## Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Services

Our children in Key Stage 2 will be performing a selection of Christmas carols and songs in our School Hall on the following dates.

Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December at 5:30pm	Maple and Rowan Class Christmas Carol Concert
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December at 5:30pm	Hazel and Oak Class Christmas Carol Concert

As with our Nativities, we will need to limit the number of family members to 2 per child who are able to attend. We will send home tickets with the children closer to the time and will also check these on the door. We ask that the children are brought back to school for 5pm in order to be best prepared for the Services, whilst family members watching will be allowed into the Hall from 5:15pm. Again, we politely request that all parents and carers adhere to our expectations in order to make it a fair and enjoyable experience for us all.

## Christmas Pantomime Visit – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December

We have once again arranged for our whole school to visit The Tacchi Morris Arts Centre to watch a pantomime performance of Cinderella on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December during the school day. Thanks to the generous support of our community at our fundraising events and after agreement at a recent Friends Of Nerrols meeting, we are delighted to be able to subsidise the cost for each child to attend this visit to just £10.00 per child, which covers the cost of the ticket and transport. Payments are now able to be made via MCAS.

## Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Although this day is set to be held nationwide on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, we invite the children and staff to wear a Christmas jumper alongside the rest of their usual uniform on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December**. This is the same day as our whole school Christmas Dinner, and we hope will make things feel even more Christmassy! We are also aware that there is a financial implication to this, and so if families are unable to take part or contribute this time please do not worry. If children would like to still wear a Christmas jumper but are unable to contribute to the Save the Children charity, this is of course fine too.

Please do remember that this is optional and that if children do not wish to take part they should wear their school jumper or cardigan as usual. If you would like to find out more about Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day 2024, you can do so here: [Christmas Jumper Day 2024 | Save the Children UK](#)

## Staying Safe at Nerrols

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping all of our children safe, I must stress the importance of all parents and carers ensuring they do not push the main pedestrian gate open so far so that it stays open at the beginning and end of the day. This has been happening more and more recently and, whilst I know is done with good intentions in mind, increases the chances of one of our children being able to leave the school site without a parent or carer, which I also know would be of great concern and worry to us all. This gate was never designed to remain open and should close automatically, but by being forced to remain open the spring that helps it to self-close has now broken.

Secondly, and continuing the theme of gates on our school site, parents and carers are reminded to please not use the gate by the Blossom Class outdoor play equipment as a shortcut to access the site since the duralawn surface underneath can become slippery when wet. The School accepts no responsibility for any accidents or injuries caused by people walking across this area since it is not designed for such purposes, and the path that leads around it is much more suitable.

Thank you very much for your support and understanding with both of these matters.

## After School Clubs – from January 2025

We are delighted to be able to let you know about our plans to provide our children with opportunities to be physically active as part of our extra-curricular provision in the New Year!

Day	After School Club (3:30pm-4:30pm)	Further Details
<b>Mondays</b>	Y1-Y4 Gymnastics with Premier Education	Begins Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January Booking: Nerrols Primary School – Premier Education ( <a href="#">Nerrols Primary School – Premier Education</a> )
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Y3-Y6 Girls Football (with Mr Templeton)	Begins Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January Booking details are now live on MCAS!
<b>Thursdays</b>	R-Y2 Nerrols Multi-Sports (with Mr Templeton)	Begins Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> January Booking details are now live on MCAS!
<b>Fridays</b>	Y3-Y6 Nerrols Tag Rugby (with Mr Templeton)	Begins Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January Booking details are now live on MCAS!

If you have any issues with bookings on MCAS, please contact the School Office.

## Office Update: Children's Christmas Dinner – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

Hopefully you will have already received communication about our Christmas Dinner on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024. Roast turkey or Quorn, pigs in blankets or meat-free sausages, stuffing, potatoes and much more will be served along with some festive music that should make this a very special lunchtime for the children. The deadline for booking a Christmas dinner is Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December. On MCAS this will still appear as casserole, however any chosen option will be changed over to the Christmas Dinner menu, all the vegetarian choices and allergens will be adhered to. Please contact the office if you have any issues!

## Dates for the diary

Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Willow & Birch Class Nativity performances (10:00am and 5:30pm)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Geography Curriculum Fair, 3:15pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Maple & Rowan Class Christmas Carol Concert (5:30pm)
Week Commencing Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery Christmas Craft Open Mornings (9:30am-11:00am)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Hazel & Oak Class Christmas Carol Concert (5:30pm)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Pantomime Trip (Tacchi Morris)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of Autumn 2
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	INSET Day – School closed to children
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	First day of Spring 1

Have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing you next week!



Matt Kerton  
Headteacher