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Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
No. 169

Dear Parents and Friends of Meadowbank School,

## Christmas Concert screenings



It was wonderful to see so many families at our screenings this year. It was lovely to see so many families coming together to celebrate our children. The children all worked so hard on their individual sections and our thanks go to the staff for organising the activities and collating the photos and videos for the film. We hope you enjoyed watching our amazing pupils enjoying the festive season! Thank you for your support.

## Sibs

Sibs is an online information service that supports siblings of disabled children and adults. They have lots of information and advice available on their website. They offer a service to speak to a sibling advisor and they also run support groups. To find out more, visit <https://www.sibs.org.uk/>



## Thank you



Thank you to everyone who purchased some of the wonderful crafts that were on offer this week. The children were overwhelmed with how successful their sale was, and we are very grateful for your support and generosity.

## Inclusive Santa's Grotto at V21 Sbcetrum Cardiff

**Where:** V21 Sbcetrum Centre, Bwlch road, Fairwater, CF5 3EF

**Date:** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December

**Time:** Spaces from 10 am – 2 pm *\*Please book your time slot if you wish to have a gift and speak to Santa\**

**Cost:** Tickets cost £5 per person, includes a selection box from Santa and a free small hot chocolate from the V21 Café @ Fairwater.



## Visit from Santa



We will have a festive visitor tomorrow, alongside his helper, who will give chocolates to the children. We would also like to say thank you to our families who have given cards, gifts and well wishes to our staff, they are very much appreciated.

As our Autumn term draws to an end we would like to say thank you to you all for your ongoing support throughout the past months. It has been wonderful to watch all of our pupils make continued progress, and it has been a pleasure getting to know all our new families.

Please remember our term finishes tomorrow, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December and term restarts on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Finally, we would like to wish you and your loved ones



**Nadolig Llawn a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda**  
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



**Please see overleaf for information on the School Essentials Grant**

## Diary Dates

INSET Days: September 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, October 25<sup>th</sup>, **May 6<sup>th</sup>, July 21<sup>st</sup>**

Half Term: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January

End of Term: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

# School Essentials Grant

Financial support is available for pupils who need help with covering costs for school uniform (including coats and shoes), school activities - including learning a musical instrument, sports kit & other equipment for after school activities and classroom essentials, including pens, pencils & school bags.

Families with children in reception to year 11 on lower incomes and get certain benefits can apply for:

- £125 per learner and extra funding for your school
  - £200 for learners entering year 7 (to help with increased costs associated with starting secondary school) and extra funding for your school
- Parents and carers can claim once per child per school year.

Receiving Universal Primary Free School Meals does not automatically entitle your child to the School Essentials Grant:

- Learners must be eligible for means-tested Free School Meals (eFSM).
- Learners who receive free school meals due to transitional protection arrangements do not qualify.

All children in local authority care qualify for the grant.

We also encourage local authorities to use their discretion to provide the grant to children whose parents or carers are not entitled to public funds.

Receiving the School Essentials Grant will not affect your tax or other benefits.

**Applications close on 31st May 2025.** All information can be found here.

<https://www.gov.wales/school-essentials-grant-help-school-costs>



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government