

Monday 25th November 2024

All Things Christmas

Just before I jump into writing about the festive fun coming our way soon, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the parent community for your support in respect of my secondment to Fair Oak Juniors. It has been a challenging term trying to balance working across two of Hampshire's largest primary schools, and I am acutely aware of my foremost responsibilities to Berrywood children. However, knowing that Mrs. Adams and other senior leaders are more than standing tall to the task of day-to-day management is of great comfort. So is my hunch that many of you may have barely noticed my absence...

There is currently some uncertainty regarding whether the secondment will continue into the spring term. If this does become necessary, then it will be on a reduced basis, with a further tapering down of my time at Fair Oak soon afterwards. In essence, this means I should once again be a far more familiar sight at Berrywood in the near future.

Christmas Fayre Friday, 6th December, 5.00–7.00 pm

If you haven't yet saved the date, then please do so! As we have done in recent years, we will lavishly decorate the school courtyard and hope to entertain you with a range of musical performances, stalls, fabulous food options, and the petting farm.

It would be lovely to see as many of you there as possible supporting the school. Even if this is just for a short visit before you embark on your busy weekends, your presence is hugely appreciated and goes a long way to creating the community spirit that greatly benefits all schools.

How to help or get involved

We are always on the lookout for volunteers to run booths. For the Christmas Fayre, we are hoping to have a number of you sign up for a stall for an hour. This would help us enormously to put on more entertainment. Please contact a member of the BSA directly or look out for the sign-up sheets in the courtyard between now and next Friday. Please don't leave it to others; your efforts will make a difference!

Raffle prizes... We already have some amazing prizes but would love to have a few more! Again, please either contact the BSA directly or simply drop off a prize at the school reception.

Non-school uniform day is Thursday, 28th November this week. We would like Key Stage 1 children to bring in a chocolate bar for the chocolate tombola. We would like Key Stage 2 children to bring in £1, all of which will get our Christmas Fayre off to a cracking start.

INSET Day Reminder

A gentle reminder that Friday, 29th November, is an INSET day at Berrywood. Amongst many other things, as members of staff, we will be looking at how we can use AI to boost writing engagement across the school. The main reason for mentioning this is to emphasize that we are not a school that stands still with our curriculum, facilities, grounds, or any other aspect of the work we do. I believe the dynamic innovation that technology offers is a particularly exciting venture, and one about which I hope to soon be able to share more details.

