



Academy Newsletter

Friday 11th December 2020
Autumn Term
Issue: 13

Please see the new guidance below from the Department of Health and Social Care which applies from Monday 14th December.

HM Government | NHS Test and Trace

If you have any coronavirus symptoms or test positive you must self-isolate for **10** days

If you are a close contact of someone who tests positive, you must self-isolate for **10** days

International arrivals, you must self-isolate from when you were last in a high risk country for **10** days



We have made adjustments to our Academy uniform so your child can wear a plain black, blue or green gilet or fleece for inside use. We currently have a limited number of Academy fleeces (see pictures) for the cost of £13.00. These are available in sizes 9-10 (x2) and will be allocated on a first come first served basis via the Academy Office. If these prove to be popular, we may purchase some more to meet demand.





Christmas at the Academy

As this Christmas period is a little unusual this year, we are trying to still ensure the children are experiencing some of the usual Christmas festivities – albeit in a different way. Please see below some of our Christmas events.

Panto Online: Jack and the Beanstalk

We find ourselves in unexpected times with our great festive tradition of the family pantomime cancelled in many towns and cities across the land. But riding to the rescue to make sure that panto-loving audiences don't miss out on this special Christmas experience is 'Blue Peter' legend Peter Duncan. Peter has decided to use his own 'Giant' back garden to film **JACK AND THE BEANSTALK** - a socially distanced pantomime complete with ingenious sets, fabulous costumes... and even a real beanstalk! We have purchased an Academy ticket so we can stream it directly to our classes over the next two weeks. We promise you boos, cheers, 'he's behind yous', a sing-a-long song and all the classic panto antics that we love.

Filming of EYFS, Year 2 and Year 6 Nativities: 15th and 16th December

Screening details to follow.

Christmas Liturgy for Schools: 17th December

Archbishop John will be celebrating a Christmas Liturgy on Thursday 17th December. This liturgy will be held virtually so our classes can participate online.

Christmas Party Day: Thursday 17th December

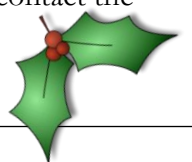
On Thursday 17th December, the last day of term, the children will have their Christmas party in their bubbles. On this day, the children can attend the Academy in suitable party clothes – please take into account the weather conditions at the moment and that the rooms are still ventilated. PE will not take place on this day. On this day your child can also bring in a container with party food **just for their own consumption**. This could be a small cake, a packet of crisps and a biscuit. This will be additional to their Academy lunch, instead of the buffet that is usually provided. This food **will not** be shared with any other children. Appropriate socially distanced games will be played and the children will still have lots of fun!

Christmas Cards

To date we have not had any positive cases of Covid 19 amongst children or staff, which may be partially due to the measures we have in place of not transferring items to or from the Academy. With this in mind we have made the difficult decision not to send Christmas Cards to one another. We understand this has been a difficult year and we would like to thank you for your continued support.

Christmas Crafts and Presents

On Thursday 17th December the children will be bringing home any of their Christmas crafts they have made along with a small present from their class teacher (which will have been quarantined prior to sending home). These will be sent home in brand new, clean carrier bags so there is no need to send your child to the Academy with a carrier bag from home. We appreciate that we have only been sending home essential items, so if you would not like your child to bring this home with them or you would prefer for it to be sent home after the Christmas period, please contact the Academy office who will pass this information onto the class teacher.



Pre-Loved Uniform

In order to help parents spread their money a little further the PTA have spent time sorting, washing and preparing a considerable amount of Pre-Loved Uniform. Please find attached a uniform inventory and you wish to purchase some uniform please contact the Academy Office.

Ten Ten Parent Newsletter

Take a look at the December newsletter from Ten Ten using the link below or via the link on the Catholic Life at Home tab on the Academy website.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-newsletter/>

It is full of wonderful Advent activities and prayers.

Our Lady of the Crays

First Holy Communion 2021

The next First Holy Communion Masses are scheduled for the 29th and 30th of May 2021. If you have a child in Year 3 or above and are interested in them joining the First Holy Communion programme, please send an email with your details to the parish office

(crayvalley@rcaos.org.uk) as soon as possible. An information meeting for parents will be held on **Thursday the 10th of December 2020 at 7pm.**

Advent Countdown Calendar

Share the wonderful events of the Christmas story during Advent with your child at home using the Advent Countdown Calendar on the Catholic Life at Home link on the Academy website. Each day you can share a scripture reading and picture with your family as we prepare for the birth of Jesus.

SEN-Friendly Football Training

Orpington Football Club would like to invite children and young people of all abilities aged 7-15 to join their SEN friendly football training at Goddington Park on 19 December from 10-11am.

There will be more training dates in 2021 which will be confirmed and each session is £3. All the children need is an ability to move freely on the grass and a willingness to listen, play and have fun!

More information [here](#)

MENCAP Drop-In

Our last drop-in of 2020 will be on Thursday 17th December at 11am – flyer attached on the SEND page of the Academy website. If you'd like to join us to talk about anything related to life with autism, do email autismfamilysupport@bromleymencap.org to be sent the joining details.

Remember that Sarah and Jasmine can be contacted via autismfamilysupport@bromleymencap.org if you have any support needs.

PTA Fundraising

We have had our very first 'OneLottery' draw and one lucky parent has won £20. However, we are still under the number of supporters we need to maintain any momentum (and increase the weekly prize money), so please sign up, and get as many friends and family to join in as you can - anyone can play whether linked to the Academy or not. Remember, we are raising money to help support our children going forward!

Just go to onelottery.co.uk click on 'support a good cause' and the rest is plain sailing!

With thanks - and a Merry Christmas to all - from your PTA

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for donations – we have currently collected £140. Donations are still being collected.



Star of the Week

Nursery Stanley **Year 3** Belle
EYFS Joshua **Year 4** Olivia
Year 1 Esther **Year 5** Aadya
Year 2 Carys **Year 6** Chioma

Warning – Exemplar Education

It has been brought to our attention that a company called Exemplar Education is contacting some of our parents and using the Academy name regarding additional tuition. Please be aware that the Academy does not endorse any tuition services in this way and we have not shared any details with them. We would urge you to proceed with caution if this company tries to contact you.

Mental Health Survey

What do people in Bromley understand about Mental Health and the support available to them if they need it?

Bromley School Wellbeing Service offers free Emotional Wellbeing support to young people and those that care for them (parents/carers and school staff) in the Bromley Borough. For more info please go to their website - www.bromley-y.org

They are trying to better understand what people think about Mental Health and support they can access in Bromley. This information will help them to develop their service in the best way possible. They **have created an on-line survey and ask if you might be prepared to fill it out via the link or QR code below by 31st Dec 2020. It should take no longer than 10 minutes to complete.**

The survey can be found here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=s8-t7bd8AkKWjy2ocUVGS7mieUImLW0FBgpIIBZWoGpFUN0MyNDBGNk9OT0Y1MEZJTU1DNzVDRtbrNy4u>

Or here:



Diary Dates

Diary Dates	Events
Tuesday 15 th December 2020	Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 15 th December 2020	Year 2 and 6 Filming of Nativity
Wednesday 15 th December 2020	EYFS Filming of Nativity
Thursday 17 th December 2020	Christmas Liturgy for Schools
Thursday 17 th December 2020	Christmas Party Day
Thursday 17 th December 2020	Last day of Autumn Term Stars finish at 4:30pm

Christmas Lunch

Thank you to Danielle and her team for a delicious Christmas Lunch on Wednesday. The children had a lovely time, as the pictures below show.



December 2020

YOUNG MINDS

fighting for young people's mental health



Supporting you to support them

This year has been extra stressful, especially if you're a parent. With so much uncertainty, it's entirely normal for your child to be finding things difficult, and for you to be unsure how best to look after their mental health and wellbeing, as well as your own. It's not easy, but you're doing the best you can and you deserve credit.

But whatever you and your child are dealing with, you are not alone. We're here for you and we have lots of advice and practical tips that can really help. Use our new Supporting Parents Helpfinder to find the support that is right for you and your child, whatever they've been going through during the pandemic.