



Friday 25th November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you, almost at the end of November. I don't know about you but I am not very organised for Christmas and time is ticking! Everything does also seem so much harder this year, with the rising costs of the most basic things. Perhaps we all need to remember that Christmas should be about being together and time with family and friends, as well as the true meaning of the actual day. This is easier said than done though with the children's excitement and their Christmas lists. If we at school can do anything to support you please do let us know and we will do our best to help.

### **Support at Christmas**

Each family who receives benefits related free school meals will receive an activity voucher, enabling the children to access an activity within the Christmas holidays, free of charge. We assume families will also receive the supermarket vouchers too but are awaiting confirmation from KCC.

At Aspire we have purchased some additional gifts and have put together family activity bags which we will give out towards the end of term, to ensure all of our pupils have some fun things to do over the holidays.

### **Christmas Activities at the Aspire Schools**

Please make sure that you read your child's school newsletter carefully as there will be lots of activities such as Christmas dinner, nativities and fairs and assemblies. Please contact your child's school office if you are unsure.

### **Christmas Activities in Kent**

<https://www.visitkent.co.uk/visit-kent-blog/festive-family-fun-in-kent/>

This gives some ideas of festive activities you could take part in with your family.

## **Carolathon**

Today Mrs Foad is taking some of the Aspire children into Maidstone to sing carols. This will be a very enjoyable experience for the children. Parents have been asked to accompany the children so that they can be supervised at all times. Thank you to Mrs Foad for organising this opportunity for the children.

## **Church Services at Ulcombe C of E Primary**

Mrs Masters has been working with the local ministry team and has managed to organise some church services within the school which are fully inclusive of everyone. This is a lovely opportunity for both Ulcombe and Aspire as a whole. If you are interested please contact Ulcombe for more details.

Wishing you all a pleasant weekend. I can be contacted at [exehead@aspire-kent.org.uk](mailto:exehead@aspire-kent.org.uk) during normal working hours.

Kinds regards,

Emma Hickling  
Executive Headteacher  
Aspire Federation