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Monday 5th December

Dear parent/carer,

I hope you are having a lovely build up to Christmas. We are really busy between now and Christmas with a range of festive activities. The children have worked so hard this term and deserve some enjoyable treats!

We look forward to seeing many of you at the church next Friday 16th for our nativity.

Yours faithfully,

Amanda Webb



Why don't you try our favourite Christmas tradition: Jolabokaflod

What is Jolabokaflod and what country is it done in? Jolabokaflod is a wintertime tradition loved by Icelanders across the world. What is it exactly? The English translation of Jolabokaflod is "the Christmas Book Flood." On Christmas Eve, you'll find most Icelanders snuggled in with a cup of something warm all doing the same thing: reading a book. All you'll need is a glass of hot chocolate and a book that you and your children love! This year, we're going to introduce this tradition to Talavera Junior school in class so that they can have a go at home on Christmas Eve!





Here are some of our key dates for December.

Additional letters for key events highlighted in yellow will also be sent to parents with more information detailing the events.

If you have any questions about any events, please talk to your child's class teacher.

You can also always ask for more information from our Office team by calling us on 01252 322 156 or emailing office@talaverajunior.co.uk.

If your children are not being collected from the church on the last day of half term, your children will return to school for lunch. Your child must pre-order a school packed lunch (through the form sent on Arbor) or bring a packed lunch to school in the morning.

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Keeping our children safe from bullying:

At Talavera Juniors, we have a zero tolerance for bullying across the school. Making the school a safe environment for your children to learn is our absolute priority.



Here are some of the steps we take as a school to prevent bullying:

- Weekly school council meetings where pupil school councillors share any concerns and ideas are formulated to ensure break and lunch times are a safe and fun space for children to play
- A detailed PSHE curriculum is taught to all children weekly exploring concepts like empathy, friendship, inclusion and bullying
- Our school core values are embedded throughout everything we do as a school including within our weekly assemblies, discrete planning units and into our classroom behaviour policies
- A termly 'Feeling Safe Survey' is completed by all classes and any areas identified as concerns are fed back into planning units taught
- ELSA sessions are provided to any children who may require support
- Lunch bunch sessions are provided by highly trained members of staff to teach children about what safe playtime looks like
- Bubble time is provided to support children
- Senior Play leaders are on duty every break and lunch time to facilitate games and be buddies for any child who is feeling lonely
- Prefects are on duty every break and lunch time to ensure that the school is a safe space and any concerns they have are fed directly to a member of the school leadership team
- Lanyards are worn by all adults in the school so children are able to easily identify who they can go to for support

HALLOFFAME

Below are some of the amazing reading scrap books from children in year 5 and 6! The work that they have produced is absolutely incredible and we're so proud of their home learning!









Christmas can be a really expensive time of year for families especially this year with the increase in the cost of living.

If you need any support, or a helping hand this Christmas, please do see Miss Webb or the front office and we will see if we can support you and your family in any way possible.

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ChildLine



UEBIRD

Anti-bullying week

This year, to celebrate anti-bullying week, every child at Talavera Junior school has been learning about bullying through the text, 'Bluebird'.

Within this unit of planning, children participate in a range of tasks including rich discussions, drama, role play, inference based tasks and explanations. Within this learning journey, children learn about what bullying can look like, how it makes people feel, why it might happen and what to do if they feel like they are either a victim of bullying or feel like a friend may be a victim of bullying. Children are taught to reflect on scenarios and to

think about the consequences of actions. They are also taught about what they can do in

these scenarios to keep themselves safe.

Children participate in a 'Feeling Safe Survey' twice a year where they talk about what makes them feel safe or unsafe in and outside of school. This year, following the evaluation of our pupil 'Feeling Safe Survey', we have ensured our teaching has a focus on cyber bullying.



To support your children at home please look at the information below





Explain how bullying is different to a conflict.

Stimulus: National Bullying Helpline

Question: "Cyberbullying is harder to cope with than bullying in person." Do you agree or disagree?







You're chatting in a WhatsApp group and someone sends an unflattering picture of you, even though you'd asked them to delete it.

You want to hang out on the field and practise cartwheels but your friends would rather sit at the side and chat

You are playing basketball and someone keeps cheating. They seem to manage it when none of the adults are looking.

You post a picture of yourself on Snapchat holding something illegal. One of your friends tells you they're worried about you and that they're going to tell their dad.

You want to join in with one of the conversations on the playground but you're new to the school and don't know who you're going to get along with.

You follow one of the children in your class home, trying to annoy them. They turn around and push you really hard and it hurts but your friends are all laughing

Cyber bullying













If you would like to have any more information on cyber bullying and how to support your children at home, please look at the Family Lives website to find some useful tips to support your children.

	1 (lowest score)	2	3	4	5 (highest score)
I feel physically safe in			100		
the classroom,					
I feel physically safe in					
the playground,					
I feel emotionally safe in					
the classroom.					
I feel emotionally safe in					
the playaround					
I feel safe from bullying					
(including cyber-bullying)					
when I'm in school,		4			
I Teel safe from bullying					
(including cyber-bullying)					
when I'm out of school,					
I know how to get help if I			16		
see or experience bullying.					
I know that the school		1			
building is secure,					
I feel safe from illnesses in					
school,					
I feel safe travelling to and					
from school,					
I know how to say no to					
something unsafe,					
I feel safe from world					
events,				1	

Feeling Safe Survey feedback:

After completing the evaluation of our Feeling Safe Survey from Autumn term, children across the school have expressed growing concerns about feeling safe from bullying outside of school. The concerns that children raised were about online scenarios which have left them feeling isolated, angry or upset. Below is a reminder of the age ratings of some popular apps which were mentioned by children in the Keeping Safe Survey.

TikTok 16+



Watsapp 16+

Instagram 13+





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Please be aware that Christmas lunch and jumper day is different for years 3/4 and years 5/6.

Christmas lunch and jumper day for years 3/4 is Tuesday 13th December.

Christmas lunch and jumper day for years 5/6 is Wednesday 14th December.

On alternate Christmas dinner days, there will not be a hot meal option. You can order a packed lunch from the kitchen or bring in your own.



If you would like your child to have a Christmas lunch, please pre-order their dinner on Arbor.

This must be ordered by Monday 5th December.

On Monday 21st November, Talavera Junior school participated in a whole school art day. We spent the day looking at four different children's illustrators; the simplistic style of Neal Layton, the dramatic, fantastical style of Tony DiTerlizzi, the soft, fluid style of Tony Ross and Quentin Blake and the interesting, collage technique of Lauren Child.



After creating some amazing pieces of art, the children were lucky enough to listen to Neal Layton reading aloud one of his books which even included him rapping! What a fantastic day!



This half term, we have noticed a small rise in children coming to school with dyed hair, wearing make-up or nail polish and wearing jewellery.

This is a gentle reminder that this goes against our uniform expectations as a school. Please can you ensure that your children follow our school rules and comply with our uniform expectations. This high expectation of uniform prepares our children for the continued high standards of uniform expectations that are maintained in our local secondary schools.

We understand that children outgrow pieces of uniform and school shoes quickly. Please let the school office know if you need any support with replacing these pieces of uniform. Please look at the examples of appropriate school











Our December Recommended Reads:

Full of innocent charm and humour, 'The Christmasaurus' follows the adventures of a little boy named William Trundle who travels to that most magical home of Santa Claus. The North Pole, where he meets a dinosaur...

Bursting with festive charm and imagination, the magical adventure of 'The Christmas Pig', revolves around a boy's determined quest to find his missing toy pig before Christmas Day.





Our December Picture Book Recommended Read:

The timeless Christmas classic from the iconic Dr Seuss! Read this favourite story of joy, love and acceptance anytime, anywhere! With hilarious rhymes and beautiful illustrations, this classic seasonal story has become a favourite for good reason and teaches readers the true meaning of Christmas.

