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Newsletter 2025 – Christmas Edition!

Dear Parents and Carers,



As we approach the most magical time of the year, I'm delighted to welcome you to our Christmas edition of the Ripley Nursery newsletter. December is always a special month in nursery, filled with joy, creativity, and togetherness. This year, we have a wonderful line-up of festive activities planned—from music sessions and craft events to jumper days and raffles—all designed to bring smiles to our children and families.

In this edition, you will find all the key dates and details for the exciting Christmas events we have coming up, so you can stay informed, be prepared and join us in making this festive season truly memorable.

Thanks to your continued support and the generous funding we have received, we are able to offer enriching experiences that celebrate the season while supporting learning and development. Whether your child is making a centrepiece for the Christmas table or singing along with Moo Music, we hope these moments become cherished memories for your family.

Christmas Raffle – Week Commencing 24th November

Books will be sent home with children w/c 25th November. Tickets are £1.00 each, £5.00 per book. We have some fantastic prizes again this year including: Tickets to Chatsworth Farm Park, Heights of Abraham family tickets, Matlock Farm Park, gift sets, wine plus lots more! The raffle will be drawn on Wednesday 17th December.

Christmas Centrepiece Workshop – Week Commencing 8th December (Nursery only)

Children will have the opportunity to create a beautiful handmade centrepiece to take home—perfect for displaying proudly at the centre of your Christmas dinner table! The cost to take part is £4.00, which should be paid via Parent Pay by 12 noon on Friday 28th November to allow us time to purchase all the necessary materials. A small donation from each centrepiece will go towards FORNS, helping to support the cost of outdoor clothing for our children.



Christmas Craft Event – Wednesday 10th December (Nursery only)

We will be running a Christmas craft event in Nursery from 3.45 - 4.45pm. There will be several craft tables available where children can make Christmas crafts with their parents/carers. Each event can be booked via Parent Pay with activities from just 50p! Pre-booking is required so we can cater for the number

of children joining each craft. Siblings are welcome to take part—just book additional spaces on Parent Pay. Deadline for bookings is noon on Wednesday 3rd December. We will also have a couple of Christmas stalls along with our raffle ticket sales, so bring a few pennies! All money raised will go towards FORNS for our outdoor clothing target.



Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 11th December

In aid of Save the Children, we will be asking for a £1.00 donation for Christmas Jumper Day. Please recycle old jumpers where you can instead of buying new.

Christmas Music Session with Ines – Monday 15th December

Following on from our wonderful interactive music sessions in July with our resident musician and artist, Ines Figueiredo, we're excited to invite you to a special Christmas-themed music session. This festive event continues our musical journey, made possible by the generous funding from Foundation Derbyshire – Clarke Gerard Pearse Family Fund. Children will enjoy a lively and engaging music session designed to support learning through play while celebrating the season together.



Session Times:
Nursery AM: 9:15 – 9:45 AM
Childcare AM: 10:00 – 10:30 AM
Nursery PM: 1:15 – 1:45 PM
Childcare PM: 2:00 – 2:30 PM

Each family may attend one session, with one parent/carer per child due to space limitations. If your child does not usually attend nursery on a Monday, you are still very welcome to join us. Sessions will take place outdoors (weather permitting), so please dress appropriately.
Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.
To book your place, please email kerry.hartwell@ripley-nur.derbyshire.sch.uk or call 01773 745014 by Friday 6th December.

Christmas Dinner and a Special Visitor – Wednesday 17th December



We're looking forward to a festive treat as Dawn, our wonderful cook, prepares a delicious Christmas dinner for the children. But that's not all… we're expecting a very special visitor in nursery that day—someone jolly, dressed in red, and known for his love of mince pies and reindeer!

Christmas Party Day with Moo Music – Thursday 18th December

We're delighted to let you know that Moo Music will be joining us for a special one-off Christmas-themed session as part of our nursery party celebrations. Moo Music sessions are packed with fun, combining singing, dancing, games, and learning through play. This festive edition will bring all the usual energy and joy—with a seasonal twist! If your child does



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not attend Nursery on a Thursday, they are still able to join in on the fun. Children will be invited into nursery with their parent for the half-hour music session. We will be in touch with the families this applies to with the timings. This applies to children both in Nursery and Childcare.

We do ask for a contribution of £3.50 towards the session to help cover costs for the activities we have on during the last week of term. The cost will be applied to your Parent Pay, for childcare parents, please pay by cash in a named envelope.

Christmas Eve – Wednesday 24th December

On Tuesday, 24th December, we invite all children attending childcare and holiday club to join in the festive fun by wearing their Christmas pyjamas!

As always, if you have any questions or queries, please contact the office on 01773 745014 or email kerry.hartwell@ripley-nur.derbyshire.sch.uk.

Nicola Brown

Headteacher of Ripley Nursery School & Ripley Nursery Childcare.