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Matthew 5:14 – 16

Dear Families,

It has been an extremely festive and performance packed couple of weeks for the children and staff and everyone is looking forward to and deserves a well-earned rest.

As we prepare for Christmas, we recall that Advent is a time of hope, waiting, compassion and kindness, as we await the coming of Jesus. During this time it is important to take a moment to reflect and give thanks for the many blessings bestowed upon us, but also to pray for those members of our school community and families that may be facing challenges during this time.

The birth of Jesus signifies a new beginning for all of us. A time for renewed hope, peace, love and new beginnings. On behalf of the staff of Lambourn C of E Primary School, I would like to wish you and your family a wonderful and peaceful Christmas and a New Year blessed with health and happiness.

#### Radio Broadcast

I am pleased to confirm that 4 Legs Radio will be airing the recording of the KS2 Carol Concert this Friday at about 11.30am. If families/parents would like to listen to it 'live' they should visit the following website: [Home - 4legsradio](#)

Then double click on '**Listen Live**' which is towards the top on the left and then click on the play button.

#### Social Media

To keep up to date with all the activities, events and experiences that are happening at the school now and in 2024, follow us on X at <https://twitter.com/LambournSchool>. The school Instagram account is no longer linked to the school or in active use.

## Little Lambourn Lights

### Stay and Play!



We are excited to announce that we will be starting our own weekly Stay and Play for Under 5s!

Together with the Hungerford Hub, we are going to be hosting our own play session. It will be a great opportunity for parents and children to come together and play. Over the course of the term there will also be focused support for parents to help with challenges such as sleep, behaviour and food.

**Every Wednesday afternoon 2:00 – 3:15 pm. £1 Contribution.**

### Dates for Your Diary 2024

#### INSET Days

Wednesday 3rd January 2024  
Thursday 28th March 2024

#### Term 3

Thursday 4th January 2024  
Friday 9th February 2024

#### Term 4

Monday 19th February 2024 –  
Wednesday 27th March 2024

### 'Little Lambourn Lights'

Every Wednesday Afternoon  
2.00pm – 3.15pm

### Children's Mental Health Week

05.02.24 to 11.02.24  
shining a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health, and building on research findings that link literacy engagement with wellbeing

### National Storytelling Week

27.02.24 to 04.02.24  
A week-long celebration of stories – spoken or written – encouraging creativity and self-expression enabling children to tell their own stories.

### Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March &  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March

### World Autism Acceptance Week

02.04.24 – 08.04.24

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## From the School Office: reminders, updates and future calendar dates

**15th January 2024:** application deadline for a Reception place in September 2024. Please click on this link for more information <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/article/40449/Applying-for-Primary-School-Places>

### Reminders:

- **Year 6 Residential** please continue to make payments on MCAS for the Year 6 Residential
- **KS2 Boys (Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6) Weekly Football Club** has been set up in MCAS to run from Monday 8th January until Monday 11th March. Please sign up on MCAS under Clubs if you would like your child to attend this free club with Mr Rackham.
- **KS2 Girls (Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6 along with Year 3 boys) Weekly Football Club** has been set up in MCAS to run from Tuesday 9th January until Tuesday 12th March. Please sign up on MCAS under Clubs if you would like your child to attend this free club with Mr Rackham.
- **KS1 Multi Sport After School Club** has been set up in MCAS to run from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January until Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March. Please sign up on MCAS under Clubs if you would like your child to attend this free club.
- **KS2 Multi Sport Lunchtime Club** has been set up in MCAS to run from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January until Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March. Please sign up on MCAS under Clubs if you would like your child to attend this free club.
- **Breakfast Club and After School Club** are now available to book for January and February 2024 (up until half term). If you usually pay by childcare vouchers then please send an email to the office listing the dates you require. If you do not pay by childcare vouchers you can book via MCAS (under Wraparound Care) - payment **must** be made at the time of booking. All **outstanding balances** for clubs need to be paid by the end of term in order to secure your place for next term.
- **Friday Working Parent/Carer Provision** form has been sent out for January and February. Please complete and return to the office as soon as possible.

## Future calendar dates – new dates added in green since last issue

**29th January 2024:** KS2 Choir members attending Young Voices Concert in O2 Arena

**12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> February:** Mid-term break : school closed

**19<sup>th</sup> February:** Back to school

**12th March 2024:** Parents Evening

**14th March 2024:** Parents Evening

**19<sup>th</sup> March 2024:** KS2 Choir members Hexagon Choir Event

**27<sup>th</sup> March:** Term ends at 1:30pm

**15<sup>th</sup> April:** Back to school

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024:** Y5 Level 1 Bikeability

**5<sup>th</sup> June 2024:** Class group photos

**24th June – 26th June 2024:** Year 6 Residential

**5<sup>th</sup> July 2024:** Sports Day (tbc)

**8<sup>th</sup> July 2024:** Swimming Gala (tbc)

**8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July:** Y6 Group 1 Level 2 Bikeability

**15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> July:** Y6 Group 2 Level 2 Bikeability

For the school term dates visit our website by clicking on this [Term Dates](#) link

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## Little Lending Library

We have recently installed a **'Little Lending Library'** outside KS1. It is designed to be accessed by children and parents at the start and end of the school day. You are more than welcome to borrow a book and take it home from the **'Little Lending Library'**.

A recent survey by the National Literacy Trust, (2022) found that while having any books of your own at home is likely to have an impact on reading engagement, having access to more books is associated with a wide range of positive reading attitudes and behaviours. At Lambourn we are pushing school wide to provide a wider variety of books to children in a variety of different ways, such as the school library, phonics, library visits and class book corners in order to promote better reading attitudes and therefore better reading outcomes.

You are welcome to borrow a book for the **'Little Lending Library'**, so please enjoy, relax and read!





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## Christmas Dinner – 14.12.23



Thank you to the AMAZING Lambourn Team for cooking, decorating, preparing and serving a memorable Christmas Lunch for all the children. The children enjoyed the food, festivities and singing.

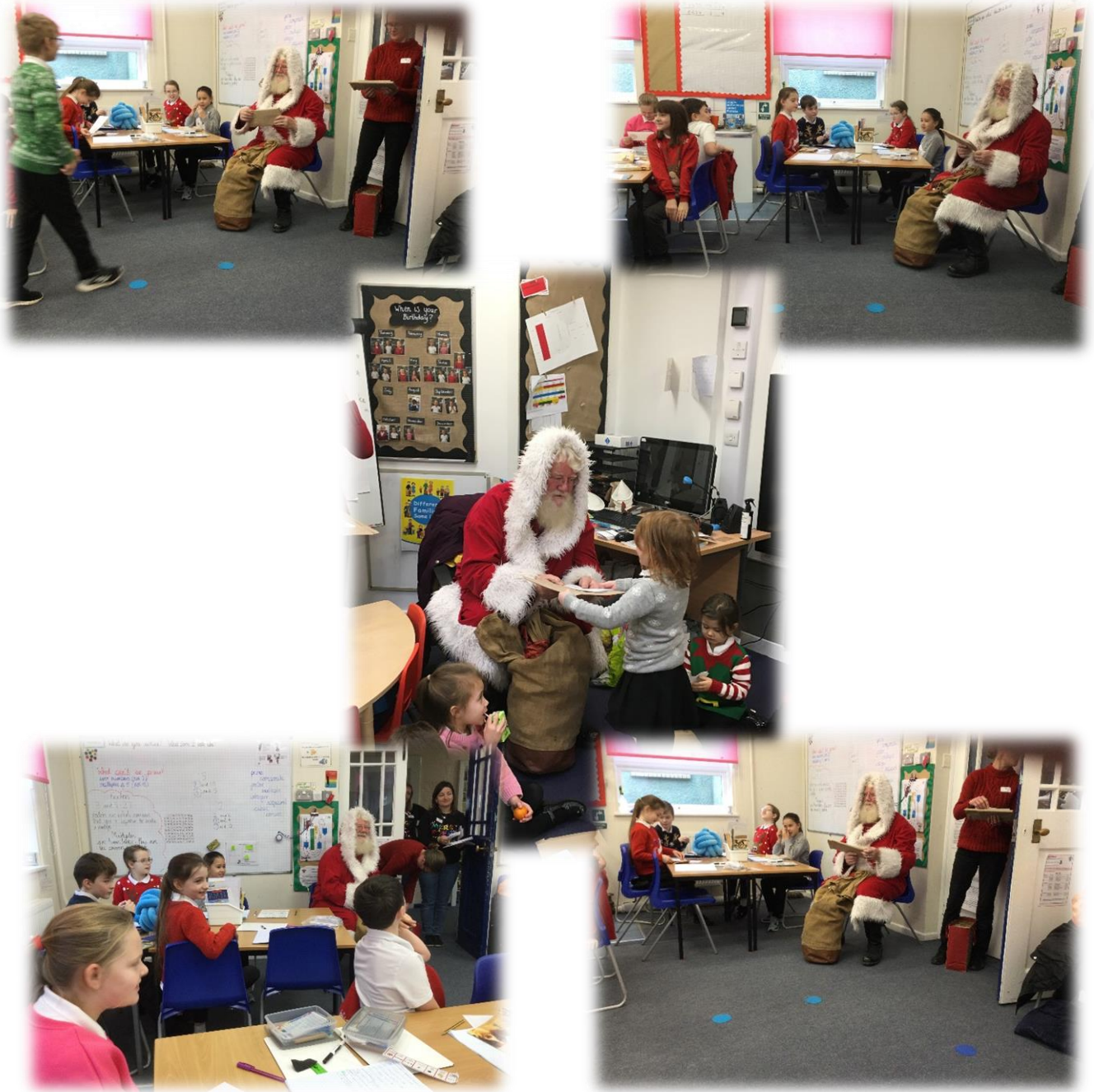


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## Father Christmas Visited Lambourn - 15.12.23

Santa arrived during morning learning with a letter and the gift of a book for every child. Thank you to the PTA for helping Father Christmas.





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## EYFS & KS1 Nativity



## KS2 Carol Concert



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## Christmas Jumper Day 2023



**What a wonderful way to end the week at Lambourn - 15.12.23 - with Christmas Jumper Day and a visit from Father Christmas.**

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## ONLINE SAFETY

Many families may well be planning to give electronic gadgets as presents for their children this festive period. It is always best to be prepared, please use the link below for helpful parent guides.  
<https://safetynet.skipseducational.org/parent-guides/>



### A Parent's Guide to Social Media

With social media you can send messages, share pictures, videos and chat with people all over the world.  
... but who are you connecting with?



Anyone can use the Internet. Not everyone is who they say they are and some people are not nice.



On the Internet  
I'm 12 and my  
name is Sally.



On the Internet I'm  
a 10 year old and  
I'm great at gaming.

### Age ratings will help to keep you safe

Most social media platforms require users to be of a minimum age to use their services. Lying about age and providing false information is very common among children. Unfortunately many parents are aware this is happening.

### Why is it important to use your real age?

Children will have access to better safety settings when talking to people who are the same age and share similar interests/hobbies.

They will see content appropriate for their age.

If they lied and used an older age, they will be exposed to content, language and advertising that is not appropriate and safety settings will fail.

**None of these social media are appropriate for Primary School aged children.**



	Snapchat	13 years old
	Instagram	13 years old
	TikTok	13 years old
	YouTube	13 years old
	Facebook	13 years old
	WhatsApp	16 years old



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## **The dangers of having a social media account when under age – the risks are very real.**

**Example:** If a child is 7 but says they are 14 when they sign up for an account.

### **Potential Dangers Now:**

- They get used to lying when signing up to other apps and websites.
- They may get friend requests from older children.
- However, in 4 years time when the child becomes 11, the social media computer will believe that they are 18, an adult.

### **Potential Dangers:**

- They will get friend requests from adults.
- They will see adverts targeted at adults.
- They will see content for 18+
- Children safety settings will not work.

## **What you can do to help keep your child safe online**

- **Do not allow your child to sign up to any social media accounts for which they are under age. Your child will be much safer online and is much less likely to see any inappropriate content.**
- **If your child has a social media account, if you follow them, you will be able to see the content they put out and engage with. You will also be better equipped in helping to guide them.**
- **Discuss the positive and negative elements of social media and always remind them to think before they share.**
- **Regularly discuss with your child the importance of letting you know who they are connecting with and not to purchase anything online without gaining your permission first.**
- **Regularly remind your child they should only connect online with friends and family they know in the physical world and not to accept 'friend play request' from strangers.**
- **Always let your child know that they should always say if they see or hear anything online that makes them feel scared or uncomfortable and to never arrange to meet someone who they have met online.**
- **Let them know that they do not have to feel as though they have done something wrong, nobody is going to get cross and it is not their fault.**
- **If you are concerned with anything you or your child has seen or asked to do, please call Childline.**

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## **Supporting Neurodivergent Children over the Christmas Period**

As we approach the holiday season, it's important to remember that this can be a challenging time for neurodivergent children. The change in routine, increased sensory stimuli and social expectations can be overwhelming for them. As parents and educators, we want to support these children during this time and ensure they have an enjoyable festive season.

Here are some tips to support neurodivergent children over the Christmas period.

### **Create a Safe Space**

During family gatherings or events, it's important to create a safe space for neurodivergent children. This can be a designated quiet room or area where they can go to take a break from social interactions and sensory overload. This will allow them to recharge and feel more comfortable in their environment.

### **Communicate Expectations**

Communication is key when it comes to supporting neurodivergent children during the holiday season. Let them know ahead of time what to expect, such as who will be attending events or any changes in routine. This will help reduce anxiety and prepare them for social interactions.

### **Use Visual Aids**

For children with autism or other neurodivergent conditions, visual aids can be extremely helpful. Use calendars or picture schedules to help them understand what's happening and when. This will provide a sense of predictability and control, which can reduce stress and anxiety.

### **Incorporate Familiar Activities**

During the holiday season, it's easy to get caught up in trying new activities or traditions. However, for neurodivergent children, it can be comforting to incorporate familiar activities into the holiday routine. This can be a favourite game, movie or tradition that they look forward to each year. Sharing and reading a book can provide a unique opportunity to help children regulate their emotions, offering a captivating focal point for their attention and instilling a sense of purpose and accomplishment as they engage with stories.

### **Technology**

Utilising technology can be incredibly beneficial for neurodivergent children during the festive season. By incorporating specially designed apps that aid in maintaining focus and attention, we can effectively promote a sense of security, well-being, and inclusivity.

### **Seek Professional Support**

If you notice your child struggling during the holiday season, seek support from a professional. A therapist or counsellor can help your child cope with the changes and provide strategies to manage any challenges they may face. Remember, it's okay to ask for help.

With these tips in mind, we can support neurodivergent children during the holiday season and ensure they have a happy and enjoyable Christmas. Let's make this time of year inclusive for all children.

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# "Jingle 'n' Mingle"

Thursday 21st December 2023  
at 6.30pm

St Michaels & All Angels Church, Lambourn RG17 8PA



This is a  
non-ticketed event,  
but donations  
appreciated!

There will be a  
collection point  
for contributions to  
the Lambourn food bank

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



**Please join us for an evening of festive music  
and comedy for all the community in aid of  
The Air Ambulance & The Church followed  
by drinks and nibbles**