

Dear Parents,

It has been lovely seeing so many of you at our decorating the tree events. Next week we have the nativity, our Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day.

To remind you of the arrangements for our nativity:

It will be at St. John's Church, Stoke on **Wednesday 13th December at 4.30pm**. It would be lovely if the children come dressed as one of the Nativity characters, for example:

- An angel
- Shepherd
- King
- Mary
- Joseph
- Sheep
- Donkey

If you need any help please just speak to your child's key person.

We are hoping that the children will join us at the front of the church to perform the nativity but if they would rather stay sitting with you that is absolutely fine too.

A member of staff will be filming the show and you can order DVDs at £5 each. The DVDs will be available from Monday 18th December.

You can park in the Lido car park or meet staff at either nursery to go together to the church. It is an easy walk from York Road and staff will be leaving York Road nursery at 4pm. It is a bit longer from Hazel Avenue so some staff will be taking the bus from outside the nursery at 4.02pm to the church. The bus costs £2.50 return for adults with children under 5 free, older children are £1.25.

We will be serving some refreshments after the nativity in the church hall.

There are plenty of seats in the church so please bring grandparents, siblings, friends etc.

The Children's Centre team have really enjoyed getting involved in 'Decorate the tree' events across both sites. We have spent time in play and learns making Christmas decorations and practising our Christmas songs ready for the family nativity.

Clare Bowers, outreach worker is leaving us on Thursday 7th December. She has worked at the centre for 8 years and has been an invaluable member of the team supporting many families, she will be greatly missed. We wish Clare all the very best in her exciting new role in the council's Housing department.

We have been reviewing our **holiday club** provision and will be making a few changes from January 2018: we will run each day from 8.30am to 4.30pm; we will have different themes for certain days; we are looking at offering a discounted rate for siblings of nursery children aged 5-8 years. More details will follow in January.

Kind regards

Sally Cave
Head teacher

Dates for your diary:

Weds 13th December 4.30pm: Family nativity at St John's Church, Stoke for all the family.
NB: no tea club

Thursday 14th December: Christmas lunch for all children and staff

Fri 15th Dec: Christmas jumper day, children may come wearing a Christmas top/jumper and we will be collecting voluntary donations for Save the Children.

20th Dec 11.30am and 2.45pm: Christmas sing along, parents invited

21st Dec 9am-12pm: Christmas party for all nursery children, staff and Santa! Parent volunteers, hopefully! **Nursery term ends at 12pm for all, no afternoon nursery or tea club**

21st Dec – Miller Ark Children's Centre activity. Please enquire at reception.

22nd Dec-3rd Jan inclusive: no nursery and no holiday club

Spring term:

Thurs 4th Jan: Nursery term starts

Week beginning Mon 5th February: parent meetings

12th-16th Feb: half term with holiday club

Mon 19th Feb: Centre closed for inset day 3

Thurs 1st March: 5-5.30pm Bedtime stories event

Tues 6th March 2.30-3.30pm and Thurs 8th March 9-10am: Everybody read together

Fri 23rd March: sports day

Thurs 29th March 9-12: Easter party with egg hunt

3rd-6th April and 9th-13th April: Easter holidays with holiday club