



🎄 Value for December 🎄

Courtesy

Show courtesy, say things like, “thank you, no thank you, please, sorry, and excuse me.”
These are simple, but powerful words that make a big difference. Use them often.

❄️ 🧑‍🎄 🎄 Nativity 🎄 ❄️ 🧑‍🎄

Busy, Busy Bethlehem!



Thank you all for attending the nativity plays for Reception this year, I think you will agree that the children all looked lovely and sang their little hearts out. A big thank you to everyone who helped out and contributed, and for parents providing their outfits.

🌟🌟🌟 Merry Christmas 🌟🌟🌟



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👦❄️👦❄️👦❄️ Important Dates for your Diaries 👦❄️👦❄️👦❄️

Monday 18th December - KS1 (year 1 & 2) & KS2 (year 3 & 4) Christmas Carols (gates open at 2.45pm, come and join us on the KS2 playground for a festival singalong outside).

Tuesday 19th - Thursday 21st December - Christmas Fayre will be held in the classrooms, and everything will be 50p

Tuesday 19th December - Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 20th December - Parties - Children may wear their party clothes all day

Thursday 21st December - Last day of term for Nursery

Friday 22nd December - Last day of term, children may wear Christmas Jumpers



❄️ 👦🎄 Nursery Concert 🎄 ❄️ 👦

What absolute superstars our children were today for the Nursery Concert, we hope you enjoyed as much as we did!



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Catshill Children's Choice

Each half term we will have £50 to spend on new books. Please vote for your top three favourite books from the list below. The top few books that receive the most votes will be purchased for our library. The winners will be announced in our newsletter and shared with everyone in school.

<https://forms.gle/EqRkq1LRbMKFniQD6>

Happy Voting!



Bikeability

Year 1's had fun this week on balance bikes (bikes without pedals), to help to develop handling and awareness.



Catshill Methodist Church Visit

Year 3 and 4 had a wonderful time at Catshill Methodist Church this week. Thank you to all the adults who helped bring the nativity story to life! The children especially loved their gift bags.



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🎵 Visit to Bluebrook Residential Home 🎵

On Tuesday some of our year 1's went to sing Christmas Songs at Bluebrooke Nursing Home. The children were an absolute credit to the school, walking to and from the venue so sensibly and also performing the songs. The Bluebrooke residents were really impressed with the children's performance and the staff were really proud.



👩🍳 Cookery 👨🍳

4F had an amazing time making leek and potato soup with Miss Marshal at Catshill Middle School this afternoon.



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Hearing Screening - Reception Monday 15th January

The 5-19 Public Health Nursing Service offers a routine hearing test to every child in Reception. The main reason for screening children's hearing at this age is to ensure that all children have satisfactory hearing for learning in school. Untreated hearing problems can cause difficulties with speech, learning and behaviour.

Health Care Support Workers working within the Public Health Nursing Team will soon be attending your child's school to test your child's hearing. For this to be recorded accurately on your child's records, we will ask school to provide your child's full name, address, date of birth and gender*.

Worcestershire Public Health Nursing Service is now using a digital system known as School Screener to perform the hearing tests and issue the results. Please register for a School Screener Parent Portal Account using the link below:

<http://qlink.uk/WOR255/116658>

The School Screener Parent Portal can only be accessed by the web browsers, Google Chrome or Edge.

[Please see the attached additional information for you to read.](#)

At Catshill First School we celebrate diversity, by exploring and studying different faiths, cultures and beliefs.

All are welcome at Catshill First School and Nursery.



The Spire Trust

Considering a career in teaching?

The Spire Trust still have places, so if you are interested, please click [here](#) for further information.

Thank you

School Council

Christmas Raffle tickets are still on sale at 50p per ticket.
Last chance to buy tickets will be Monday 18th with prizes given out on Tuesday 19th December.

There will be 2 prizes per class (1 family gift bag and 1 child gift bag).

Thank you for your continued support



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After School Clubs - Spring 1

The following After School Clubs will be run for 4/5 weeks after Xmas.

Monday's - TTRS Club - Year 4 (selected pupils)
Monday's - Phonics - Year 1 (selected pupils)
Tuesday's - Arts & Crafts - Year 1 (selected pupils)
Wednesday's - Team Games Year 1
Thursday's - Football Skills Boys KS2
Thursday's - Football Skills Girls KS2

4.15pm finish and collection from the glass corridor

West Newsletter

NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire Health & Care

WEST would like to welcome all the new schools that have come on board as part of the expansion programme with Wave 9 in the localities of Wyre Forest, Bromsgrove and Redditch this Autumn Term.

Please [click here](#) to see our latest Newsletter!

Measles

Cases of measles are rising across England. Children who get measles generally have symptoms such as fever, cold-like symptoms, sore/watery eyes, rash & spots in the mouth. However, more serious complications include meningitis and sepsis.

Unvaccinated children who have come into close contact with a person with measles may also need to be off school for 21 days. Vaccination is the best way for your child to build up immunity and to avoid disruption to their education. If you or your child hasn't been vaccinated, contact your GP for further details about getting the MMR vaccination.

Volunteers

A big thank you to all of our volunteers who have helped out at Catshill First School and Nursery throughout the year.

And a big thank you to the Belbroughton Scythe Fund, for their generous donation to the school.

Thank you very much



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🚨 Is my child too ill for school? 🚨

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell.

There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/managing-specific-infectious-diseases).

These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day. Let them know that your child won't be in and give them the reason. If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let their teacher know.

Follow the below link for further information and advice on managing coughs/colds/ slapped cheek/sore throat etc.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

☔ Coats, Gloves and Scarves ☔

A reminder that children should have a suitable coat with a hood in school every day. Unless the weather is really poor, we do try to go outside for playtime and at lunchtime every day. As the cold weather approaches and children bring in gloves, scarves and hats, **please make sure these items have names written in as they so easily get mixed up or mislaid!**

Thank you

🤧 Winter Sickness Bug 🤧

As the winter season progresses we ask parents to be vigilant of usual childhood conditions. These include chicken pox, slapped cheek, head lice, ringworm and threadworm etc. Please advise us of any of these conditions when you call to notify us of the absence. Many of these conditions are easily treatable via your local pharmacy or with advice from your local GP surgery.

We also remind you that our policy in respect of sickness and diarrhoea is that 48 hours needs to have passed between the last bout and return to school.

If you are unsure in respect of any symptoms or ailments your child may have, further help and information can be found on the [NHS Website](https://www.nhs.uk).



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 **School Uniform** 

If you have any old school uniform you no longer need, please see details below of where to donate.



Rubery School Community Swop Shop

Providing free preloved school uniform to Birmingham and beyond!

No swops needed, no questions asked.

facebook: @ruberyswopshop

Email: ruberyswopshop@outlook.com



**1 Sherwood Road
Aston Fields
Bromsgrove
Worcestershire
B60 3DR**



NEW starts

01527882410



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Christmas in Catshill

Saturday 25th November
Catshill Christmas Light Switch On
Outside Catshill Village Hall 3-6pm
 Street vendors/stalls/music/
 dancers/choir and special guests

Friday 15th December
Christmas Film Night
Catshill Methodist Church 4pm onwards
 Children's film 5pm Adults film 7pm
 Hot pork baps with mince pies

Friday 1st December
Christmas Party
Catshill Social Club 6.30-10pm
 £1 Entry (visit Facebook Catshill Social Club)
 Kids disco with Santa and the Grinch

Saturday 16th December
Friends of the Cemetery
North Bromsgrove Cemetery 10am
 Christmas Service with tea and mince pies at
 cemetery on Barley Mow Lane, Catshill

Saturday 2nd December
Story and Craft
Catshill Library 10am
 Ten little elves story and make your
 own craft elf

Saturday 16th December
Board Games
Catshill Library 10am
 Join in for some Christmas fun
 and board games

Sunday 3rd December
A Time of Wonder Christmas Party
Catshill Baptist Church 3-5pm
 For families and children 10 years and under
 email facilities@catshillbaptist.org.uk to book

Saturday 16th December
Christmas Songs at Coffee Morning
Catshill Methodist Church 10am-12pm
 Christmas Songs around the Piano
 with mince pies

Monday 4th December
Hot Potato Quiz
Welcome Hall 6.45pm
 Quiz night. Teams (up to 6) can book 07481346767 or
 email office@welcomehallchurch.org

Saturday 16th December
Christ Church Carol Service
St Luke's Hall, Marlbrook 5pm
 Festive fun with Carol singing
 and other entertainment.

Saturday 9th December
Friends of the Cemetery
Christ Church 10am
 Christmas service with hot drinks
 and mince pies

Friday 22nd December
Christmas Panto Cinderella
Catshill Social Club 7pm
 £2 adults £1 children
 Please visit Catshill Social Facebook for info

Saturday 9th December
Christmas Lego Morning
Catshill Library 10am
 Lego building and
 Christmas library fun

Saturday 23rd December
Festive Storytime
Catshill Library 10am
 Making reindeer food and
 Santa Key.

Sunday 10th December
Crazy Crews Christmas Party
Catshill Social Club 1-3pm
 £3pp £1 under 13years. Tickets needed for event please
 book before end of Nov via Crazy Crew facebook page

December
Community Carol Singing
Meet and Time To be Confirmed
 Join your local community for some
 Carol singing

Christmas Church Services: (Baptist, Methodist and Welcome Hall have services Christmas Day at various times)
 Catshill Baptist: Sunday 17th Dec 6pm Concert with Pastimes / Sunday 24th Dec 6pm Carols by Candlelight
 Christ Church: Sunday 17th Dec Carol Service / Sunday 24th Dec Christingle Service
 Catshill Methodist: Sunday 17th Dec 6pm Carols at Candlelight / Sunday 24th Dec 4pm Christingle Family Service
 Welcome Hall: Sunday 17th Dec 10.30am Carol Service / Sunday 24th Dec 4pm Christmas Eve Carols



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📌 Things to Remember 📌

Autumn 2 2023	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nursery	PE	PE	Forest Fun		
RM	PE				Forest Fun
RB	PE		Forest Fun		
Year 1	PE (1R) Forest Fun (1E) Phonics Club			PE	
Year 2	Reading Club	PE (2FJ) Forest Fun (2F)	PE Team Games		
Year 3		Crafting Club	PE	Forest Fun (3S) Ukulele (3B) Football Skills Boys Football Skills Girls	PE
Year 4	Sewing Club Crafting Club	Swimming		PE Football Skills Boys Football Skills Girls	Cornet Continued

*Please note that there may be some flexibility.

📌 Reminders 📌

- ★ **Vouchers** - An Epraise will be sent out shortly informing those who are eligible, when free school meal edenred vouchers will be emailed out to cover the Xmas holiday period.
- ★ **After School Clubs** - Please note that these have now finished for Autumn 2.
- ★ **Lunch Money** - Just a polite reminder regarding lunch money. Can all parents please provide the correct money where possible, along with name, class and which days your child would like a lunch. All money should be handed in on a Monday morning.
- ★ **Medication** - A polite reminder to parents that medication can only be given to the children if it is prescribed by the Doctor and is required to be given 4 times a day, as per the school policy, and a medication form completed, which can be collected from the administration office.
- ★ **Contact Details** - Just a polite reminder that if you have changed address, phone number, email address, or emergency contact details, can you please pop round to see one of our admin staff in the office, or Epraise admin with the correct information, so that we can update your details.
- ★ **Head Lice** - Can all parents and carers please regularly check their child/rens hair, and follow our '[Head Lice to Dead Lice](#)' information if they find head lice. We also recommend that all long hair be tied back in school time.

Thank you for your continued co-operation



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Car Park - Important Notice

The car park at Catshill First School and Nursery is for use by school staff only. The only exception to this rule is when access is required to the disabled parking space.

Children must NOT be on the school car park at ANY time.

All Access to the school premises must be via the pedestrian footpath and NOT through the car park.

Please note the signage on the gate requesting that it is kept closed at all times. This is for the children's safety.

Things to remember

- ★ W/C 18th December 2023 is week 3 for our dinner menu.

[Our School Day](#)

- ★ Please send all dinner money to school on a Monday.
- ★ To report an absence, please state child's name, class and reason for illness.

Phone - 01527 872913 - option 2 (from 8.15am)
Leave a voicemail - 01527 872913 - option 1
Text - 07786 132612
Epraise - Admin
Email - office@catshillfirst.worcs.sch.uk

Term dates

- ★ *Here and on time at five to nine.*
- ★ *School collection times*
Reception 3.20pm
KS1 (year 1 and 2) 3.20pm
KS2 (year 3 and 4) 3.25pm
- ★ *This term ends on Friday 22nd December.*
- ★ *Please find 2023/2024 term dates [here](#)*
- ★ *Please do not book holidays in term time.*
- ★ *Spring 1 term starts Tuesday 9th January 2024.*



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