

# Milton St. John's CE Primary School

## Newsletter

Wednesday 25 November

**Remember to subscribe to the newsletter on our website to receive an electronic copy.**

### NEW NEWSLETTER ITEMS

#### Children in Need

The children have raised an amazing £122.00 for Children in Need this year. Well done everyone! It was lovely to see everyone's funky hair designs and silly socks!



#### Christmas Toy appeal

We have been approached by a number of parents about whether we are accepting donations of new toys/gifts that can be distributed to the community. We understand that a number of radio stations are currently doing this also. Therefore, if anyone would like to donate new gifts/toys before 11<sup>th</sup> December please send them into school and we will distribute them. It would help if anything that was brought in was placed in a gift bag (not wrapped please) to help, but this is not essential.

#### Staff gifts

Every year the staff are overwhelmed and very grateful with the number of gifts that are given to staff at Christmas and throughout the year. However, the staff would like to give you the 'gift of not giving' them anything this Christmas! Please do not be offended by this and, of course, the staff will always accept anything, but staff wanted parents to know that it really is ok not to send gifts in this year. An alternative may be to send something in for our Foodbank or Toy appeal if you would like to, but please be assured that we are aware that so many families are affected this year and we do not want any additional burdens on families to get staff a present this Christmas.

#### Milton St John's Foodbank

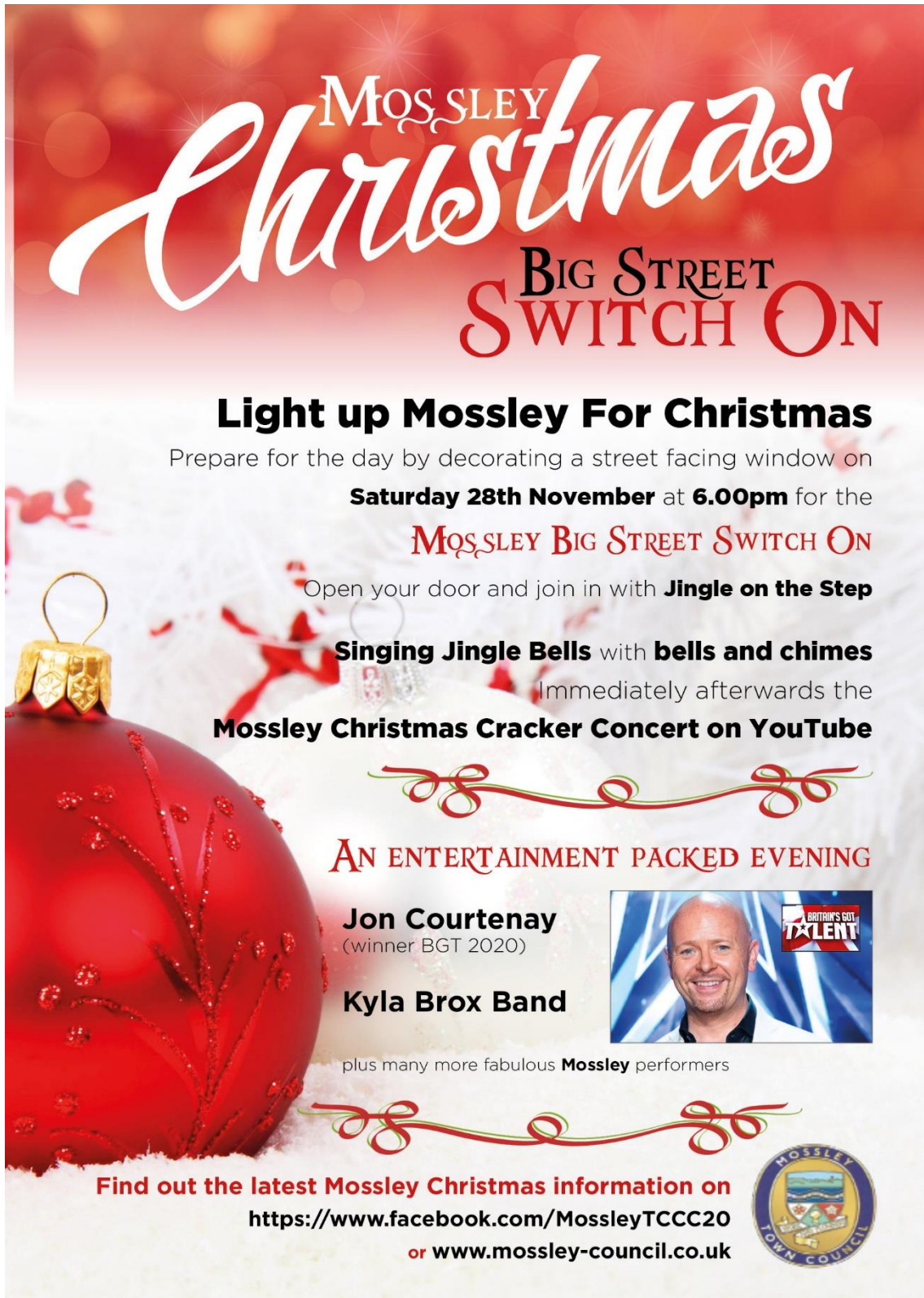
We are aware that for some people, approaching us for a foodbank parcel, can be very difficult. To make it a little easier parents/carers can email [admin@milton-st-johns.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:admin@milton-st-johns.tameside.sch.uk) to request one. No explanation would be needed, all that we require is that you indicate the number of people in the household that you would need a parcel for so that we can supply enough food. We would then get in touch with you, no questions asked, and organise a convenient time to pick up a parcel. We have a really well stocked foodbank now and would love to be able to distribute it, so please get in touch.

#### Staffing Update

On the 14th December we welcome Mrs Tann back from her maternity leave. She will be teaching Year 3 Monday – Thursday, Mrs Leaney will continue to teach Year 3 on a Friday and cover any planning, preparation and assessment time for Mrs Tann. Miss Johnson, and Mrs Leaney have already been involved with transition discussions with Mrs Tann and will also continue to do this when she returns.

## Mossley Christmas Cracker Event

Some of our children will be singing in the virtual event for the Mossley Christmas Cracker concert this Saturday. The event is being organised by Mossley Council and various associates and it would be lovely if our families can tune in too. Visit the Facebook account detailed in the flyer below.



The flyer features a festive red and white background with a large red Christmas bauble on the left. The title 'MOSSLEY Christmas' is in a large, elegant script, with 'BIG STREET SWITCH ON' in bold block letters below it. The event details are listed in a mix of bold and regular fonts, including the date 'Saturday 28th November at 6.00pm' and the activities 'Jingle on the Step' and 'Singing Jingle Bells'. A photo of Jon Courtenay, winner of Britain's Got Talent 2020, is shown next to the names of the performers. The Mossley Town Council logo is in the bottom right corner.

# MOSSLEY Christmas

## BIG STREET SWITCH ON

### Light up Mossley For Christmas

Prepare for the day by decorating a street facing window on  
**Saturday 28th November at 6.00pm** for the  
**MOSSLEY BIG STREET SWITCH ON**

Open your door and join in with **Jingle on the Step**  
**Singing Jingle Bells** with **bells and chimes**  
Immediately afterwards the  
**Mossley Christmas Cracker Concert on YouTube**


**AN ENTERTAINMENT PACKED EVENING**

**Jon Courtenay**  
(winner BGT 2020)

**Kyla Brox Band**

plus many more fabulous **Mossley** performers

Find out the latest Mossley Christmas information on  
<https://www.facebook.com/MossleyTCCC20>  
or [www.mossley-council.co.uk](http://www.mossley-council.co.uk)



## UPDATED NEWSLETTER ITEMS

### Updated Christmas activities

As previously mentioned we are planning a number of activities in the run up to Christmas and are hoping to do some kind of play/concert with the children that we can film for parents to see. However, our plans could be disrupted easily with classes having to isolate, just as we have experienced with year 6 recently. Anything we do organise will not be as 'epic' as previous years but we hope to bring you something festive from the children. We will also be filming this ourselves so please do not expect a blockbuster with amazing visual effects!

**Festive Fridays** – every Friday in December the children will take part in festive arts/crafts etc and will be able to wear a festive accessory on these days to make them a little more special.

**New information - On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December the children can wear a festive jumper or non-school uniform for a donation of £1 for Save the Children Jumper Day!**

**Christmas Dinner** – this will be on Wednesday 16 December. We have sent an email out to packed lunch children to ask if any children would like to order a Christmas Dinner. The latest day to order this is **Thursday 26 November**. The catering staff will not be able to accept any late orders.

**Christmas Cards** – So that we still have a little magic and can spread kindness in the lead up to Christmas, the children can still send Christmas cards, if they would like to. Each class will have a Christmas post box so that the children can post their cards. Cards will need to be brought in between the dates of 30 November and 9 December so that they can be quarantined before being given out the last week of half term.

### Oldham Coliseum Visitor/Virtual Pantomime

Good news - In the last week of the half term we have arranged for a visitor from the Coliseum to bring some sparkle in a safe way into school over the festive period (unless restrictions or illness prevents this). We have also booked a virtual pantomime for the children to watch at some point during the week too.

### PTA Christmas fundraising and spreading cheer!

The PTA are selling lovely star Christmas decorations that the children can decorate at home for £1.50. These would make lovely gifts. They are also selling a lantern template, again for the children to decorate at home, that we then hope will be put in people's windows to spread a light of hope this Christmas. It would be lovely for the children to spot Milton's Lanterns of Hope in lots of windows over the festive period. A Lantern template is 50p. Unfortunately, as these items will be ordered in an ad hoc way we are unable to add this to our online money system, therefore money will have to be sent in an envelope clearly stating what items you would like and your child's name/ year group please.

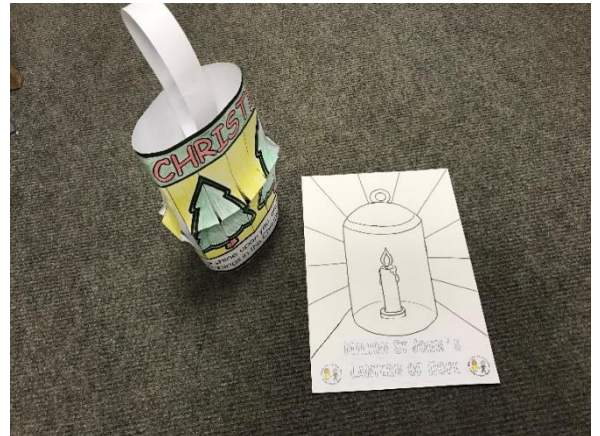




For information - The wooden stars come in two flat pieces so they are easy to decorate with paints, pens, sequins, glitter, ribbon, wrapping paper – it's all up to you!  
Once you have decorated your stars you will need to carefully slide the pieces together, and they may need a touch of glue.  
Add the golden string and they are ready to hang on the tree!

The PTA are also selling lantern templates for 50p. For 50p the children will get two templates which they can colour and decorate. We are hoping that families display the 2d 'lantern of hope' picture in their windows for all to see and hang their 3d lantern somewhere in your homes.

Share a photo on your Class Dojo portfolio to show your teacher your finished design.



### Lockdown

Please note the following reminders:

Please remember that only one adult is allowed to collect and drop off children.

If a member of the household has symptoms and has to have a test, **the whole household must isolate until the results come back.**

Should your child test positive, it is imperative that we are informed straight away, either by phone (during school hours) or via the [positivecovid@milton-st-johns.tameside.sch.uk](mailto:positivecovid@milton-st-johns.tameside.sch.uk) email address (out of school hours; after 3.30pm or during the weekends). Please do not presume that we will have been informed by track and trace. Please include the following information in the email or conversation:

Name of child

Class

Date symptoms started

Date child was last in school

Date that a test was taken

Also include if your child attended Skools Out and the date they attended

We have to have the above information to be able to liaise with Public Health England and ascertain what we have to do in each circumstance. We have to follow their advice at all times and the information above is critical in working out isolation dates if classes have to isolate. We have been informed that we have to track back 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms and determine who may have been in contact during those hours.

### Colder weather

The weather is clearly getting colder. This will certainly become even more challenging as the weather deteriorates. Current guidelines state that the windows in frequently used rooms **must** be open to allow adequate ventilation throughout the room. Therefore, please ensure your child has warm, protective clothing for outside and please consider dressing the children in thermal undergarments. Additional to this, the children are also allowed to wear gilets/body warmer type clothing in class should they need to (please do not worry about the colour matching the uniform colours in this case).

### Easy Fund Raising

Since we are unable to have our Christmas Fair etc this year, we have registered with Easyfundraising.org website to enable parents/carers to help us raise funds at no extra cost to themselves. This is easy to do! When you shop online, with over 4100 of your favourite retailers, including John Lewis & Partners, Amazon, eBay, Argos etc, you can raise FREE donations to Milton St John's CE.

We **S**how respect. We are **H**onest. We **I**nclude others. We **N**ever give up. We seek **E**xcellence in all we do.

It only takes a few minutes to sign up and is then easy to use by finding the retailer you want to shop with on the Easyfundraising website or App, shop as usual and the retailer will donate to us when you make a purchase – at no extra cost to you!

Sign up for free at:

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/miltonstjohnsprimary/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_content=s-n3](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/miltonstjohnsprimary/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=s-n3)

### **Dates for your Diary**

Fri 25-Mon 28 June 2021      Year 6 Kingswood residential trip

### **Reception September 2021**

Applications for Reception class for September 2021 is open from 1 November 2020 until 15 January 2021.



This month we remember those who have sacrificed so much for us. We pray for calm and peace to prevail over war and conflict.

