

December

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Dates for your diary

Thursday 1st December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Craft Session	2.00—3.15pm
Friday 2nd December	Pantomime in the hall for Reception, Year 1 & 2 children Key Stage 2 Christmas Craft Session	2.00—3.15pm
Monday 5th December	Key Stage 1 Dress Rehearsal	
Tuesday 6th December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Production Year 4 Swimming Pyramid Carol Service	6.00pm
Wednesday 7th December	Reception Christmas Production Nursery Christmas Craft Session Christmas Bingo at The Legion	2.15pm 9.00—10.00am 7.00pm
Thursday 8th December	Reception Christmas Production	2.15pm
Friday 9th December	Reception Christmas Production Year 3 Parental Engagement	2.15pm 2.30pm
Monday 12th December	Head Teacher's Awards Assembly Key Stage 1 Christmas Carol Service at The Priory Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Service at The Priory	
Tuesday 13th December	Year 4 Swimming	
Wednesday 14th December	Nursery Christmas Party	
Thursday 15th December	Christmas Discos Years 3 & 4 (4.30pm—6.00pm) Years 5 & 6 (6.30—8.00pm) Reception Christmas Party	
Friday 16th December	Christmas Discos (Reception 3.15—4.15pm) Years 1 & 2 (4.30—5.30pm) Christmas Jumper Day (wear your Christmas jumper to school for Save the Children) Term Ends	
Wednesday 4th January	Children return to school	

Operation Christmas Child

Thank you to everyone who donated a box for Operation Christmas Child. The boxes have been collected and will now be distributed



These Christmas Pudding Biscuits are slightly chocolate-y, delicious and fun to make and decorate!

You will need:

Makes 16
175g soft unsalted butter
175g caster sugar
3 eggs
400g plain flour
75g cocoa powder
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
200g white chocolate
Green writing icing
Glace cherries

Instructions:

Pre-heat the oven to 180C / Gas Mark 4. Cream together the butter and sugar. Beat in the eggs. Sift the flour, cocoa powder, salt and baking powder in to the bowl and mix in well to form a dough. Wrap the dough in cling-film and pop into the fridge for at least 1 hour. Roll out the dough to about 1/2 cm thick. Use a large circle cutter to cut 12 circles. Place on a lined or greased baking tray and bake for 12 minutes. The biscuits should be browning slightly but still spongy to touch. They will firm up as they cool. When the biscuits are cool, melt the white chocolate. Coat half of each biscuit in white chocolate. Trim the glace cherries into small pieces and put them on to each biscuit to form the holly berries. Use writing icing to draw on the holly leaves.



Thank you to everyone at Leominster Primary School who gave food for the Leominster Community Larder at the Hereford Festival. Your support and generosity is much appreciated.

Please could we ask you to take care on the footpaths in and around school now the temperature is falling. There are also a number of leaves on the footpaths and although these are regularly cleared it may still be slippery underfoot.



Year 5 & 6 Futsal at Point 4

Congratulations to the Year 5 & 6 girls for winning the Futsal tournament on 24th November. A & B sides did terrifically well, with the A side beating St Pauls in the final. Well done to everyone who took part.

Christmas in India is celebrated with a Christmas tree which is decorated, big paper stars hang in front of the house and at night lights glow inside the stars. Carol services start a week before the 25th December and carollers go around every house at night. Christmas cakes are given to friends and neighbours. Catholics fast, they don't eat one meal and avoid meat and alcohol from the 1st to 24th December. Cribs are made and placed in homes and churches. After midnight mass on 24th December families cut a plum cake and eat breakfast which includes non vegetarian dishes. Food is given to neighbours and relatives. Firework displays start a week before Christmas. Akhila 6L

In Romania, we have celebrations. We open presents, we eat cake with nuts and chocolates. We sing songs at Christmas, we sing about Father Christmas and the white plaits in his hair., we also go carol singing throughout the area we live in. We eat pork on Christmas day. It is usually snowy weather. We decorate Christmas trees which have a star at the top. It is a big holiday in Romania and we celebrate Jesus's birthday.

Gabriella 6L & Andreea 6F

In Sweden, Christmas is celebrated on 24th December. We go to the shops on 24th December and people dressed up as Santa Claus are on the roof and they throw sweets down to us, we can take as many as we want. We open our presents on 24th December about 9.00am in the morning. We drink a special wine, after drinking the wine we spend time with each other and then we go and watch a show with live pigs and you buy your Christmas tree too, it is like a big market. It is always snowy at Christmas, sometimes the snow is up to my waist! It is always freezing cold, sometimes 14 degrees below. We used to make little biscuits on a Franco Belge Stove (like shortbread but with ginger in them) and give them to our friends. Tuva 6L

In Bulgaria, Christmas is celebrated the same way as in the UK. We hang up our stockings a few days before Christmas and every day we have a small gift in there. On Christmas Eve the owner of the house lights the Yule Log which is cut from an oak, elm or Krusevo tree, this smoulders all night and keeps the fire alive. Traditionally the festive table has 7,9 or 12 meatless dishes, this is because there are 7 days in the week, 9 is the months of pregnancy and 12 symbolises the months in a year. On Christmas day we open our large presents from Father Christmas. Sometimes we go to church where we sing carols. After the church service we all gather to dance, according to popular belief this symbolises longevity. Male carol singers who are bachelors or engaged start practising from 20th December and perform ritual songs wishing families a good harvest and a healthy family, they are given a bun, money and wine to drink and afterwards all the carol singers have a feast, any products left over is donated to the poor and the monies raised goes towards the local school, church and community centre. Christmas is spent with the whole family. We all decorate the tree, we have a star at the top. We leave a slice of cake that we have made for Father Christmas. Everything in Bulgaria is snowy at Christmastime and on the last day of school we have a snowball fight! Last but by no means least, don't forget to make a wish at midnight on Christmas Eve, according to legend at this time the sky opens and every wish will come true. Viktoria 6S

In Hungary, at my Gran and Grandad's house we eat an apple pie. We always have a ton of snow so we can play outside, building snowmen, having a snowball fight. Our presents go underneath the Christmas Tree. The Hungarian Santa is called Mikulas who visits children on December 6th, he is dressed in red and holds a shepherd's crook in his hand. We don't hang up a stocking we place a boot by the back door for Saint Mikulas to fill. At lunchtime, we sing our special Christmas Carol.

In Poland, on Christmas Eve we eat a special soup called Borscht (which is made from beetroot), followed by carp and then pierogi (a kind of dumpling). We always leave one space at the table in case someone who is poor needs to share our meal. We dance to music, then after Holy Communion we eat a small piece of bread which has pictures of Jesus and Mary on, we break a piece off and give it to a member of a family or someone else at the Church and we wish them a long life and prosperity.

Father Christmas is known as St. Mikolaj in Polish. We leave St. Mikolaj a glass of milk and some biscuits. Christmas presents are placed under the tree, our trees have sweets on. Wesolych Swiat! (Merry Christmas in Polish).

Matti & Natalia 5BP



Priory Church Events

Thursday 22nd December	Messy Church Crafts	4.00pm
	Christingle Service (followed by Party Tea)	5.00pm
Saturday 24th December	Crib Service	4.30pm
Sunday 25th December	Family Christmas Eucharist	10.00am