

Information Sheet - 1 December 2017

NICOD STAMPS

How we distribute Christmas Cards in Ballydown

If children want to give out cards in school they should purchase NICOD Stamps priced @ £1 per sheet of 36 or individually at 3p each. These go on sale from Monday 4th December and can be taken home if children aren't able to stick them on their own cards. Each Christmas card envelope should have the name of the person for whom the card is intended, their class and teacher's name clearly addressed. Cards are posted in a Christmas Box and these are then delivered to each room during the day.



Christmas Performances

P4 Play " Out of this World Christmas " Wednesday 6th December (10am & 7PM – in the school hall)

Nurses (with a musical note icon) the school hall)

"A King is Born" Friday 8th Dec



P1-P3 (with KS2 choir & ensemble group)

Bran Tub

It is a long established Christmas tradition in Ballydown that each pupil brings in a present for a Class Bran Tub. Pupils are not permitted to exchange presents with friends during school. We operate the Bran Tub because we don't want any child to feel left out or disappointed at not receiving presents. Each Boy/Girl should bring an appropriate present wrapped and labelled **BOY or GIRL**. This present (not sweets) should not exceed £5.00. **Pupils should bring these in before Friday 17th**. These presents are then randomly selected during class parties.



Christmas Charities in lieu of Staff Presents

We continue to receive very positive feedback from parents when money is donated to charities in lieu of buying staff Christmas presents.

The reason for initiating this was that Ballydown is a growing school. We have teachers on job-share in some classes and often more than one classroom assistant in certain rooms. Buying individual presents for teachers, classroom assistants and others places much pressure on parents and can be exacerbated if you have more than one child in the school.

More importantly, when you give money for charity, **others in need are benefiting**. As a result, all members of staff, which includes teaching and non-teaching, have decided to continue the practice. If you wish to contribute to the nominated charities (**you are under no obligation to do so**) place a donation in an envelope marked **STAFF CHARITY. Details of charities to follow.**

Christmas Holidays

School will close from 12 NOON on Wednesday 20th December and a staggered closure will take place to avoid congestion. Details will follow later. Parking will be available at the rear of the school.

School will reopen on Thursday 4th January 2018.



OPEN DAY

Our **OPEN DAY** for children who are seeking enrolment to Primary 1 and Nursery in September 2017 will take place on Tuesday 6th December from 2pm - 4.00pm.