



Forest Glade Primary and Nursery School Family – Growth – Potential

December 2024

Merry Christmas FGP! We have had lots of lovely Christmas events taking place this month. Thank you for all your support over this busy period. We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and will see you back at school on Monday the 6th of January!



Christmas Activities



We've had a lovely month of Christmas activities and events! The children have really been getting into the Christmas spirit and enjoying lots of special moments. Thank you as ever for all your support. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our FGP family!



Eco Quote of the Month

"It's only one straw, said 8 billion people."



Water Saving Tip of the Month

"Installing a water butt can save up to 5,000 litres of water of year"



Key Information



'Be A Star' Toy Appeal

Thank you for the donations for The Salvation Army's 'Be A Star' toy appeal. We had a lovely variety of different items which have been delivered and sorted by some of our Year 6 children and will go to less fortunate children this Christmas.



EYFS & KS1 Nativities

A huge well done to our youngest children in school who all put on amazing nativity performances. You all showed great confidence and enjoyment. Thank you to all our staff who prepared and organized the children to be able to put on a perfect show!



PTA Rainbow Raffle

Don't forget today is rainbow raffle day, the raffle will be drawn before carols on the playground. The gate will be open from 2pm today for hot chocolate and mince pies and the children will be out singing carols from 2:30pm.



Year 4 Enquiry Showcase Sponsored Swim

After learning about how much we take water for granted, Year 4 are taking part in a sponsored swim. The children will swim a total of 300 lengths to raise money for a charity which helps provide clean, safe water to less fortunate communities. They would appreciate your support and donations to reach their goal to help a community in need. Thank you!



Year 2 Trip to The Deep

Our Year 2 children visited The Deep as part of their enquiry learning about ocean habitats and plastic pollution. They took part in a workshop and were able to explore all the animals in the aquarium. Mr Taylor was very proud of the children who displayed many of our FGP values. Well done Year 2!



Pantomime Trip

A big thank you to Mrs Lomax for organising our annual pantomime trip. All the children loved their morning at the theatre, singing, dancing and even getting involved with the show!

Upcoming dates for the diary

Year 3 Creswell Crags Trip – 6th January
Year 1 Perlethorpe Trip – 28th January
Class Photographs – 31st January
February Half Term – 17th – 21st February

Inset Days for 2024/2025

Monday 24th February 2025
Monday 28th July 2025
Tuesday 29th July 2025



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>

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Contact us: 01623 452 770 Email: office@forestglade.notts.sch.uk Website: www.forestglade.notts.sch.uk